

# You LX-y Thing

Over the last couple of years, for Music Mart's money, Wharfedale have pretty much ruled the budget PA market with their EV-P range of powered enclosures, and their LX range of budget passive units. Now **John Moore** looks at a pair of units from their recently updated LX range, and assesses where they stand in the Wharfedale family hierarchy.

The LX-12 and 15B



Here's the thing with Wharfedale right? How can you really knock them at the prices? How do you disrespect a passive system capable of handling over 2kW of continuous music power... A speaker set up that'll probably cost you enough dosh short of a grand to pay for the petrol to pick them up... From Land's End (or John O'Groats, if you live in Land's End)... **And get the burgers in on the way home.**

Before you think I've gone completely mad, let's get down to brass tacks the LX series are a range of trapezoidal passive speakers (actually a symmetrical design – rather than the lopsided, now-seemingly-standard 'dual' configuration also suitable for use as a wedge monitor). They are constructed from MDF and covered in a carpet finish – but if that's not your thing then they are also available in an LX-E variety, which for a little extra cash are constructed from Birch ply, paint finished and with enough mounting points to keep most installers happy.

The units that we have on review here are the rather natty and compact-ish LX12 mid/tops and LX15B sub bass bins –

which as I mentioned before, are capable of dealing with about 2.2kW of continuous power from your amplifier – and can knock out a very reasonable 129dB and 132dB respectively... With sensitivities of 97dB and 98dB respectively. This translates as, 'they're not the loudest speakers you'll ever hear, but they're pretty loud... And their dynamic range is pretty good'.

The units are flanked by comfortable, moulded carrying recesses – which have the advantage over handles of allowing you to hold the cab at any angle – and are fronted by a very nice, sturdy 1.5mm steel grille. That grille are protect the proprietary Wharfedale drivers behind it – the LX12 boasting one of the companies new LX-50TD compression driver – with it increased power handling and a 1.4" throat exit. This, the company says allows a lower crossover frequency to be used

## Quick Flicks – Performance



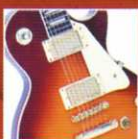
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