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Subject: Re: Speaker brands to avoid

Posted by [AudioFred](#) on Thu, 03 Nov 2011 13:20:14 GMT

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Here's a review of the Bose Acoustimass System with some alternative brand suggestions:

<http://www.intellectual.net/bose.html>

For the kinds of speakers you find at big box stores like Best Buy, you're fine with any of the major speaker names like Polk, JBL, Klipsch, etc. But don't expect their least expensive lines to sound very good. For example, a Polk M10 isn't in the same league as their more expensive RTI-A1:

<http://www.polkaudio.com/homeaudio/bookshelf.php>

One product you should always avoid is the big no-name speaker (e.g. three way with a 10" woofer that sells for the same price as a smaller name brand speaker. These are called "White Van Specials", and they always sound worse than bad.

Now, if you want a good sounding speaker but don't have hundreds and hundreds of dollars, I recommend the Parts Express BR1 kit. Building it is a two hour job, and you'll have to solder the crossover parts to the circuit board, but in the end you'll have a speaker that does everything well, including surprisingly good bass for a 6.5" woofer.

<http://www.parts-express.com/pe/showdetl.cfm?Partnumber=300-640>

[http://fredt300b.smugmug.com/Hobbies/The-Dayton-Audio-BR-1/5308863\\_g88p8F#324071336\\_xzNYX](http://fredt300b.smugmug.com/Hobbies/The-Dayton-Audio-BR-1/5308863_g88p8F#324071336_xzNYX)

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