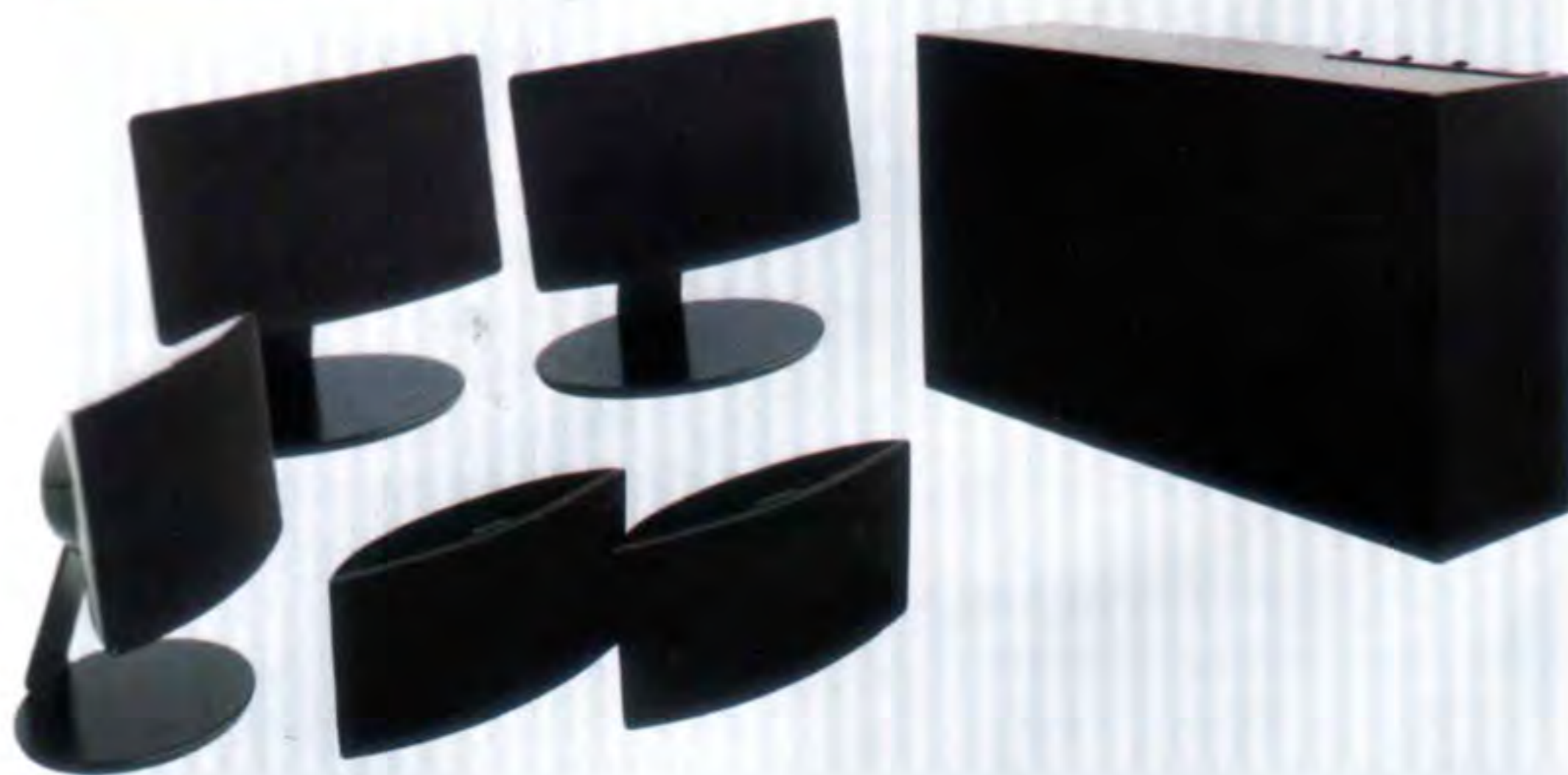


## Jamo A 101 HCS 5



### Good things really do come in small packages

▶ With the A 101 HCS 5, Jamo is out to prove that installing a decent cinema system in your living room isn't expensive or intrusive. For £240, you get a 5.1 system with five incredibly small satellites that can be dotted around the room almost invisibly, while a larger but wall-mountable subwoofer provides the low-end oomph.

