

Sound blast: Best in extreme acoustics

Check out these flashy speakers that are a mix of extreme engineering and unreal aesthetics – perfect to jazz up your festive fervour

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Grande Utopia EM

If you are ready to break the bank for acoustic excellence, the Focal Grande Utopia EM is a monster worth your attention. At 260 kg and more than two metres high, it may not be very stylish but the function justifies the shape—the Grande Utopia EM design evokes a spine. It uses electro-magnet for its 16 inch (40cm) woofer, four-way floorstanding (articulated) loudspeakers for an outstanding high-fidelity audio.



BeoLab 90

As Bang & Olufsen claims, the 137 kg BeoLab 90 is a perfect mix of world-class design and acoustics. In our list, it's the most outlandish speaker you can buy today. It flaunts an impressive 360-degree design and a variety of settings to give you incredible sound, regardless of its placement. BeoLab 90 has 18 state-of-the-art scan-speak loudspeaker drivers placed carefully to deliver maximum performance in frequency, time and space. The amplifiers are capable of delivering up to 8,200 watts per speaker.



Bowers & Wilkins 805 D3

It is the only stand mount speaker to feature studio-grade technology with diamond dome tweeter. Packed with cutting-edge technologies, the sound quality of Bowers & Wilkins 805 D3 is among the best. If you're looking for stunning realism coupled with depth and detail, no other small speaker comes close.



KEF Blade

This is the world's first single apparent source speaker—the production version of the Concept Blade project KEF revealed in 2009. Its sonic capabilities as well as the futuristic design are so impressive that serious audiophiles would actually love it. Do not be surprised to spot an eye-watering price tag attached to it.

Hurricane

For those who don't mind mixing tech with acoustics, SoundHound's proposed smart speaker can be of interest. The Hurricane is a voice-activated smart speaker with artificial intelligence. It was unveiled recently on Kickstarter and is being developed by an audio company, Boombox. The Hurricane also uses voice recognition to process requests and stream audio content.



CAT Elite speakers

California Audio Technology (CAT) is known for high-end, expensive audio and home theatre speakers. However, its systems are often custom built, which includes customised design, engineering, project management and on-site engineering/calibration/tuning and more. Apart from adding accuracy and musicality to the bass frequencies at all listening positions, its subwoofer bass balancing systems reduce listening fatigue.



PICS: THINKSTOCK PHOTOS/GETTY IMAGES

DSLR effect makes the perfect shot

The new Portrait mode for the iPhone 7 Plus camera is available now



businessinsider.in

The new camera mode Apple promised for the iPhone 7 Plus is here. Apple recently released iOS 10.1, which includes the new Portrait mode for the iPhone 7 Plus.

Portrait mode mimics the 'bokeh' effect in DSLR cameras by blurring the background. It's only possible with the iPhone 7 Plus because of its dual cameras. Using both 12-megapixel cameras on iPhone 7 Plus and advanced machine learning,

Portrait mode applies a depth-of-field effect to make your foreground subject sharp, while creating a beautifully blurred background.

However, Apple says even though Portrait mode is available to the public, it's still considered a beta product, meaning it will likely improve over time. Early testers of the feature have noted glitches with photos in some cases. You can get iOS 10.1 on your iPhone by going to Settings > General > Software Update.



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18k white gold diamond ring
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Bandbaajaa.com gold and diamonds earrings by Anik ₹47,360



Dilano diamond bracelet with blue sapphire
₹4,90,000



Minawala diamond bangle cuff
₹7,10,000



Hazoorial Legacy diamond and emerald necklace
₹83,00,000



Payal New York Constellation cuff
Price on request



Piaget lace decoration cuff set with diamonds and cabochons
₹83,16,000 approx



Cartier 18k ring with diamonds
Price on request



Anmol 18k rose gold ring set with diamonds
₹2 lakh onwards



Bina Goenka Bow tie set with diamonds and Gemfields Mozambican rubies
Price on request



Gehna Jewellers owl brooch
₹1,35,000



Caratlane gold and silver diamond cufflinks
₹28,449



H Ajoomal sherwani gold and diamond buttons
₹85,000



Johri gold and diamond bracelet
₹1,25,000



VelvetCase.com ring in 18k white gold
₹58,219



PICS: GETTY IMAGES, REUTERS

Cristiano Ronaldo

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