

REVIEW – ONLINE at

<http://stereos.about.com/od/reviewsandrecommendations/fr/aktimate.htm>

About.com; Stereos

The wildly popular Apple iPod and assorted MP3 music players have spawned a new product category that is almost as popular as the players themselves. Docking stations and stereo speaker systems to support the players are popping up everywhere, but many don't perform up to very high expectations, with a few exceptions. One notable exception is the new AktiMate High Fidelity Active Speaker System, a two-way speaker system that takes iPod and MP3 sound to a truly respectable level of high fidelity. The AktiMate is the adept design work of the Aussies, backed by UK-based Epos Speakers and built-in amps from Creek Audio.

AktiMate Features

The AktiMate stereo speaker system consists of one active (powered) speaker with a built-in 40-watt amp and one passive speaker. 5.25-inch woofers built by the UK company [Epos](#) are accompanied by one-inch dome tweeters in each speaker and [Creek Audio](#), a respected British amplifier manufacturer, builds the amp.

The active speaker features an iPod docking/charging port on the top of the cabinet and comes with multiple adapters that makes it compatible with all iPod models. A rear-panel USB input permits charging a separate iPod or MP3 player. Any MP3 or MP4 player can be connected to the Aktimate system via the 3.5mm input jack on the back of the active speaker. An AirPort Express wireless module can also be connected to stream audio wirelessly from your Mac or PC to the AktiMate system. RCA stereo inputs permit connection of external analog components, such as a tuner, tape player or other analog source and one pair of RCA outputs are provided for a subwoofer or for daisy-chaining to another pair of AktiMate speakers. The active speaker has a volume control on the front panel that also serves as a power-standby switch. The system can be operated with an intuitive remote control, which also controls basic iPod functions. A composite video output can be connected to a video monitor for viewing photos stored on your iPod and the speakers are magnetically shielded so they can be placed close to a television. Each bookshelf speaker is slightly less than 12" high and they're available in gloss white or gloss black, and rumor has it that a gloss red version is in the works.