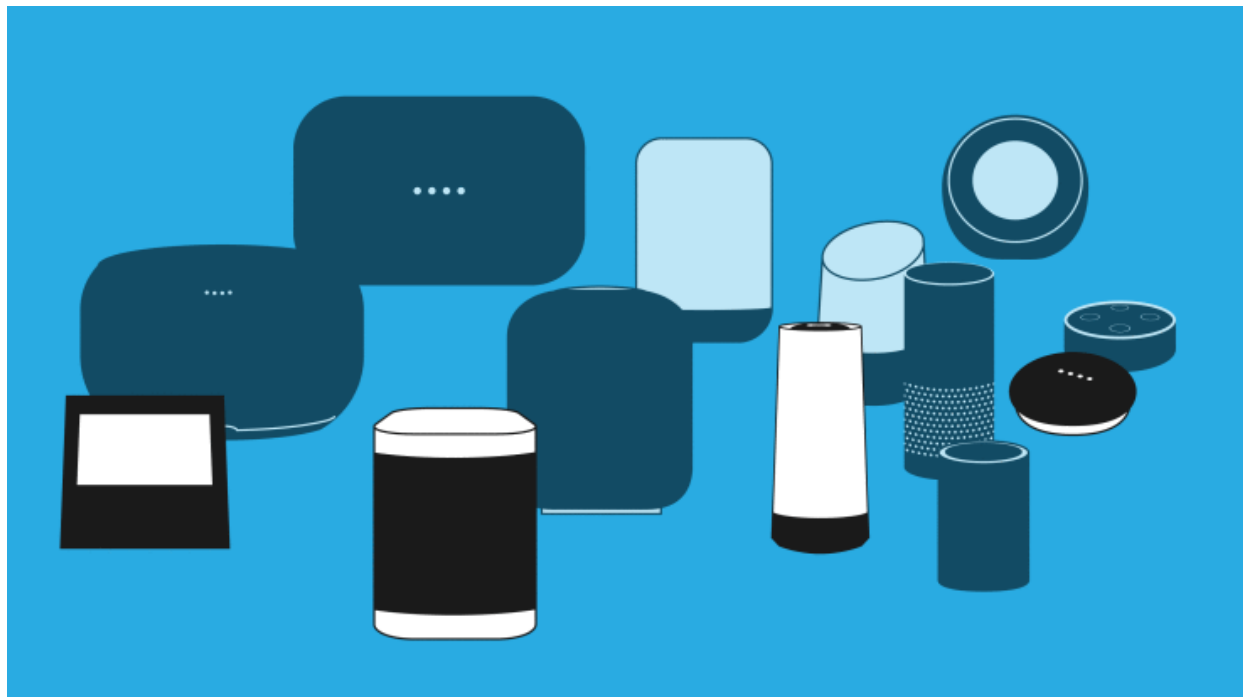


# Comparing Alexa, Google Assistant, Cortana and Siri smart speakers

techcrunch.com/2017/10/08/comparing-alexa-google-assistant-cortana-and-siri-smart-speakers/

By Brian Heater



The smart home assistant race has been building to a fever pitch over the course of the last couple of years. Things really came to head this past two weeks, when [Amazon](#), [Google](#) and [Sonos](#) all held big events highlighting their latest smart speaker plays, making the already busy field a heck of a lot more crowded.

The burgeoning category can be a tough one to navigate. A lot of picking the right speaker for your own needs comes down to your assistant of choice — that, in turn, has a lot to do with both feature sets and your own mobile operating system loyalties. Each has benefits and drawbacks — Amazon has cornered the home, Apple has done a good job in mobile and Google has straddled the two better than anyone else. And Microsoft, well, a lot of people own Windows computers, at least.

Things can be equally complex from a hardware standpoint, between first-party products and the increasing presence of third-parties like Sony, Sonos and JBL. Devices also run a pretty wide price gamut, from ~\$50 to \$300. Some focus on premium sound, some feature screens, and some even let you choose between multiple assistants.

Here's a quick break down to help make navigating these waters seem a bit less treacherous.

# Comparing voice assistants

## Under \$50

	Price	Release Date	Assistant	Highlights
	Amazon Echo Dot (2nd generation) \$49.99	October 2016	Alexa	Calls, audio out, seven far-field microphones
	Google Home Mini \$49 (Free with the Pixel 2 for a limited time)	October 2017	Google Assistant	Chromecast streaming, Individual voice recognition, Google translate

## \$50 - \$200

	Price	Release Date	Assistant	Highlights
	Amazon Echo (2nd generation) \$99.99	October 2017	Alexa	Calls, audio out, seven far-field microphones
	Amazon Echo Plus \$149.99 (Ships with a free Philips Hue lightbulb)	October 2017	Alexa	Connect home compatibility out of box, improved Dolby audio, calls, seven far-field microphones
	Amazon Echo Spot \$129.99	December 2017	Alexa	2.5-inch display, audio out, calls, multi-room music
	Google Home \$129	November 2016	Google Assistant	Chromecast streaming, Individual voice recognition, Google translate
	Harman Kardon Invoke \$200?	Fall 2017	Microsoft Cortana	360-degree sound, Skype integration, far-field voice technology
	Sonos One \$199	October 2017	Alexa (Google Assistant coming soon)	Multi-room audio, six microphones, Class-D amplifiers, custom-built drivers, pairing
	Sony LF-S50G \$199	October 2017	Google Assistant	360-degree audio, gesture control, NFC pairing, splash-proof, clock display

## Above \$200

	Price	Release Date	Assistant	Highlights
	Amazon Echo Show \$229.99	June 2017	Alexa	Seven-inch screen, dual stereo speakers, security camera compatibility, video calls
	Apple HomePod \$349	December 2017	Siri	Automatic music tuning, 360-degree sound, seven tweeters, AirPlay 2 for multi-room listening
	Google Home Max \$399	December 2017	Google Assistant	Dual 4.5-inch woofers, custom tweeters, smart sound room optimization, far field voice control, multi-speaker wireless pairing
	JBL Link 300 \$249.95	Fall 2017	Google Assistant	Chromecast multi-room streaming, 10 hours of battery life, 50 watt output

[Infogram version]

Featured Image: Bryce Durbin/TechCrunch