Subject: Headphone teardown commonalities
Posted by Augustus on Wed, 12 Jun 2019 00:26:33 GMT
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There have been several articles floating around these past few days discussing an iFixit teardown of three popular wireless earbuds. What's interesting is that the core components are largely the same since the Powerbeats Pro uses the same sound driver that's found in the latest AirPods and the same battery that's found in the Galaxy Buds. So my questions are:

1. Since they're using the same battery, why does it last so much longer in the Powerbeats Pro? If it was a smartphone the discrepancy would make since because things like screen brightness, notifications, and airplane mode would make a difference in battery life. But earbuds aren't that complicated or customizable.

2. Why do most tech reviewers say that the Powerbeats Pro earbuds sound better than the other two? Is that objectively possible when they're all made of similar components? Is the idea that one sounds better than the other a biased interpretation of sound? The Powerbeats cost the most, so perhaps that's why everyone thinks they sound the best. It's just bias. They also fit better, so maybe the better fit is leading to the bias. What do you think?

Subject: Re: Headphone teardown commonalities
Posted by musicluvr on Wed, 12 Jun 2019 23:04:46 GMT
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I haven't seen those reviews, but I do know that more than just the sound driver affects the way that earbuds sound. Everything inside the enclosure plays a part - the wires, coils, magnet, cone, processing chip, and more. There's no doubt that how the earbuds fit you and how you place them in your ears affects sound too, and I think that's fair game to be considered in reviews rather than bias.