

May 2019

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Above: Wharfedale D300 Series loudspeakers in walnut finish

Great sound costs even less

Wharfedale lowers the price of its D300 Series speakers to deliver even better value for money

Cambridgeshire, England – Wharfedale is pleased to announce a new pricing structure for its entry-level hi-fi loudspeaker range, the D300 Series.

The company has developed a number of efficiencies in the production process to enable significant cost reductions to pass on to consumers. The result is even better value for money at classic budget price points. Effective immediately, the new RRP's are as follows:

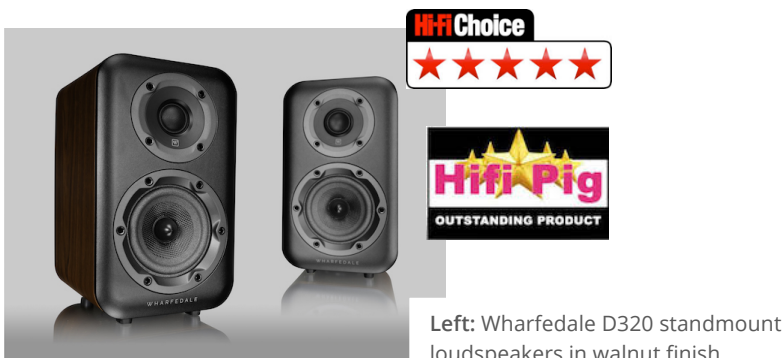
| D300 Series Model | Original RRP | New RRP |
|------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| D310 bookshelf speakers | £159 per pair | £129 per pair |
| D320 bookshelf/standmount speakers | £199 per pair | £149 per pair |
| D330 floortanding speakers | £499 per pair | £349 per pair |
| D300C home cinema centre speaker | £179 | £149 |

Wharfedale essentially created the modern-day 'budget' hi-fi loudspeaker category with the introduction of the Diamond in the early 1980s. Since then it has delivered successive generations of low-cost, high-value speakers that have continued to raise the bar whilst keeping prices remarkably constant, despite inflationary pressures.

The D300 Series has been well received since its launch in 2018, earning a series of outstanding reviews from specialist publications and websites. The speakers embody exceptional levels of engineering for such inexpensive designs, delivering excellent material and sonic value for money at their original price points. But Wharfedale believed it could do better, achieving the same quality at even lower prices.

The company has carried out a thorough review of the production process, identifying ways in which costs may be further reduced without impacting on the quality and performance of the speakers. These savings will be passed on to consumers to deliver what Wharfedale believes are the best-value budget hi-fi speakers on the market today.

The new D300 Series RRPs are remarkably similar to the retail prices of highly acclaimed budget speakers from two decades ago. And yet, when you look at the quality of engineering, the materials and components used, these speakers are considerably more advanced. This is even more remarkable when you take inflation into account – £150 in 1999 is equivalent to about £255 today.



Technical highlights of the D300 Series speakers include:

- High-quality bass/mid driver with a woven Kevlar cone, super-long-throw voice coil motor system, one-piece pole plate with copper cap, oversized ceramic magnet and a basket ribbed for additional rigidity.
- WFR™ (Wide Frequency Response) treble unit features a textile dome, an oversized ceramic magnet and a pole piece with copper cap that vents through a precisely shaped and damped rear chamber, delivering smooth, pure and richly defined high-frequency detail.
- Downward-firing P-EQ™ (Pressure Equalisation) port reduces the pressure differential between the high pressure in the port and the low pressure in the room for agile, distortion-free bass.
- Crossover network features high-quality components, including low-loss polypropylene capacitors and laminated core inductors.

- Cabinets are finished in a choice of black, white, walnut or rosewood, critically braced and lined with a specially developed fibre, with the drive units mounted in an acoustically profiled front baffle.
- Design is a collaboration between Wharfedale's acoustic engineering team, led by renowned loudspeaker designer Peter Comeau, and industrial designer Kieron Dunk – a man whose CV includes award-winning designs for the likes of Q Acoustics, Denon and Marantz, as well as Wharfedale's sister-companies Mission and Quad.

