



Edifier

LUNA5 ENCORE iF500



For many, the term “lifestyle” is as synonymous with “pricey,” just as with similar phrases “cool” or “designer.” Anyone who’s ever wandered into a Brookstone store, browsed Sharper Image or dug into their SkyMall catalogue while flying can tell you that, while this lifestyle stuff is cool, it’s also pretty expensive and, for many, out of reach. Thankfully Edifier, a Canada-based lifestyle audio company, is trying to change that. Edifier has been wowing crowds and critics alike at [the world famous CES show](#) for a few years now. (As a matter of fact, as this article is being written, Edifier is receiving recognition for Innovations in Design and Engineering at this year’s event taking place right now in Vegas.) What makes the company’s products special, beyond the unique aesthetic design and outstanding audio quality though, is that the price is relatively reasonable. Keeping with tradition, at an estimated \$299.00, the Edifier Luna 5 Encore iPod speaker dock handily outperforms most of the competition in its price bracket, and does so with style and grace.



The Luna 5 is basically a sphere that houses five speakers (a subwoofer, two tweeters and two mid-range speakers). At the base of the sphere lies the iPod dock, which is compatible with a plethora of iPod’s, from the iPod Mini to the iPhone. On both sides of the glossy piano black dock there are touch sensitive controls which illuminate when the device it switched on. A large remote control is included with the Encore 5 and it mirrors the functions that are on the unit itself, but it also includes bass and treble controls....Initially, we thought that having five speakers placed so close together would ruin the overall audio quality, but the Luna 5 surprised us. Rather than drown each other out, the speakers work quite well together and give a great stereo sound. The mid-range speakers do a good job of delivering tones in between the bass and treble, while the 5.7in sub woofer works well with any genre of music (pop, rock, opera, classical, electronic and techno tunes were used in out tests), supplying clear and deep tones; the bass doesn’t drown out the two 1-inch tweeters, which are responsible for producing clear high frequencies. As previously mentioned, the Luna 5 docks with a multitude of Apple media players; thankfully, the device isn’t restricted to Apple alone. An auxiliary port at the front of the unit allows for the connection of any other type of MP3 device or CD player.



The Luna 2 continue the trend of other Edifier products. They look great and deliver very good sound overall.



The whole unit feels very well built, and of good quality. The gloss black finish looks very sleek and aluminum finish on the base plate adds a touch of class. The unusual almost saucer shaped speaker really stands out from the crowd. The speaker looks great and offers up clear, crisp audio. There’s a good amount of bass and treble, though from what we’ve seen, there is no way to adjust the levels. The package is well thought out and caters for most all iPods / iPhone models. Looks great – a real statement. Sound quality is crystal clear and well defined / Good volume range / Easy operation with remote / Lengthy power cable / Good value



While at CES 2010, I discovered Edifier, a company that is doing quite good in Europe and Asia. Now they are trying to sell their products over in North America, and one of them is the Luna 5 Encore iF500. This is an MP3 player speaker that works well with iPod and iPhones, and it has a speaker shape that I can only describe as a big matchhead. It comes with an FM tuner, and will have to admit that the sound was pretty kickin’.



Edifier

LUNA5 ENCORE



Big box, big sound

Happily, the Edifier's distinctive looks aren't just design for design's sake: the substantial chassis allows plenty of room for a claimed power output of 55w plus a plethora of drive units, including a hefty 15cm bass driver, two 7cm midrange drivers and a pair of tweeters. Sonically, the Luna 5 has been tuned in conjunction with Phil Jones, who previously worked at loudspeaker brands Wharfedale and Acoustic Energy, to create a smoother, cleaner sound than you'd expect from a system of this type. It thunders through the bass riffs with some energy and no little composure. It'll sustain big volumes too



At the start of the year we took our first look at an Edifier speaker product in the form of the [MP300 Plus](#) and, despite its portable size and fairly budget price we were blown away by the sound quality that pumped out from its sub-woofer powered speakers. There's a touch of The Jetsons about the Luna 5 with its curvaceous speaker design and sleek touch-sensitive button interface. Capable of docking an [Apple](#) iPod and iPhone, Aux-ing in other audio equipment with a Line In or amplifying out an integrated FM tuner it's a good all-in-one solution for those who now just listen to a completely digitised music collection.



Hurrah. Here's an iPod dock that looks rather different from the norm, even if it does remind us of one of the pods from *Alien*.....key features include a three-way, five-driver speaker system that delivers a total power output of 55W. Under the grille lie a magnetically-shielded 5.75in woofer, two 2.75in midrange drivers and two 2.5in tweeters.



If the good looks of this Edifier Luna 5 Encore iPod/iPhone dock don't grab you, its thundering bass will kick you in the ass, rapidly reminding you who's boss. There's enough room in that rounded shape to fit 5 speakers, including a 32-watt sub and 4 others powered by 20 watts. The result? Huge sound that works on a variety of music — we plugged in our iPhone and took it for a ride at CES 2010, and it's just seriously powerful.



It sounds good at all volume levels and, when the juice is pumped up, it really packs a punch. This is undoubtedly thanks to the reasonably powerful onboard amplifier and the decent-sized woofer.....congratulations are in order for the Beijing-based company, because the Luna 5 is one of the best-sounding iPod docks I've yet encountered.



