

## STEREO SPEAKERS

## TANGENT EVO 5



£ 200

## FOR

Thoroughly pleasant sound; fine standard of build and finish

## AGAINST

They're no fans of rough-and-tumble, let alone slap-and-tickle

## VERDICT

A considered, grown-up speaker that you could introduce to your parents

The diminutive Evo 5s come with their own wall-brackets should you need them

# Nice Evos are almost too civilised

**LIKE THE TEUFEL** headphones opposite, these Evo 5 loudspeakers, from Danish specialist Tangent, have lately suffered from unhelpful global exchange rates. Unlike those Teufels, though, the Evo 5s have more than enough about them to make the euro's strength against sterling much less of a talking point. Although it would be nice if they were a bit cheaper, naturally.

## “There's a surprising amount of scale for such modest cabinets”

Small (23 x 15 x 20cm), glossily finished (shiny white is available as well as our shiny black example) and with just enough of a curve to the cabinet to keep things interesting, the Evo 5s are both discreet and relatively stylish. The tweeter is a 25mm, soft-dome affair, accompanied by a 13cm mid/bass driver; there's a bass reflex port firing from the back of the cabinet. Tangent has been generous enough to supply basic wall-brackets, too.

Given a long playing-in to knock off a few rough edges, the Evo 5s deliver a sound as pleasant and reassuring as a favourite meal. The unthreatening sound of Adele's 19 suits the Tangents down to the ground – the warm authenticity of her voice is captured with all its character and frailty intact.

### Big size sound for small boxes

There's a surprising amount of scale on offer from such modestly sized cabinets, similarly unanticipated weight and body to low frequencies, and a convincing soundstage. Dynamic fluctuations are handled without fuss, and recordings are organised and focused confidently – in the least pejorative sense, these are an easy listen.

Only when the going gets grimy do the Evo 5s run into problems. The Prodigy's *Invaders Must Die* has an awful

lot of dirt under its fingernails, but the Tangents are, frankly, too well-bred to draw attention to the fact. Even at £200, our bookshelf speakers need to have a bit of bite and bile about them if necessary, and the Evo 5s are above all that.

Of course, our currency may yet recover and, if it does, the Evo 5s will become even more compelling an option than they are now.



## ALSO CONSIDER



## DALI LEKTOR 1



£250

December 2008  
Another pint-sized cabinet, and another startlingly widescreen sound. These are as musical as they come, and the Dalis don't mind roughing it either

## MONITOR AUDIO BRONZE BR2



£230

December 2008  
A more imposing cabinet, certainly, but for sheer excitement these are hard to beat at the price