At first glance you could be forgiven for thinking they look like the sort of speakers you get with a cheap one-box Blu-ray system, but their weighty, solid construction is apparent.

### KEY SPECS

- Power 200W
- Weight 10.5kg
- Type 5.1
- Subwoofer size 297 x 571 x 161mm

As for sound, the A 101 HCS 5 is a sensational compact speaker system that defies its size and price to deliver large-scale home cinema sound with lots of detail and a surprisingly smooth tone.

It all adds up to a great choice of surround sound system if money and space are tight.

£240

For the best deal →



#### PROS

- + Compact satellites
- + Terrific sound quality
- + Wall-mountable subwoofer

#### CONS

- Springclip speaker terminals
- Slightly plasticky feel to enclosures

#### PERFORMANCE

9/10

#### SOUND QUALITY

9/10

#### FEATURES

8/10

#### DESIGN

8/10

#### VALUE

10/10

## KEF T205

It may be slim but it packs one hell of a punch

### KEY SPECS

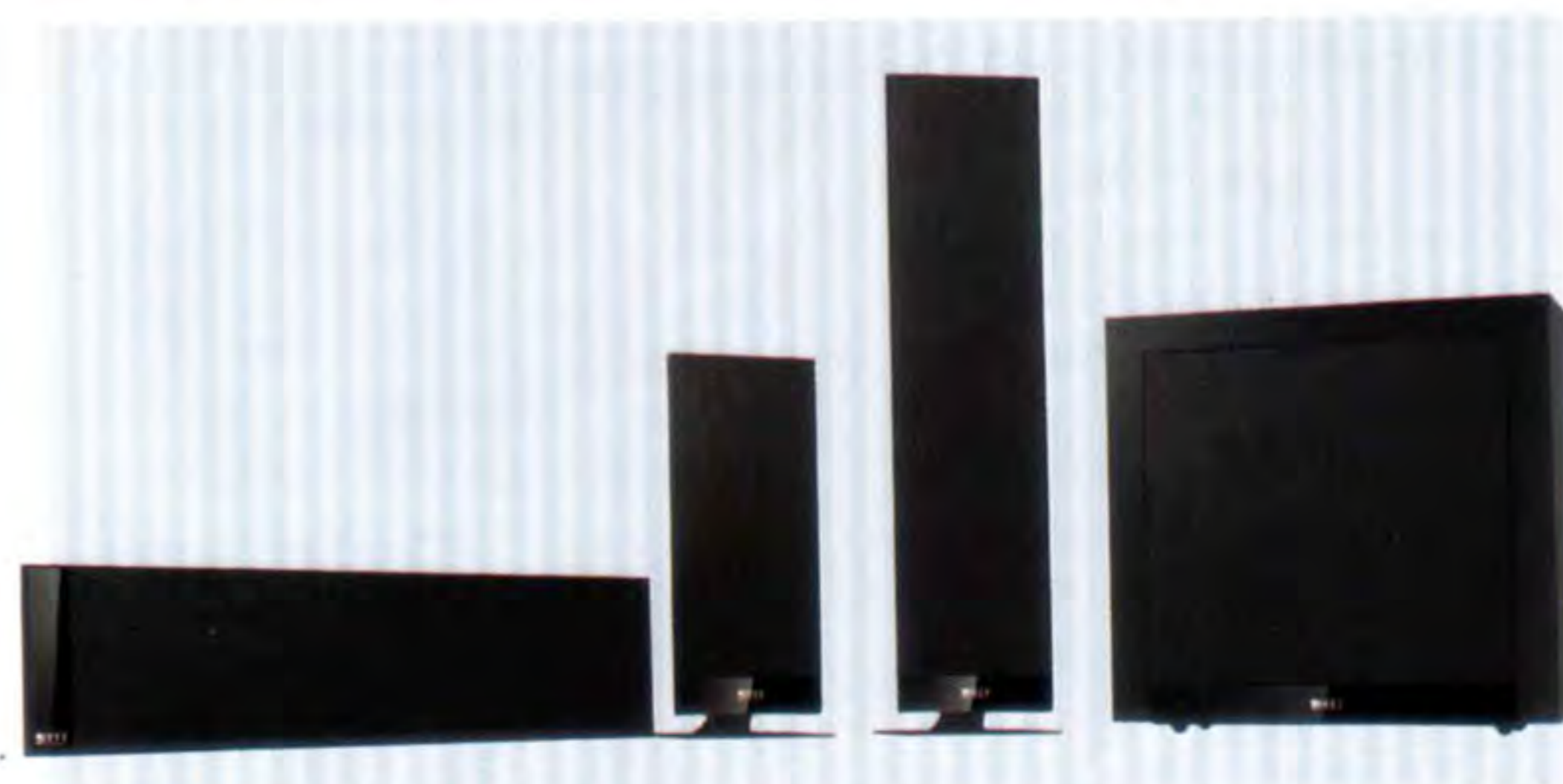
- Power 250W
- Weight 20.4kg
- Type 5.1
- Subwoofer size 370 x 380 x 177mm

