



NHT SuperAudio SB1 speakers £

> Pint-sized it may be, but the glossy NHT SB1 has plenty to offer. The Stateside brand recently launched this diminutive speaker in the UK, a market increasingly demanding of svelte and stylish products to discreetly operate in modern lounges. NHT has been around since 1986, claiming its musical priorities lie with transparency and accuracy. Not a bad take on things – and something it has certainly achieved with the SB1. For die-hard black fans, the cabinet has a glorious deep gloss finish with a stylish rounded-edge look. Driver fit and finish is spot-on and at the back there are twin binding posts and threads for wall mount brackets.

Its tiny dimensions mean there's a minimum of cabinet influence on the sound, in fact the most striking thing the SB1 offers is its clean and open midband. Both tweeter and bass/mid driver are very well integrated and there is little to criticise in the midrange at

this price. The treble is clean and open, only complaining when pushed hard with challenging electronic music. As you might imagine with such a small driver, box and no reflex port, bass depth is limited. It's a fairly lean sounding-box overall, and bass lovers might consider adding NHT's matching subwoofer. But where it really impresses is with its speed and accuracy, providing strong and stable imaging with a smidgen of toe-in. Forgive the lean presentation and the little NHT will shame many big-name competitors in the crucial timing and transparency stakes, so much so it warrants five *Incoming* stars at the price.

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