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A portable speaker is a great way to enjoy your music at home or on-the-go, allowing you to wirelessly stream music from your smartphone, tablet, or laptop - and the best Bluetooth speakers of 2022 can even rival their wired brethren in terms of audio performance, connectivity, and ease-of-use. There are loads of portable Bluetooth speakers for you to choose from right now, and this can mean making the right buying decision is tricky - and that's where we come in. All of the products we've selected can be used as outdoor speakers, so you can take them with you to the park or a party. That's thanks to rugged designs and extra features like water resistance that protect these speakers from the elements - though some of the Bluetooth speakers in this guide are more robust than others. (If you are planning on paying a visit to a beach or spills don't ruin your day.)Some of these speakers are also packed with handy extra features, including voice control, with virtual assistants like Alexa and Google Assistant built-in. This means your wireless speaker can double as a smart speaker, which can then be used to control your smart home devices. Or you simply ask it to play your music using voice commands. Smart speakers aren't for everyone, though, and most of the devices in this guide are simply designed to play your music. JBL makes a number of non-smart speakers - like the newly announced JBL Flip 6, which won't listen in on your conversations. As they're so versatile, some of the models in this list can also double up as computer speakers if you want to have a cleaner PC setup, too. Wherever you're planning on using your new speaker, you can be sure that all of the models in this list stand out because they perform well in three key areas: they're portable, durable and offer excellent audio whether you're listening inside or outside. We've tested the devices below extensively in a range of environments, which means you can be confident in picking the very best Bluetooth speaker for your needs and budget. Our top picks The best Bluetooth speakers you can buy (Image credit: Sonos) The Sonos Roam is our pick for the best Bluetooth speaker on the planet, with a powerful sound, rugged design, excellent connectivity features, and smart home control. A bass-heavy audio performance makes it ideal for use outdoors, while a clever Automatic Switching feature means it's easily used indoors, too - though audiophiles may dislike the overwhelming low frequencies and rhythmic handling. Following in the footsteps of the Sonos Move, the Sonos Move part of your wider multi-room Sonos system - and with Google Assistant and Alexa onboard, it doubles up a smart speaker too. In spite of its (relatively) low price you're getting a lot for your money here. Its slick design means the Sonos Roam won't look out of place in your home, while a rugged, waterproof and dustproof build and a decent battery life make it ideal for listening to music outdoors. Read more: Sonos Roam reviewUpdate: Sonos has just announced the brand new Sonos Roam SL. Much like the Sonos One its around \$20 / £20 / AU\$30 then the Roam SL could be exactly what you want. (Image credit: Sonos)Here's the thing about the Sonos Move - it's so good, you might want to consider it not only as your on-the-go party station, but also as your main in-the-home wireless speaker too. With two quality drivers, a solid app that unlocks playback from hundreds of wireless sources, multi-room capabilities and smart audio-tuning tech which tweaks the output based on the speaker. It's a versatile speaker, one that stands solidly alongside the built-for-home Sonos speakers that the company made its name on. It's not perfect - it's heavy as a byproduct of its incredible sound, it's expensive due to its rich feature set, and it sadly can't be used as rear channels for a home cinema set-up. But if you've got the money, it's hard to fault the Sonos Move when it comes to hunting down the very best Bluetooth speaker in the world. Read the full review: Sonos Move review(Image credit: Ultimate Ears)While we weren't as impressed with the UE Boom 3 as we were with its predecessor the UE Boom 3 as we were with its predecessor the UE Boom 3 as we were with its predecessor the UE Boom 3 as we were with its predecessor the UE Boom 3 as we were with its predecessor the UE Boom 3 as we were with its predecessor the UE Boom 3 as we weren't as impressed with the UE Boom 3 as we were with its predecessor the UE Boom 3 as we weren't as impressed with the UE Boom 3 as we weren't as impressed with the UE Boom 3 as we weren't as impressed with its predecessor the UE Boom 3 as we wer enough to tumble in a bag unprotected. It's both water and dust-proof, and now has a one-touch mix button that lets you pull up your favorite playlists without ever picking up your phone. There are certainly more detailed portable speakers out there, but at a price that's relatively affordable to all, the UE Boom 3 hits all the right notes for the third year in a row. Ultimate Ears now lets you customize your UE Boom 3, so you have even more options when it comes to color and pattern combinations. Read the full review: UE Boom 3 review (Image credit: JBL) The JBL Flip 6 is a prime example of a Bluetooth speaker that sticks to the basics, and