▶ KEF offers three packages within its T Series. Here we have the T205 system, which features a pair of T301 fronts, a pair of shorter T101 speakers for the rear channels and the T301c centre speaker, as well as the T-2 subwoofer found in all the packages.

With so many impressive speaker systems in this price bracket, the T205 couldn't afford to let its slim design get in the way of its sound quality.

Thankfully, hidden inside the stands are crossover components that optimise the sound when the speakers are stood in free space while the powered subwoofer boasts a 250W Class D amp.

The result is a sensational performance with movies sounding assertive, detailed and powerful. This is home cinema at its most thrilling.



£1,500

For the best deal →



#### PROS

- + Incredibly slim
- + Stunning sound quality
- + Superb build quality

#### CONS

- Rather pricey
- Controls on bottom of sub
- Needs sub for music playback

#### PERFORMANCE

9/10

#### SOUND QUALITY

9/10

#### FEATURES

8/10

#### DESIGN

8/10

#### VALUE

9/10

# Surround sound

## Jamo D500



### A THX Select 2-certified Jamo born to play movies

When most people think of THX-certified home cinema systems it usually conjures up images of scary fridge-sized speakers and subs. But this system challenges this way of thinking, styling all components in compact enclosures that are just as easy to accommodate in the living room as they are in a dedicated home cinema.

We've tested several systems in this price bracket, but few match the D500's levels of power and depth. Its price tag

#### KEY SPECS

- Power 60 (peak)
- Weight 27kg
- Type 5.1
- Subwoofer size 419 x 400 x 418mm

will be steep to some, but you're getting a THX Select 2-certified system featuring a 650W subwoofer, with exceptional build quality and suave, living-room friendly styling. That makes the D500 an absolute steal, despite its less dazzling performance with music.

£1,700

For the best deal →



#### PROS

- + Powerful sound
- + Great value
- + THX 2 certified

#### CONS

- Lacks subtlety
- Average music performance

#### PERFORMANCE

9/10

#### SOUND QUALITY

9/10

#### FEATURES

9/10

#### DESIGN

9/10

#### VALUE

9/10

## Onkyo HTX-22HDX 5.1

Superb sound, HD audio support and HDMI v1.4 inputs

#### KEY SPECS

- Power 175W
- Weight 17.5kg
- Type 5.1
- Subwoofer size 217 x 337 x 310mm

Onkyo's HTX-22HDX might be just the ticket for new Blu-ray owners. It's an affordable 2.1-channel solution that can be bumped up to 5.1 with the addition of the company's SKS-22X speaker pack.

With its solid sound, comprehensive support for HD audio and HDMI v1.4 inputs, the HTX-22HDX represents exceptional value for money. As a

bonus, its compact design won't make huge demands on your living space. Even the subwoofer should be easy enough to accommodate thanks to its relatively diminutive size.

That said, you'll need the extra speakers to get the full-fat cinematic experience, but even with the added cost the HTX-22HDX can still be classified as something of a bargain.



£320

For the best deal →



#### PROS

- + Compact design
- + Great price

#### CONS

- No auto calibration
- Music playback is average

#### PERFORMANCE

8/10

#### SOUND QUALITY

8/10

#### FEATURES

10/10

#### DESIGN

8/10

#### VALUE

9/10