

ipod docks

BARGAIN: KENSINGTON SX 2000

GEAR / IPOD DOCK



AT A GLANCE

Price: \$159.99 (under \$110 online)

Weight: 4.60 pounds

Dimensions: 9 x 18 x 6.2 inches

Power: AC only

Web: www.kensington.com

When it comes to speakers, "bargain" too often translates to "crap." Fortunately, that's not the case with this well-priced system from laptop accessory-maker Kensington. We like the SX 2000 for two reasons. First, it just looks cool. Second—unexpectedly, given its slim profile—it actually cranks out some impressive sound. That's largely due to an innovative flat-panel speaker design ("SurfaceSurround," as they call it) supplied by esteemed Brit brand NXT. Don't expect the Kensington to match the bass output of traditional cone speaker systems, but in our tests it rendered everything from classical and indie rock with ample clarity. Because it can't match the distortion-free decibels produced by either the Bose or Apple, the Kensington is best suited to small rooms, say an office or bedroom—which almost forgives the lack of a remote.

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