

# INSIDER TOP FIVE LAUNCHES

## Five products to look out for this month

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### Grado GW100x

£249

Grado has taken its five-star wireless headphones and updated them with better Bluetooth 5.2 connectivity, new distortion-reducing drivers, and more than triple the original's battery life. Sound, connectivity and battery life are the three essential pillars when it comes to wireless headphones, and the upgrades don't stop there for the 'x'. Grados are notoriously leaky, however, thanks to a redesigned speaker housing on the new GW100x, sound leakage should be reduced by 60 per cent compared with the company's wired offerings. With upgrades across the board, the GW100x are shaping up to be a worthy successor to Grado's 2019 wireless cans.

● [whf.cm/GW100x](http://whf.cm/GW100x)



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### Devialet Mania

£690

French audio firm Devialet has launched its first portable speaker, the Devialet Mania. Centred on 360° audio, the spherical speaker packs four full-range drivers and two subwoofers into a luxurious and sophisticated package. Devialet is known for its attractive-looking speakers, but the Mania is more than a pretty face, as it has the smarts to back it up. Its feature set includes voice assistant support from Amazon Alexa, as well as wireless connectivity via wi-fi, Bluetooth 5.0, AirPlay 2 and Spotify Connect. A four-mic array adapts the Mania to its surroundings – place it in the middle of a room and it will automatically turn 360° stereo audio on.

● [whf.cm/Devialet\\_Mania](http://whf.cm/Devialet_Mania)



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### iFi Uno

£79

This miniature DAC and headphone amplifier is iFi's latest entry-level model, designed to connect with mobile and desktop devices with its convenient USB-C connection. The Uno is the perfect place to start for budding audiophiles who might want to start small (literally) and experience the first rung in the ever-expanding ladder of better-sounding headphone audio. That's not to say that the iFi Uno is underpowered by any means, as it houses an ESS Sabre DAC chip and iFi's dedicated clock circuitry that aims, says the company, to deliver "ultra-low distortion, excellent clarity and impressive dynamic range."

● [whf.cm/UnoDac](http://whf.cm/UnoDac)



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### Nothing Ear (stick)

£99

Nothing is still a relatively new brand from the mind of Carl Pei, co-founder of OnePlus. However, with a pair of wireless earbuds and a smartphone under its belt, Nothing has now introduced a cheaper follow-up to its original Nothing Ear (1) earphones – which we noted in our review already had "the specifications to become a budget headphone contender". The Ear (stick) features 12.6mm custom dynamic drivers, which supposedly will create "powerfully authentic sound" and "minimal distortion". Elsewhere, the transparent motif and unique aesthetic that has garnered attention to Nothing thus far returns, to make these a truly individual looking pair of earbuds.

● [whf.cm/ear\\_stick](http://whf.cm/ear_stick)



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### McIntosh MI502

£5995

McIntosh's latest creation is a premium digital amplifier that is designed to add some oomph to your home cinema set-up. The MI502 is a sleek-looking piece of kit with seriously impressive internals – as is often the case with McIntosh's wares, much of the MI502's appeal lies in its engineering. It can handle 500W of power at 8 ohms or 800W at 4 ohms, making it ideally suited to custom and high-end home cinema installs. It's something of a Swiss Army knife, too. One MI502 can be used to power the front left and right speakers in a system, or drive two in-wall subwoofers; a pair can be used to drive the three front channels of a home cinema, plus one subwoofer. You can even use multiple MI502s to spread the oomph even further. Its set of balanced and unbalanced connections alongside the five-way speaker binding posts means it should fit into any existing set-up, too.

● [whf.cm/MI502](http://whf.cm/MI502)