gets it right. This rugged portable speaker is super simple to use, sounds good, and can be paired with up to 100 other JBL speakers at once to create a huge wall of sounds so good that you won't miss them. Its warm, well-balanced audio performance is far more powerful than you might expect from a speaker of this size, and while trebles can sound a little harsh at higher volumes, you're getting plenty of clarity and detail. A 12-hour battery life and water and dust resistance makes this an ideal speaker to take to the pool or beach, and it's available in an array of eye-catching colors. It's a shame it doesn't have a port to charge your phone, but that's small concession. Like the JBL Flip 5 before it, the Flip 6 is an ideal speaker for anyone who wants to simply play their music, crank it up loud, sit back and enjoy - whether you're listening at home or on the go. Read the full review: JBL Flip review (Image credit: Bose) The Bose Portable Home Speaker was one of the first portable smart speakers we tested, offering the smarts of Google Assistant and Alexa alongside Bluetooth connectivity. While it launched a few years ago now, the Home Speakers that can offer smart home control without being restricted to indoor use. Bose has a great reputation for building good-looking speakers, and this model is no exception: gorgeous minimalist design meets weather-ready robustness, with a light build and handle that lends itself to listening on the go. The brand is also well known for delivering excellent audio quality from its products, and the Home Speaker is a great example of this, with a warm, well-balanced soundstage and an assured command of complex tracks. It doesn't quite meet the sonic dexterity of the Sonos Move, or the value for money of the UE Boom 3 and JBL Charge 4 - but if you love that Bose sound and build quality, this is the portable speaker for you. Read the full review: Bose Portable Home Speaker review (Image credit: Soundcore) The Anker Soundcore Flare 2 is an excellent go anywhere, do anything Bluetooth speaker that'll appeal to anyone looking to introduce a little color into their surroundings. That's thanks to LED rings that encircle each end of the speaker that'l appeal to anyone looking for a party speaker that's easy to chuck in a bag - though it's not as compact as the UE Wonderboom 2. The design isn't so garish that it'll look out of place in your home, and its rugged construction means the Soundcore Flare 2 can join you at the beach or poolside. As for the sound? The Soundcore Flare 2 delivers a well-balanced and tonally warm audio performance, and comes with a BassUp feature to boost the lower frequencies. However, the sound quality does suffer at higher volumes. Those wanting more bass but still want a party speaker with lights will want to check out the JBL Pulse 4, which gets louder, has more bass impact and a full-body lightshow but is over twice the price. Read more: Anker Soundcore Flare 2 review(Image credit: Ultimate Ears) The original UE Wonderboom topped our best waterproof speaker list for a long time - but it's since been usurped by the Wonderboom 2 looks nearly identical to the original, Ultimate Ears packed in a slew of upgrades that make the Wonderboom 2 even better, like the increased battery life (up 30% compared to the original), better bass response, and the new Outdoor Boost feature that helps the speaker get even louder than before. The UE Wonderboom 2 is a fantastic rugged and waterproof speaker get even louder than before. The UE wonderboom 2 is a fantastic rugged and waterproof speaker get even louder than before. The UE wonderboom 2 is a fantastic rugged and waterproof speaker get even louder than before. The UE wonderboom 2 is a fantastic rugged and waterproof speaker get even louder than before. The UE wonderboom 2 is a fantastic rugged and waterproof speaker get even louder than before. The UE wonderboom 2 is a fantastic rugged and waterproof speaker get even louder than before. The UE wonderboom 2 is a fantastic rugged and waterproof speaker get even louder than before. sounds great - and it can be paired to other Wonderboom speakers to amplify your music even more. While it can't match the bass response of larger speakers like the UE Boom 3, the improved bass adds warmth and intensity to music that the original was lacking. All said, for \$100 / £90 / AU\$129, the UE Wonderboom 2 is still one of the best waterproof speakers you can buy - and our recommended option for those looking to bring their speaker to the beach or pool. Read the full review: UE Wonderboom 2 review(Image credit: JBL)Looking for a portable speaker that can charge your phone while it's blasting music? Check out the JBL Charge 5.In terms of features the JBL Charge 5 is relatively basic compared to something like the JBL Pulse 4 - which provides a customizable lightshow for users - but for this fifth generation JBL has incrementally improved sound quality and volume while still offering all-day battery life. Physical controls remain the same with slightly raised buttons on top of the speaker. There are buttons to control playback, volume, power, Bluetooth pairing, and "Party Boost" that turns the volume up to 11. Around the back, the JBL Charge 5 has a waterproof USB-C charging port as well as a flap hiding the USB-A port that can be used to