



MODEL SENNHEISER HE1

\$81,400, made in Germany
Aimed At Audiophiles/music lovers

What makes them special? The daddy of all audiophile headphones, the HE1 from Germany's Sennheiser is the world's most expensive, the pinnacle of beyond-the-cutting-edge engineering, incorporating a "Cool Class A MOS-FET high voltage amplifier" that is integrated into the ear cups. The HE1's valve amplifier is based on a solid block of Italian marble and the headphones themselves have more than 6000 individual parts. Sennheiser calls the HE1 a "masterpiece" and indeed it stands alone as a work of art in itself - albeit one you can listen to and with a frequency range (8Hz to more than 100,000Hz) that takes audio "realism" into a whole new dimension.

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took its award winning LCD-4 design and scaled it down to create what it calls an "end-game" in-ear headphone. Audeze says distortion, even at high levels, is less than 0.1% - plus they look super cool too

FOCAL UTOPIA

\$5,499, made France
Aimed At Audiophiles/music lovers

What makes them special? Reference high-fidelity headphones manufactured in France by Focal, a company with 35 years' experience in developing and manufacturing high-end speaker drivers and loudspeakers. Featuring lambskin leather ear cushions and cutting edge engineering, audiophiles the world over have raved about the Focal Utopia, an open-backed style of headphone that features Beryllium speaker domes, a material that allows an incredible sonic "range".

SONOMA MODEL ONE

\$6,999, Made in China, designed in the USA
Aimed At Audiophiles/music lovers

What makes them special? The Sonoma Model One mixes some serious mind-bending tech (it is the world's first headphone system to use the High-Precisions Electrostatic

PURE SOUNDS
The daddy of all audiophile headphones - HE1 from Sennheiser (bottom) is also the world's most expensive.



Laminate audio transducer developed by Warwick Audio Technologies Ltd; the transducer is the 'conduit' by which sound is delivered) with the best Mother Nature can offer - in this case hand-made ear-pads and headband made from the ultra-soft leather of the Cabretta hair sheep (yep, there is such a beast). So not only are you getting cutting edge wizardry, listening is darn comfortable as well.

