

## SET-TOP BOXES/RECORDERS

## HOME CINEMA

## MP3/PORTABLE GADGETS

## DEDICATED HI-FIS

## SPEAKERS/ACCESSORIES



### 5 Yamaha YSP-800 digital sound projector

This system is designed to fit beneath your TV, and matches flat-screen styles perfectly. The 23 individually amplified, differently angled speakers focus the sound in to beams and bounce them off the walls, producing probably the most convincing surround-sound you'll find, despite there being no rear speakers. It's extremely simple to set up, with one cable to connect and a dedicated setup button to press.

**Where from** Yamaha (01923 233166; [www.yamaha-uk.com](http://www.yamaha-uk.com)).  
**How much** £600.



### 8 Tivoli Model DAB Radio

The best DAB (digital audio broadcasting) radio around, in terms of tone and clarity of sound, the Model DAB comes from the team that brought us the cute and resilient Model PAL radios. There's only one speaker, but the tone and clarity are remarkable and the tuner itself is stereo so it can be connected to a stereo hi-fi. There's also an alarm, so you can use it to wake up to, and of course there's an FM tuner on board. Pricy, but worth every penny.

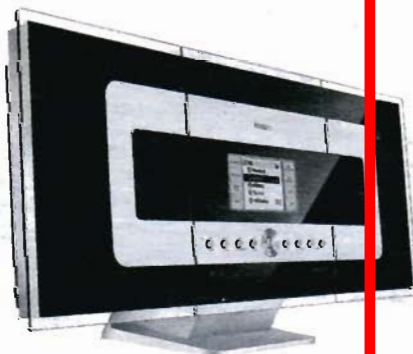
**Where from** Tivoli Audio (01702 601410; [www.ruark.co.uk](http://www.ruark.co.uk)).  
**How much** £229.99.



### 6 Toshiba RD85DT hard-disc recorder

This hard-disc recorder has a 160GB capacity, enough for up to 284 hours of TV, as well as a built-in DVD recorder, which means you can archive programmes when you need to. It's an elegant design and easy to use. You can use the top-quality recording mode to make recordings at broadcast quality, and you can even record to the hard drive while you watch a DVD. Unlike the Humax recorder (*See No 16*) below, however, there's only one Freeview tuner built in.

**Where from** Toshiba (08704 424424; [www.toshiba.co.uk](http://www.toshiba.co.uk)). **How much** £350.



### 9 Philips WACS700 wireless music centre

Stream music around your house with this handsome and easy-to-use system. The main unit contains a large (40GB) hard drive and hi-fi. Place your CDs in the unit and they're automatically ripped (digitally compressed) and saved to the hard disc. A smaller unit can be placed somewhere else in the house and plays music wirelessly from the main unit. You can add up to four extra such slave units and set them to all play the same music or use a feature called Music Follows Me, so that on your arrival in the bedroom, say, the music from the lounge is transferred there.

**Where from** Philips (0906 1010016; [www.philips.co.uk](http://www.philips.co.uk)). **How much** £599.



### 7 Philips SonoWave HTS6510 Home Theatre

If you don't want speakers littering every corner of your living room, but you want surround sound, choose a two-speaker-and-subwoofer setup such as this one. The SonoWave system creates the effect of extra speakers by bouncing the sounds off the walls from speaker drivers directed at different angles, thus counteracting the influence of the corners or angles of the room. There's a DVD player on board, too.

**Where from** Philips (0906 101 0016; [www.philips.co.uk](http://www.philips.co.uk)).  
**How much** £399.99.



### 10 Supra FS Scart cable

Choosing a top-quality cable is the simplest and cheapest way of upgrading your system. Cables supplied with your hi-fi or DVD player are almost always the lowest-grade options, but pricier cables have the best shielding which allows the audio or video signal to get through with the minimum of interference. This handmade Scart cable from Supra is worth the extra money and delivers noticeably superior results.

**Where from** Supra (01223 441299; [www.supracables.co.uk](http://www.supracables.co.uk)).  
**How much** £37.99 (1m).