We get excited whenever a distinctive-looking new speaker system shows up for testing, but practically speaking, few speakers we test these days look truly distinctive, and far fewer have the sound to match up with their shells. Edifier has come up with something that's roughly as spacey and curvy as past alien-themed speakers from JBL, in the form of the iF500 Luna5 Encore



Edifier

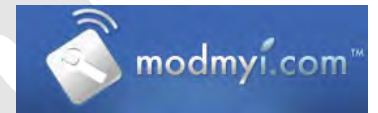
LUNA5 ENCORE iF500



The **iF500** docking station from Edifier has a futuristic, lunar design and is compatible with iPods that have a dock connector. It also has an auxiliary entry for other MP3 players and mobile phones with a 3.5 mm jack entry. This stylish and robust docking station has an FM tuner and boasts vibration and resonance control technologies, while its rounded design ensures sound is smoother and cleaner.



Bold design. Powerful speakers. Pleasant frequency response with strong bass that can be dialed back to taste. Remote features full iPod navigation. FM radio with 18 presets... the Luna5 Encore is a good-looking, great-sounding, iPod speaker dock.



The Edifier Luna 5 Encore iPod Dock is perfect for big lovers of music. And I mean "big." In fact, a Tyrannosaurus Rex would find this iPod dock adequate for its listening needs.



I discovered Edifier, a company that is doing quite good in Europe and Asia. Now they are trying to sell their products over in North America, and one of them is the Luna 5 Encore iF500. This is an MP3 player speaker that works well with iPod and iPhones, and it has a speaker shape that I can only describe as a big matchhead. It comes with an FM tuner, and will have to admit that the sound was pretty kickin'.



There are already gazillions of iPod docks on the market, which makes it pretty hard to stand out from the crowd. Except of course for monsters like the Edifier Luna 5 Encore. It's huge, it looks good and by all accounts it puts the 32-watt sub, and the four 20-watt speakers that accompany it, to very good use.



In terms of looks, the Luna 5 is certainly a match for the sleekness of the iPods and the sexiness of the iPhone, but what about sound? Well, we are pleased to report the Luna 5 does respectably well thanks to its five speaker system consisting of two tweeters, two midrange drivers and a woofer.



We have collected and analyzed **27** expert reviews and **3** user reviews from international sources. Experts rate this product **75/100** and users rate it **93/100**. The average review date is Jul 1, 2009. We have compared these reviews to **12998** reviews from other iPod Docking Speakers. The alaScore™ for this product is **83/100 = Very good**. Last update: Feb 25, 2011.



Edifier

LUNA5 ENCORE iF500



If you want something middle of the road, there are a few docks there to choose from, but none that give the centre piece feel of the Edifier Luna 5. First things first, it looks like something you'd see in a trendy club instead of your wooden panel living room. The design of the Edifier Luna 5 is more styled than a footballer's wife, but it's not just all show. The unit itself feels solid, and the subtle red lighting on the base unit isn't in your face. There are six touch-sensitive buttons on the base which respond even when you lightly hover your finger over one. I played a rock track and a classical track to see how the Edifier handled different sounds. As mentioned before, the bass in the rock song was picked up clearly and sounded deep and rich enough for you to want to get on your hands and knees under the table to find an invisible external sub-woofer. The Edifier Luna 5 is a top quality iPod speaker at a mid-range price which makes it a fantastic buy for your money. It has made a similar statement in design as the iPhone did when it first came out, which makes the Edifier Luna 5 a very appropriate dock for Apple's product.

HARDWARE

MP3 player speaker rigs aren't exactly rare these days, but they have an annoying habit of falling into two categories. On the one hand, you have the 'sounds great but blow me its expensive' devices such as B&W's Zeppelin. On the other, you have nasty little 80-watt plastic boxes that have all the audio fidelity of two empty baked bean cans tied together with a length of string and the visual appeal of a breeze block. Whither the middle ground? Well, right here with the Luna 5, reckons manufacturer Edifier, creator of the very fine MP300 Plus set of 2.1-channel laptop speakers. When we saw the Luna 5 on the Edifier stand at the Consumer Electronics Show, we were mightily impressed both with its styling and build quality and we're happy to say that after a prolonged poke and fiddle with the finished item, we continue to be impressed.

Stuff

/GADGETS /GEAR /TECHNOLOGY

Happily, the Edifier's distinctive looks aren't just design for design's sake: the substantial chassis allows plenty of room for a claimed power output of 55w plus a plethora of drive units, including a hefty 15cm bass driver, two 7cm midrange drivers and a pair of tweeters. Sonically, the Luna 5 has been tuned in conjunction with Phil Jones, who previously worked at loudspeaker brands Wharfedale and Acoustic Energy, to create a smoother, cleaner sound than you'd expect from a system of this type. It thunders through the bass riffs with some energy and no little composure. It'll sustain big volumes too, with little of the hard, brittle edge that afflicts so many rival systems.

SMARTHOUSE

If you have an iPod and want a premium docking station that produces good sound, then the Luna 5 Encore is definitely worth a look. There may be a lot of iPod docking stations out there, but the Encore is one of those products that just stand out because of how it looks. The unit comes in either white or black, which can complement any iPod/iPhone or room. The speaker housing looks like a chair's back rest, while its semi-circular floating connector in the front claims to isolate the dock from any low frequency vibration.