Test of outdoor speakers in Swedish magazine Hifi & Musik no 7-8 2012

Loudspeakers



Looks good, sounds good

One size up from Canton, but MB6 from Swedish DLS is still compact. Behind the fine mesh front screen lies a 6.5 inch element in the bass and a 1 inch tweeter. The DLS logo on the front can easily be turned to suit vertical or horizontal mounting.

The DLS models give the impression of being well built but a little plastic, to about the same extent as Canton. The connection recess on the back contains not only the terminals but also a switch for treble level setting, which is a very good feature bearing in mind the different acoustic environments the speaker may be used in.

The less expensive DLS models belong without a doubt to the best of the range. With its light brushwork and relatively open and airy sound structure, the speaker feels unbiased and very natural in its fidelity. There is no need to use a particularly strong amplifier to create a good sound, and the treble switch enables ample adjustment of the sound balance. On the terrace I used the +2 dB setting, whereas more open environments called for 0 dB. In terms of value for money, you can't go wrong with this one.

DLS MB6

Price SEK 2,800/pair
Function Outdoor speaker for wall/ceiling mounting
Type 2-way bass reflex
Features 6-inch woofer, 1-inch tweeter
Nominal impedance 4 ohm
Specified sensitivity 90 dB
Size (BMHXD) 17.8x28.5x17 cm
Weight 3.3 kg
Other Available in white and dark grey
Info www.dls.se

There is a switch on the back for setting the treble level. A simple and good way to adapt the sound to suit the outdoor conditions.





DLS MBU6

One step up

The MBU6 is similar to its little brother without the U. Externally, the difference between them is that the MBU6 has no treble level switch and is a little chubbier. Internally, the MBU6 has sound damping in the form of asphalt matting and a more expensive element and filter. Both DLS models have a 6.5 inch bass but the tweeter is a few millimetres larger in the MBU6.

Like several other tested speakers, this is also provided with a wall mounting bracket which makes it possible to angle the speaker up/down or sideways.

If you prefer the character of the smaller model but feel that you would like a little more of everything, the SEK 1,800 more expensive MBU6 may be just right. The larger box results in a heavier and deeper bass, as well as a larger sound structure than its smaller brother. The sound is pleasant enough, still neutral and very easy on the ear, with space and air despite its undifferentiated presentation.

Unfortunately the DBU6 does not have the level switch, which makes it less adaptable to the surroundings it is used in. If you want high volume, this speaker provides a good sounding party alternative.

DLS MBU6

Price SEK 4,600/pair
Function Outdoor speaker for wall/ceiling
mounting
Type 2-way bass reflex
Features 6.5-inch woofer, 1.1-inch tweeter
Nominal impedance 4 ohm
Specified sensitivity 91 dB
Size (BxHxD 22x31x19 cm
Weight 4.3 kg
Other Available in white and dark grey
Info www.dls.se