charge up your smartphone. The Charge 5 has a waterproof USB-C charge 6 has a flap hiding the USB-C charge 7 has a waterproof USB-C charge 8 has a wa for some who have legacy devices they want to hook up. Overall, the JBL Charge 5 sounds like a bigger portable speaker than it is. It dishes out an impressive amount of bass for its size without sacrificing on the mids or highs. Read the full review: JBL Charge 5 review (Image credit: Ultimate Ears) The Ultimate Ears Hyperboom is a powerful speaker that will deliver a party atmosphere, both indoors. Its Ultimate Ears' largest Bluetooth speaker to date, but stays in keeping with the company's stylish and discreet designs, and adds two Bluetooth radios so you can switch seamlessly between two phones. Despite being party-centric (read: packing tons of bass), it also delivers a very well-balanced soundscape. Here you never get the feeling that you are playing bass to make a party at the expense of other elements in the music, and almost no matter what you put on music, you get a pleasant experience. In terms of features, the Ultimate Ears app allows you to connect the Hyperboom to other UE speakers and use them together, you can switch audio source and adjust volume, and you can select four different playlists in Amazon Music, Deezer or Spotify that can be started by holding down the Play button in three seconds. For parties small and large, this Bluetooth speaker box is a great pick. Read the full review: UE Hyperboom review (Image credit: Bose) The Bose SoundLink Flex might not be the best portable speaker you can buy overall, but it sure ticks a lot of boxes and this makes it a solid option if you're looking for a Bluetooth speaker for a range of different uses. With a light and compact build, the SoundLink Flex has around 12 hours of battery life, which is decent but not the best you'll find. Its sound performance is solid, too, with a bold, assertive, and punchy sound. The bass is powerful, and while the lower frequencies could do with a little finessing, that strong low-end is great for listening to music outdoors, where there are no walls for the sound to bounce off of. We like that there are several ways you can control your music, including with your voice, via an app or with onboard controls - though it's a shame there's no way to tweak the EQ levels. The Bose SoundLink Flex has plenty going for it, and that's before you take the eache and credibility of its brand logo into account, too. If it had a little more expressiveness to its low-end reproduction, or a little more discipline to its overall sound when you listen at significant volumes, it would be approaching 'no-brainer' status.Read the full review: Bose SoundLink Flex review(Image credit: Sony)The entry-level Sony SRS-XB23 is a rock-solid \$99 (around £80 / AU\$150) portable Bluetooth speaker that features an IP67 rating and a 12-hour battery life. Completely waterproof and dust resistant, this is an outdoor speaker that you can comfortably take to the beach or pool. In terms of audio performance, it can get pretty loud without a massive amount of distortion and the passive radiators help the bass to sound clearer than it has on any of Sony's previous models. That's because the XB23 uses Bluetooth 5 and supports three major codecs - SBC, AAC and LDAC, the latter of which you'll find on newer Android devices and sounds absolutely great. LDAC support means you can enjoy hi-res audio files from the likes of Tidal, so this is a great speaker for anyone who wants to eke out every last drop of detail from their favorite songs. Outdoor adventurers will love the ruggedness of this Sony Bluetooth speaker while us kick-back-and-relax folks will enjoy how snugly it fits into a lawn chair's cup holder. Read the full review. Sony SRS-XB33 review, where we put the more powerful Bluetooth speaker to the test. (Image credit: Bang & Olufsen) Visually near imperceptible from the original A1, the Bang & Olufsen Beosound A1 (2nd Gen) is an appealing and highly portable Bluetooth speaker that comes with (admittedly flawed) Alexa support. The puck-shaped speaker looks sophisticated, while its IP67 water and dust resistance rating means its more robust than it looks, making it suitable for use outdoors. Its crisp audio performance and 360-degree soundstage makes the A1 ideal for soundtracking small gatherings, though it won't provide the room-filling sound that larger speaker is easy to pair with your smartphone, while built-in Alexa voice assistance means it can double up as a smart speaker. The A1 is the first speaker to offer Alexa support without needing to be connected to your home Wi-Fi network - and while this is impressive in itself, we did find that the voice assistant was sometimes quite slow to respond to our commands. Ultimately, we were impressed with the B&O Beosound A1. A marked improvement over its predecessor, there's better battery life, and waterproofing, although we're not so sure how much we'd like to take it outside the home. Read more: Bang & Olufsen Beosound A1 (2nd Gen) review(Image credit: TechRadar)Urbanista may be best known for its wireless headphones and true wireless earbuds, but the emerging audio brand had delivered an excellent Bluetooth speaker in the Brisbane. The Urbanista Brisbane might not look exciting, but beneath its unassuming package