La-Z-boy®

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LA-Z-BOY DESIGN GUIDES

THE FUTURE OF HOME ENTERTAINMENT

A COMPLETE GUIDE TO FURNITURE WITH BUILT-IN AUDIO

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How Is Home Entertainment Furniture Changing?

For years, creating a great home entertainment experience meant investing in a large television, a quality sound system, and comfortable seating. Each purchase was usually made separately. Homeowners would choose their furniture, determine where to put the speakers, and then work around the cords, equipment, and other components needed to bring everything together. That approach is beginning to change.

Furniture manufacturers are finding new ways to incorporate technology directly into the pieces people use every day. Recliners and sofas are no longer limited to providing a comfortable place to sit. Some now offer built-in speakers, wireless connectivity, personalized audio controls, and reclining features you can adjust to suit your preferences.

The idea is fairly simple. Instead of arranging furniture around a sound system, the furniture becomes part of the listening experience.

One of the newest examples is AudioLuxe by La-Z-Boy, a collection of reclining furniture developed with Sound by Klipsch. The technology places speakers and subwoofers directly into the seating, allowing homeowners to enjoy music, movies, television, sports, and gaming from the comfort of their chairs.

But is furniture with built-in audio worth considering?

How does it compare to a traditional home theater setup?

And what should buyers look for before investing in this type of furniture?

This guide explores the technology, comfort features, design considerations, and practical questions that can help homeowners decide whether integrated audio furniture is right for their homes.

What Problems Can Furniture With Built-In Audio Solve?

A good home entertainment setup should be comfortable and easy to use. In practice, achieving both can be more complicated than expected. Many homeowners spend considerable time and money selecting televisions and sound systems, only to discover that the finished room does not work quite as well as they imagined.

One common problem is speaker placement. Traditional surround sound systems often require speakers to be positioned throughout the room. Depending on the setup, that may involve wall mounting, speaker stands, additional wiring, or rearranging furniture to accommodate the equipment.

This can be especially challenging in open-concept homes, where the living room may connect directly to the kitchen, dining room, or other gathering spaces. There may not be enough walls for ideal speaker placement, and homeowners may not want audio equipment visible throughout the room.

Space is another consideration. Not everyone has a dedicated home theater. Many families use the same living room for watching television, entertaining guests, helping children with homework, and relaxing at the end of the day.

A room that works for movie night still needs to function as an everyday living space. Sound quality can also be a challenge. Depending on the room's layout, some seating positions may offer a better listening experience than others. Someone sitting close to a speaker may hear much more detail than a person seated across the room.
Then there is the question of comfort.

Even an expensive entertainment system can be disappointing if the seating is uncomfortable. A chair that looks attractive may not provide enough lower back support. A sofa may be too deep for one family member and too shallow for another. Fixed seating positions can make it difficult to settle in for a longer movie or sporting event.
Integrated audio furniture addresses several of these concerns by placing sound closer to the listener while incorporating adjustable seating features.

It offers another option for people who want a more streamlined entertainment space without giving up comfort or sound quality.

What Features Should You Look for in Furniture With Built-In Audio?

Not all audio furniture offers the same experience. Some products include basic Bluetooth speakers, while others incorporate more advanced sound systems designed for immersive listening.

Understanding the differences is important, particularly when comparing furniture at different price points.

- Built-In Speakers and Subwoofers
- Bluetooth and Wireless Connectivity
- Personalized Audio Controls
- Adjustable Reclining Positions
- Convenient Everyday Features



How Do You Choose the Right Audio Furniture for Your Home?

Before comparing specific products, it helps to consider how you use your living room.

A homeowner who watches movies every evening may have different priorities than someone who primarily listens to music or occasionally hosts friends for sporting events.
The room itself also matters.

Should You Choose an Audio Recliner or an Audio Sofa?
A recliner is a natural choice for someone who wants a dedicated seat with personalized comfort and audio controls. It may work well in a home office, bedroom, media room, or living room where one person frequently watches television or listens to music.

A reclining sofa provides a different experience. It allows multiple people to enjoy the same furniture piece while maintaining a more traditional living room arrangement.
For couples and families, a sofa may offer a practical way to introduce integrated audio without purchasing several individual recliners.
The best option depends on seating needs, available space, and whether the furniture will serve as the primary seating arrangement.

How Much Space Do You Need?
Audio furniture still needs to fit the room. Before purchasing, measure the area where the furniture will be placed. Pay attention to the overall width, depth, and height, along with the additional space needed when reclining.

A reclining chair may fit comfortably when upright but extend farther into the room when the legrest is raised. Wall-reclining designs can be helpful in rooms where space is limited, although clearance requirements vary by model.

It is also important to consider walking paths, nearby tables, doorways, and access to electrical outlets. Power reclining furniture generally requires access to electricity, so the placement of outlets should be part of the planning process.

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How Do You Choose the Right Audio Furniture for Your Home?

Can Audio Furniture Work in a Regular Living Room?
Absolutely. One of the advantages of modern audio furniture is that it does not necessarily look like traditional home theater seating.

Many newer designs have clean lines, contemporary profiles, and upholstery choices that allow them to blend into a variety of interiors.

This makes them suitable for living rooms that serve several purposes.

For example, a homeowner with an open-concept floor plan may want comfortable reclining furniture for watching television without making the entire living room look like a theater. The right design can provide entertainment features while still coordinating with existing tables, rugs, lighting, and other furniture. The key is choosing a piece that works with the room rather than designing the entire space around the technology.

