

Harbeth[®]

AUDIO

HL-P3ES-2



Performance beyond size



Engineered in England

The HL-P3ES-2 . . . so good, yet so small

It is an axiom of speaker design that the smaller the cabinet, the more challenging the task, and when the cabinet is little bigger than a shoe box, the engineering challenges are very considerable indeed. But Harbeth are renowned for sound quality, so it's no surprise that the Harbeth HL-P3ES-2 is indeed a most remarkable loudspeaker. Packed with enough engineering to convince the most discerning audiophile that he's listening to the full bandwidth sound, the P3ES takes pride of place in any hi-fi or AV system.

Extensively proven in studios, outside broadcast and at home, this marvellous miniature speaker is the direct descendent of the engineering behind the Harbeth BBC LS3/5a. Cabinet construction, panel damping and response shaping are all the products of critical analysis and much tuning. Instantly recognisable for their 'Harbeth house sound' and occupying so little space, the HL-P3ES-2 makes possible the enjoyment of really high quality sound in locations where space is at a real premium.

The secret of the P3ES-2 lies in its solid bass performance since the whole perception of a loudspeakers weight and warmth is pivoted on its low end characteristics. Extensive computer and psychoacoustic modelling determined the optimum characteristics in the bass region, and from there upwards the frequency response has been finely balanced to *sound* like a much larger system. As for the tell-tale midrange and presence bands, the transition from bass/mid to tweeter is so skillfully engineered that the P3ES is even used in a military application as the ideal point source.

Although the HL P3ES-2 is the smallest Harbeth, it inherits the SuperTunedStructure™, SuperGrille™ and design philosophy from its bigger brothers. Taken together, this explains the commonality of sound - as it should be and quite independent of size, across the Harbeth range. The rest is due to our experience of live sound in the studio and concert hall and the ability to turn that into a satisfying sound at home.

Designed from the start with AV systems in mind, the P3ES is perfect for stereo or as front or rear speakers in a Dolby Digital AC3 set-up. Balanced to sound characteristically similar to the larger Harbeth Compact 7ES-2, the P3ES-2 can be freely mixed in multi channel or multi room installations, retaining the wonderful Harbeth sound throughout.

Designer Alan Shaw comments . . .

"As a youngster I was lucky enough to be involved in BBC local radio, and I vividly recall my first experiences with mini-monitor speakers. Technology has now allowed me to reduce colouration, improve the mid and high frequency response and to introduce magnetic screening, all of which make the P3ES-2 a flexible solution for hi-fi stereo and AV multi-channel. Indeed, so convincing is the P3ES-2's sound stage that you are never really aware that you are listening to bookshelf speakers. With thousands in service around the world, I'm delighted to be able to bring the musical Harbeth sound to users who otherwise would just not have the space for a Harbeth".



HL-P3ES-2: cut-away of SuperGrille™

Harbeth HL-P3ES-2 technical specification

<i>Transducer system</i>	<i>Sealed 2 way loudspeaker</i>
<i>Drive Units</i>	<i>LF: custom 110mm polymer cone, antimagnet, screening can HF: custom 19mm ferrocooled aluminium dome, anti-magnet</i>
<i>Frequency response</i>	<i>75Hz - 20kHz ± 3dB free space, 1m smooth off axis response</i>
<i>Sensitivity</i>	<i>83dB 1W/1m</i>
<i>Amplifier suggestion</i>	<i>25-120W*</i>
<i>Nominal Impedance</i>	<i>6 ohms nominal</i>
<i>Power handling</i>	<i>50W programme*</i>
<i>Connector</i>	<i>Four 4mm gold-brass binding posts (biwireable)</i>
<i>Dimensions (h x w x d)</i>	<i>305mm x 188mm x 198mm inc. grille and binding posts</i>
<i>Finish</i>	<i>Veneers: cherry, eucalyptus (standard) Others: please call</i>
<i>Weight</i>	<i>5.9kg each, 13.2kg packed in pairs</i>
<i>Special Features</i>	<i>AV ready with controlled magnetic field and suitable for close proximity to TV and computer screens with smooth, full bodied sound</i>
<i>Recommended listening Technology</i>	<i>On stands at approx. tweeter height SuperTunedStructure™. SuperGrille™</i>

* The power handling of the HL-P3ES-2 is optimised for broadband speech and music to give a full bodied sound at normal, reasonable listening levels. An amplifier with a substantially greater power potential than the handling capacity of the P3ES-2 will, when used sensibly, give excellent results.

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WHAT HI-FI?

"The Harbeths effectively disappear, leaving you with nothing but a clear picture of the studio acoustic before you, and placing the performers within it in effortless fashion." 8/96

Gramophone

"If there was such a thing for audio, this too ought to be in line for an Oscar."

Harbeth