
Subject: Re: Best Brand

Posted by [AudioFred](#) on Sun, 17 Apr 2011 10:45:26 GMT

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Clueless wrote on Sat, 16 April 2011 22:06 What is the best brand of speakers? Do brands really make a difference? I have been thinking on buying my husband a new set of speakers. I want good quality ones, but don't want to spend an arm and a leg. Suggestions?

It's hard to recommend a brand without knowing how much you want to spend. For example, if you plan to spend \$250 for a pair I would recommend any of several mass market brands that are sold at big box stores like Best Buy, but if your budget is \$1,000 or more I would steer you toward a completely different set of "high end" brands that are sold at high end audio stores and online.

Among the mass market brands, some I would avoid are:

1) Bose - Bose spends more money on advertising than all the other brands combined, and you pay a huge premium for this expensive marketing campaign. Bose speakers are small, which might be more attractive to some customers, but their sound isn't very good for the price you pay.

2) Any brand that's offered by a major electronics manufacturer (e.g. Sony) - Their core product is electronics, not speakers. They want you to buy their electronics, but they realize you'll need speakers too, so they offer low quality low priced speakers so you'll have more money left over to afford their more expensive electronics.

3) Any store's "house brand" that's priced much lower than the similar speakers from the major brands. For example, Best Buy's Insignia house brand speakers are attractively priced, but they don't sound very good.

So this leaves you with brands like Polk Audio, Klipsch, Infinity, Boston Acoustics, JBL, etc. I have no idea which is best, but I've always found Polk Audio speakers offer consistently good sound for the price. All these brands offer good sounding speakers from about \$250 and up for a pair. Tell us how much you want to spend and I'm sure somebody here can offer a few suggestions.