lies a powerful portable speaker to deliver a wide soundstage that feels more expansive than you might expect from a speaker of its size. Plus, you can pair two Brisbanes for true stereo sound. Battery life is solidly dependable thanks to the Urbanista Brisbane's 8000mAh capacity. Urbanista reckons it'll last for up to 10 hours of constant playback with a 90-day stand-by time. We didn't quite have the time to check if that 90 day figure was accurate, but the battery certainly lasts as long in use as Urbanista declared. It only takes a couple of hours to recharge too, which is certainly convenient. For the price, the Urbanista Brisbane is ultimately a bit of a bargain. You'll find better sound quality out there, but it'll cost you a lot more, and while it doesn't boast a 360-degree soundstage like some of the cylindrical speakers in this guide, the ability to stereo pair is a good way to boost the audio performance. All in all, this mid-range speaker could be a great choice for anyone who wants the freedom of wireless listening without sacrificing volume levels. Read the full review: Urbanista Brisbane review (Image credit: 1MORE) If you like the circular design of the Beosound A2 (2nd Gen) but don't like the high price, the 1More Portable BT Speaker is a great cheaper alternative. Like the brand's in-ear headphones, the Portable BT Speaker sounds excellent fr the price, with an impressive bass response at low volumes. At higher volumes, the trebles frequencies dominate, but they never sound overly harsh. The compact size of the Portable BT speaker is a great cheaper alternative. Speaker means it can easily double up as a speakerphone, which is handy if you need to dial into a meeting while on the move and don't want to rely on your headphones or your laptop's built-in speakers. While the battery life is rated at 12 hours, we found it came closer to 10 - which is still very good for a speaker of this size. An IPX4 water resistance rating means you do have some protection from spills and splashes, but we wouldn't recommend taking this speaker to the beach or the pool.Read more: 1MORE Portable BT Speaker reviewBluetooth speaker so many new Bluetooth speaker reviewBluetooth speaker so many new Bluetooth speaker speaker so many new Bluetooth speaker there are plenty of specific features to look out for, even if it does feel like the choice is endless. The first thing to consider is where you want to use your new Bluetooth speakers are built with durability in mind, and will feature rubberized builds to prevent damage from drops and lightweight designs to make them easy to carry around. To ramp up that durability, many Bluetooth speaker solely inside your home - and that means you can choose from a wider range of designs that will look great with your decor. You should also consider how you're going to use your new portable speaker with multipoint pairing that allows multiple devices to connect at a time. With any Bluetooth speaker, battery life, sound quality, and connectivity are features you don't want to overlook. Sure, some concessions can be made for budget models, but we've done our best to take these in the utmost consideration when creating the list above. Sonos speakers are great if you want to bridge the gap between indoors and outdoors, with the ability to form part of a wider multi-room system - and you can be sure that they'll sound fantastic, too. JBL is well known for making rugged, outdoor speakers at affordable prices, and it's line of party speakers even come with built-in light shows. If waterproofing is a priority then look out for models from Ultimate Ears, which combine fun, colorful designs with rugged builds - many of which can withstand a dip in the pool. Consider high-end audio brands such as Bose and Bang & Olufsen if you want to save money then Urbanista, Tribit, and Anker offer brilliant speakers that won't break the bank. How to choose the perfect Bluetooth speakerHow we test the best Bluetooth speakers We've tested lots of portable speakers here at TechRadar, and that means we know exactly what features and specs we're looking for. It's important for us to compare the performance of these speakers against the specs claimed by their manufacturers, which is why we take the time to make sure the battery life and connectivity is as good as the brands say they are. We make sure to test Bluetooth speakers in a range of environments too, so you can be sure that their performances are consistent, too. When it comes to testing the audio performance, we try out a range of musical genres and sources to ensure that these speakers over the years, we're able to confidently compare all the top models against each other - and that means we can give you a good idea of what kind of audio performance you can expect for your money. Looking for more? There are lots of speakers to go with your record player? Check out the best stereo speakers. Bored of your TV's lackluster audio? Try one of our best soundbars or Dolby Atmos speakers on for size. If you need a speaker you can take everywhere, make sure you look at the best wireless speakers. For total control of your smart home, invest in one of the best smart speakers, which come with Google Assistant, Amazon Alexa, or Siri built-in. Apple fanatic? Try out the best AirPlay speakers. Bluetooth speaker deals

