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Subject: Lightweight nice sounding PA speakers...?

Posted by [Kim](#) on Tue, 05 Aug 2008 06:12:28 GMT

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Hi all,

Just wondering if anybody has any advice on some fairly portable but nice sounding (preferably powered) PA speakers. I'm not looking to blow people away volume wise... I'd rather good sound than loud noise, but I'm hoping to find something that sounds nicer than the joe average PA setup, which is nice and portable, and won't break my rather small budget.

I'm considering building something myself. I figure I could start with a premade cabinet and install some decent speakers, and perhaps amps. I figure I want the speakers to be wood, because those plastic models just don't cut it for me.

Has anybody come across any bargains they think might be relevant?

Cheers,  
Kim.

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Subject: Re: Lightweight nice sounding PA speakers...?

Posted by [Kim W](#) on Tue, 05 Aug 2008 08:49:13 GMT

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I was in a small trio a couple of years ago, and bought three of these: (an extra for foldback).

[http://www.musosstuff.com/catalog/product/999/DB+Technolgies+\\_Opera+415.php](http://www.musosstuff.com/catalog/product/999/DB+Technolgies+_Opera+415.php)

Great sounding boxes, and pretty light.  
I used to lug one in each hand, no problemo.  
They sounded sweet, and had ample headroom for even largish rooms.

There is a lower power version available here:

They never went into thermal, and didn't miss a beat for three years.

Go to many's and have a look.

cheers,

Kim

[http://cgi.ebay.com.au/DB-Technologies-OPERA-402-Loudspeaker\\_W0QQitemZ280144166156QQihZ018QQcategoryZ23785QQrdZ1QQssPage](http://cgi.ebay.com.au/DB-Technologies-OPERA-402-Loudspeaker_W0QQitemZ280144166156QQihZ018QQcategoryZ23785QQrdZ1QQssPage)

NameZWD1VQQcmdZViewItem

"Kim" <hiddensounds@hotmail.com> wrote:

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Subject: Re: Lightweight nice sounding PA speakers...?

Posted by [Kim W](#) on Tue, 05 Aug 2008 08:50:25 GMT

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---

Subject: Re: Lightweight nice sounding PA speakers...?

Posted by [Kim W](#) on Tue, 05 Aug 2008 11:13:16 GMT

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Sorry Kim, Not with it today,  
This is the lower power 15 box:

[http://cgi.ebay.com.au/dB-Technologies-Opera-LIVE-405-Powered-Speaker\\_W0QQitemZ190167332605QQihZ009QQcategoryZ149531QQrdZ1QQssPageNameZWD1VQQcmdZViewItemQQ\\_trksidZp1638Q2em118Q2el1\\_247](http://cgi.ebay.com.au/dB-Technologies-Opera-LIVE-405-Powered-Speaker_W0QQitemZ190167332605QQihZ009QQcategoryZ149531QQrdZ1QQssPageNameZWD1VQQcmdZViewItemQQ_trksidZp1638Q2em118Q2el1_247)

The other link was to the smaller 12" which wouldn't have the beef of the 15's.

Kim

"Kim W." <no@way.com> wrote:  
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>  
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Subject: Re: Lightweight nice sounding PA speakers...?  
Posted by [Aaron Allen](#) on Tue, 05 Aug 2008 13:29:53 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

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Wood? no. That's not a wood built market. Are you planning to pole mount those? If so, rethink the wood part of that, your back will absolutely hate you otherwise. The difference in weight is not small.

AA

"Kim" <hiddenounds@hotmail.com> wrote in message news:4897ef4c\$1@linux...

>  
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Subject: Re: Lightweight nice sounding PA speakers...?  
Posted by [Tyrone Corbett](#) on Tue, 05 Aug 2008 18:49:33 GMT  
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Kim, I know you mentioned building something, but if you decide to go the prefab route, the Mackie series is pretty good. Outside of the touring I do playing big rooms, I do quite a few private events with a number of different

bands. In large part, the Mackie powered series seems to be the choice of weapon. I'm not sure if this is simply cost related (probably), but they sound pretty good.

Usually, they run as many as six vocal mic's keys, horns, kick and snare. I think they hold up fairly well. I've seen them used in rooms that cover up to about 200 people. In all honesty, I don't recall the model (they are quite varied in the line), though I did a gig this past weekend and actually asked because I was impressed. Never had the good fortune to try the DP's, would love to hear them. Best of luck!

Tyrone

"Aaron Allen" <know-spam@not\_here.dude> wrote:

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>

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---

Subject: Re: Lightweight nice sounding PA speakers...?  
Posted by [Tom Bruhl](#) on Tue, 05 Aug 2008 19:16:23 GMT  
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Hey Kim,

I use the Mackie 450s. They have a fairly bright sound but a little eq can help that. They are healthy on the bottom end for a 12" but I wouldn't want to put kick and bass through them all night without a sub. Not too heavy and powered adequately. \$650 each last year. They sound better than the JBL Eons to my ear. JBL horns in the Eon series make me cringe.