The performance of the D300 Series speakers is characterised by their expansive, well-scaled soundstage, with a detailed and expressive midrange and weighty, well-defined bass. The transition from mid to high frequencies is exceptionally smooth, ensuring none of the stridency and lack of cohesion that can affect budget speakers.

Thanks to the unique (at this price level) P-EQ port, with its omnidirectional, pressure-equalised output, the D300 Series speakers may be placed close to a rear wall without the associated issues that affect typical rear-ported budget designs. The result is a range of speakers at classic budget price points that are sympathetic to sitting in tight spaces and easy to match with a range of typical partnering equipment, delivering a fluid and engaging performance with all kinds of music.



Left: Wharfedale D300 floorstanding loudspeakers in walnut finish

Speaking about the D300 Series price adjustment, Peter Comeau, Wharfedale's Director of Acoustic Design, said:

"Little did I realise, when I started designing and manufacturing commercial speakers in 1979, that entry-level prices for real hi-fi loudspeakers would remain practically unchanged for 40 years! This is only possible because of economies of manufacture which Wharfedale can pass on to the customer, enabling the speakers I am designing today to offer the most incredible value that music enthusiasts have ever seen.

"What is even more amazing is that the level of performance and standards of finish have increased dramatically in that four decades. I'm very proud to uphold the Wharfedale tradition of delivering such extraordinary value for money."

| Specifications | D310 | D320 | D330 | D300C |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Configuration | 2-way bookshelf | 2-way bookshelf | 2.5-way floorstander | 2-way centre speaker |
| Enclosure type | Bass reflex (P-EQ port) | Bass reflex (P-EQ port) | Bass reflex (P-EQ port) | Bass reflex (P-EQ port) |
| Bass/midrange driver | 100mm woven Kevlar | 130mm woven Kevlar | 130mm woven Kevlar | 2x 130mm woven Kevlar |
| Bass driver | N/A | N/A | 130mm woven Kevlar | N/A |
| Treble unit | 25mm WFR textile dome | 25mm WFR textile dome | 25mm WFR textile dome | 25mm WFR textile dome |
| Sensitivity (2.83v @ 1m) | 86dB | 87dB | 88dB | 89dB |
| Recommended amp power | 20-75W | 25-100W | 25-120W | 25-120W |
| Peak SPL | 103dB | 105dB | 107dB | 108dB |
| Nominal impedance | 8 Ohms compatible | 8 Ohms compatible | 8 Ohms compatible | 8 Ohms compatible |
| Frequency response (+/-3dB) | 65Hz-20kHz | 56Hz-20kHz | 40Hz-20kHz | 65Hz-20kHz |
| Bass extension (-6dB) | 60Hz | 50Hz | 37Hz | 55Hz |
| Crossover frequency | 2.2kHz | 2.4kHz | 3.2kHz | 2.5kHz |
| Dimensions (HxWxD) | 265x155x200mm | 310x180x250mm | 940x200x310mm | 180x510x200mm |



British loudspeakers have always enjoyed an excellent reputation around the world, and Wharfedale is perhaps the most famous brand of all. Stretching back to 1932, when Wharfedale's founder Gilbert Briggs built his first speaker in the cellar of his Yorkshire home, Wharfedale has been responsible for some of the most important loudspeakers ever produced, introducing many techniques and technologies that became commonplace such as the two-way loudspeaker (invented in 1945) and the use of ceramic magnets (pioneered in 1962). Now in its 87th year, Wharfedale continues its quest to deliver excellent sound quality and value-for-money with a wide range of class-leading speakers, both traditional and wireless, including the latest iteration of the famous Diamond line – the classic entry point to high-fidelity sound.

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