

The Audea Phone-Free Smart Speaker

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Audea claims to have the first voice controlled "Intelligent Speaker" able to run "hundreds" of music and video apps without need for pairing with a smartphone.



Launched at CE Week in New York City, the Audea Intelligent Speaker is a multi-room speaker system able to browse, play and access the features of any music streaming app with or without a phone. It runs Android 9 on a 1.5GHz quad-core A7 processor and a 7-inch touchscreen, allowing users to run and control any music app with a full visual interface, as opposed to conventional smart speakers demanding use of a smartphone or PC. Another means of control is an included handheld remote, while a 4-microphone far-field array and patented VOXXI technology handle voice control.

The player can play music files from cloud storage such as Google Drive or Dropbox in a number of formats, including Apple AAC and ALAC, FLAC, WAV, MP3, Ogg Vorbis/Opus, WMA, DTS and music from any music store. It also carries an own music player, 96kHz/24-bit DAC, 10-band equaliser and DSP digital audio enhancer, and allows users to add own hi-fi active speakers via aux output for the best audio quality in a smart speaker.

The Audea Intelligent Speaker is available from August 2019.

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