

Your system's not complete without the ideal pair of **stereo speakers** tied to the end of it. Here are six of the best, all desperate to wring the last drop of performance from the rest of your set-up

WHAT HI-FI?
SOUND AND VISION

AWARDS 2008

STEREO SPEAKERS

BEST STEREO SPEAKERS £150 - £250

DALI LEKTOR 1

Awards '08

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Speakers to make your hi-fi loud and proud

BEST STEREO SPEAKERS £150-£250

Dali Lektor 1

£250

TOWARDS THE END of November's jubilant *First Test* of the Lektor 1s, we said: "we think Dali has struck gold with these speakers. These Lektors are good enough to worry class leaders like Monitor Audio Bronze BR2s."

Only a month later, we can turn that speculation into hard fact: these Lektors are class leaders.

"Immensely musical and evenly balanced, these are an articulate listen"

The Lektor 1s are the first of a new budget range (we'll be reviewing the £700 Lektor 6s in December's *First Tests*), and they're terrific. On paper, they're nothing special - this is yet another ported two-way budget box with a soft-dome tweeter - and in the flesh the compact dimensions aren't too promising either. Look a little closer, though: the mid/bass driver uses the same wood fibre material for its cone as Dali's high-end Helicon range, and

VERDICT

Small but perfectly formed, the Lektor 1s squeeze a quart of performance from a pint-sized speaker

Wood fibre cones use same material as that on the high-end Helicons - and sound excellent

build quality is great for this price point.

Let's deal with the practicalities.

These speakers (just 26cm high, with a bass driver of a mere 11.5cm) don't produce deep bass. There's no way something like this is going to produce the kind of bass, scale or authority to truly convince with demanding classical works such as Holst's *Mars* or the likes of Daft Punk's *Revolution 909*. Accept that, and all the rest is simply excellent.

Articulate, dynamic, enthusiastic

Immensely musical, seamlessly detailed and evenly balanced, the Dalis are an articulate, dynamic listen. Listen to VV Brown's *Crying Blood* and you'll find an enthusiasm that's rare at any price level. We're very much looking forward to hearing the rest of the Lektor range - read the exclusive reviews next month.

