

SPL Comparisons Vs Competitors

- The core measurement of SPL is measured differently by manufacturers
- Simply put, many competitors now quote figures based upon a crest factor of 4 (12dB peak vs continuous) and often use the highest sensitivity frequency band (typically HF) to derive their figures given that at LF, where the most power is required, even large amplifiers can't swing twice the peak output volts demanded by a doubling in crest factor from 2 to 4.
- Martin Audio quotes the AES industry standard crest factor of 2 (6dB peak vs continuous) and we ensure our partnering amplifiers are capable of delivering the volts and power to achieve our specs.
- Therefore, if people reading specifications do not understand how SPL is measured and the implications it would appear incorrectly that some competitors have significantly higher SPL.
- While absolute comparable data is not available, some element of logic can be applied for the following products to bring a more realistic comparison.

Product	Peak at Crest factor 2 (6dB)	Peak at Crest factor 4 (12dB)
Martin Audio WPL broadband	139 dB*	145 dB**
Martin Audio WPL HF band	145dB*	151 dB**
d&B KSL12	138 dB**	144dB*
Adamson E12	139 dB**	145dB*
JBL VTXA12	140 dB**	146 dB*
L-Acoustics K2	141 dB**	147 dB*
Martin Audio WPC broadband	135dB*	141dB**
Martin Audio WPC HF band	135dB*	141dB**
d&B V12	136dB**	142dB*
Adamson S10	135dB	141dB*
JBL VTXV20 (Active)	130 / 133 / 142 dB*	136/139/148 dB**
L-Acoustics Kara	135dB**	141dB*
Martin Audio WPM broadband	130dB*	136dB**
Martin Audio WPM HF band	130dB*	136dB**
d&B T10	124/126**	130 (LF) / 132dB (HF)*
Adamson S7 (2x7")	132dB**	138dB*
L-Acoustics KIVAII	132dB**	138dB*

^{*}Manufacturer quoted

^{**}calculated