Tom

"Tyrone Corbett" <[tyronecotbett@comcast.net](mailto:tyronecotbett@comcast.net)> wrote in message  
news:4898a0bd\$1@linux...

>

> Kim, I know you mentioned building something, but if you decide to go the  
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Subject: Re: Lightweight nice sounding PA speakers...?  
Posted by [Tyrone Corbett](#) on Tue, 05 Aug 2008 20:03:08 GMT  
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Tyrone

"Tom Bruhl" <arpeggio@comcast.net> wrote:  
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Subject: Re: Lightweight nice sounding PA speakers...?  
Posted by [kerry](#) on Tue, 05 Aug 2008 22:07:12 GMT  
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I was going to suggest the Mackies, Kim said no plastic. But these things kick out pretty darned well; two the SRM 450s drive an R&B band I work with very nicely for weddings etc, and we use them as monitors on bigger gigs.

We've used a lot of systems over the years, and with these the weight/power/sound/price ratio is making us very happy.

- Kerry

On 8/5/08 11:49 AM, in article 4898a0bd\$1@linux, "Tyrone Corbett" <tyronecotbett@comcast.net> wrote:

>

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Subject: Re: Lightweight nice sounding PA speakers...?  
Posted by [kerryg](#) on Tue, 05 Aug 2008 22:10:29 GMT  
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Yep, I'll ditto that unless the levels are fairly low. But the 450s are definitely worth a look.

- Kerry

On 8/5/08 1:03 PM, in article 4898b1fc\$1@linux, "Tyrone Corbett" <tyronecorbett@comcast.net> wrote:

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Subject: Re: Lightweight nice sounding PA speakers...?  
Posted by [Paul Artola](#) on Wed, 06 Aug 2008 02:16:39 GMT  
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The PAs we use in my band meet almost all your criteria. I don't think they are cheap, but our guitarist (and their owner) was a Bose dealer, so he got them at a good price.

I am talking about the Bose L2. These are the heftier versions of the L1 that are mass marketed. I think the L2 are a bit beefier and with a couple of the subwoofer units, we get pretty good sound with these. They are very portable compared to traditional cabs and don't require monitors, which saves money, space and backs.

I think Lou Guarino is using the L1s for his stage setup, and I recall

him having good comments about them.

- Paul Artola  
Ellicott City, Maryland

On 5 Aug 2008 16:12:28 +1000, "Kim" <hiddensounds@hotmail.com> wrote:

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>Hi all,  
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---

Subject: Re: Lightweight nice sounding PA speakers...?  
Posted by [Jamie K](#) on Wed, 06 Aug 2008 04:06:10 GMT  
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This isn't out yet, but it looks like Bose will be getting some competition with the small line array approach.

<http://www.gearwire.com/fishman-soloamp.html>

Cheers,  
-Jamie  
[www.JamieKruz.com](http://www.JamieKruz.com)

Paul Artola wrote:

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> - Paul Artola  
> Ellicott City, Maryland  
>  
> On 5 Aug 2008 16:12:28 +1000, "Kim" <hiddensounds@hotmail.com> wrote:  
>  
>> Hi all,  
>>  
>> Just wondering if anybody has any advice on some fairly portable but nice  
>> sounding (preferably powered) PA speakers. I'm not looking to blow people  
>> away volume wise... I'd rather good sound than loud noise, but I'm hoping  
>> to find something that sounds nicer than the joe average PA setup, which  
>> is nice and portable, and won't break my rather small budget.  
>>  
>> I'm considering building something myself. I figure I could start with a  
>> premade cabinet and install some decent speakers, and perhaps amps. I figure  
>> I want the speakers to be wood, because those plastic models just don't cut  
>> it for me.  
>>  
>> Has anybody come across any bargains they think might be relevant?  
>>  
>> Cheers,  
>> Kim.  
>

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Subject: Re: Lightweight nice sounding PA speakers...?

Posted by [Bill L](#) on Thu, 07 Aug 2008 16:05:37 GMT

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Carvin! I bought a couple of their 10" and 12" and I love them. Cheap and great sounding. Lots of inputs and EQ. I A/Bed them against a JBL Eon and we preferred the Carvins.

Kim wrote:

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Subject: Re: Lightweight nice sounding PA speakers...?  
Posted by [Bill L](#) on Thu, 07 Aug 2008 16:08:32 GMT  
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Never mind I did not read the bottom of your post about not plastic.

Bill L wrote:

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---

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Subject: Re: Lightweight nice sounding PA speakers...?  
Posted by [Aaron Allen](#) on Fri, 08 Aug 2008 02:16:27 GMT  
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Funny you should mention that. I am in the process of evaluating those carvins, and working to get some units in to put in real world use. Specs, weight, power.. everything looks better than the EON G2's I currently have at work and they are HALF the price.  
Carvin support I've also found to be light years ahead of the call/email JBL support and hope they call/email you back crap.

AA

"Bill L" <bill@billlorentzen.com> wrote in message news:489b1f17@linux...  
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