

STORMING SUBWOOFER!



Gale 3080

£179.95

Value for money: ✓✓✓✓✓

We all know that for the real deal with home cinema you really need a subwoofer. Yet choosing the right one can be something of a minefield. Many prospective subs are either too small to be of much use or simply too big for the average UK domestic living environment. Welcome then, to the middle ground, and Gale's perfectly judged 3080.

The solid MDF cabinet strikes just the right balance in terms of size. Large enough to create some serious clout yet not too big that it will overwhelm the room. The chamfered front baffle and smart beech or black finishes also means that this is one of those rare subwoofers that you wouldn't mind being on show.

Compact it may be but, thanks to a 10" bass cone and triple rear ports, the 3080 is capable of punching way beyond its weight. When the bass should be there the Gale truly delivers. Like any good sub, you can really feel the bass, without really being aware of where it's coming from. Furthermore, the spiked feet and large driver magnet ensure that the sound is kept highly controlled. In other words, when the action stops, so does the Gale; there's no overhang or bass "bloom" that can spoil the dynamic sound effects of some movies. Thanks to a variable phase control, Gale has also ensured that the 3080 will happily work in any part of the room. This is an important consideration when accommodating a full AV speaker package in any home environment. If you enjoy your music with a little more clout, then you'll also appreciate the variable volume control, allowing for a huge dynamic scale without dominating the music.

As middle grounds go Gale has shown that, sometimes, the third way really is the best. For a combination of power and control with acceptable aesthetics, Gale's 3080 really should be number one on your shopping list.