What Upholstery Is Best for Audio Furniture?
The upholstery decision is just as important for audio furniture as it is for any other sofa or recliner.

Fabric offers a wide variety of colors, textures, and styles. Many homeowners prefer its softer feel, particularly in casual family rooms. Leather provides a different appearance and can be a practical choice for households that prefer a smooth surface that is easy to wipe clean.

Performance fabrics may be worth considering for homes with children, pets, or frequent guests. These materials are designed to offer additional resistance to certain stains and everyday wear, although performance varies by fabric.

For furniture that will be used regularly, upholstery should be selected with maintenance in mind. Ask about cleaning instructions, durability, and how the material is expected to perform over time.

How Do You Choose the Right Audio Furniture for Your Home?

Is Integrated Audio Better Than a Traditional Sound System?
It depends on how you use the room. The two approaches offer different advantages. A traditional sound system gives homeowners flexibility when selecting speakers, receivers, and other audio components. It may be the better option for someone who wants extensive control over a dedicated home theater.

Integrated audio furniture offers a different benefit. It brings sound directly into the seating and may reduce the need for additional speakers near the listener.

For some homeowners, the convenience and personal listening experience will be more appealing than building a complicated audio setup. Others may prefer combining integrated audio furniture with a compatible external sound system.

The important question is not which approach is universally better. It is which one works best for the room, the household, and the type of entertainment being enjoyed.



What Makes the La-Z-Boy Ovation AudioLuxe Different?

La-Z-Boy's AudioLuxe collection brings together two established areas of expertise: comfortable reclining furniture and premium audio technology.

The collection was developed with Klipsch, an American audio brand with more than 80 years of home theater expertise. Rather than simply attaching speakers to existing furniture, the AudioLuxe concept incorporates sound into the seating itself.

The Ovation AudioLuxe Power Rocking Recliner is one example of how the technology works.

How Does Sound by Klipsch Work in the Ovation AudioLuxe?
The Ovation AudioLuxe Power Rocking Recliner includes two speakers positioned in the upper back and a subwoofer built into the right arm.
This arrangement places audio close to the listener while incorporating lower-frequency sound into the chair. The result is designed to make movies, music, sports, and gaming feel more immersive. For example, someone watching a movie can hear dialogue and other details from speakers positioned near the seating area while experiencing bass effects through the integrated subwoofer. Because the sound system is built into the furniture, homeowners do not need to position separate speakers immediately beside the chair to enjoy those features.

What Is Auracast Bluetooth Technology?
Auracast is a Bluetooth audio-sharing technology that allows compatible devices to receive a shared audio broadcast. In AudioLuxe furniture, it allows sound from a connected smartphone or tablet to be shared with other compatible AudioLuxe seating or speakers. This creates opportunities for synchronized listening across multiple seats.

For example, a household with more than one compatible AudioLuxe piece may be able to share the same audio experience across the furniture.

The technology can be particularly useful in larger entertainment spaces where several people want to listen together.

A La-Z-Boy designer can walk you through device compatibility and what each setup needs.

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What Makes the La-Z-Boy Ovation AudioLuxe Different?

Can AudioLuxe Be Part of a Surround Sound System?
Yes. AudioLuxe was designed to work with compatible Klipsch audio equipment.
When paired with the appropriate Klipsch Flexus Sound System, AudioLuxe furniture can participate in a 5.1.2 surround sound experience powered by Dolby Atmos.
This type of setup uses multiple audio channels, including height effects, to create a more immersive sound environment.

It is important to understand that the complete surround sound experience requires compatible external equipment. Purchasing an AudioLuxe recliner alone does not provide a full 5.1.2 home theater system.

For homeowners interested in a more advanced entertainment setup, discussing equipment requirements before purchasing is essential.

What Comfort Features Does the Ovation AudioLuxe Recliner Offer?
The Ovation AudioLuxe Power Rocking Recliner combines its audio system with several adjustable comfort features.

The chair offers power reclining with independent adjustment of the back and legrest, along with a power-adjustable headrest and lumbar support.

Users can adjust their seating position with a control panel or wireless remote. Two memory settings allow preferred reclining positions to be saved for future use. The chair also includes a rocking function when the legrest is lowered.

For everyday convenience, the design incorporates storage compartments, removable cup holders, and a wireless charging tray.

These features make the recliner suitable for more than occasional movie watching. It can also function as a comfortable everyday chair for reading, relaxing, or listening to music.

What Makes the La-Z-Boy Ovation AudioLuxe Different?

Is There an AudioLuxe Sofa Available?
Yes. The Ovation AudioLuxe collection also includes a power wall-reclining sofa.
The sofa incorporates Sound by Klipsch, with speakers in the upper backs of the left and right seats and subwoofers in the arms. Both outer seats offer power reclining and independent comfort adjustments.

The design also includes arm storage, wireless charging trays, cup holders, a fold-down center table surface, and a lower storage drawer.

Because it is a wall-reclining design, the sofa can be positioned closer to a wall than many conventional reclining sofas, subject to the manufacturer's clearance recommendations.
This makes it worth considering for households that want integrated audio across a larger seating arrangement.



What Mistakes Should You Avoid When Buying Audio Furniture?

Integrated audio furniture combines two major purchases into one: seating and entertainment technology. That makes it especially important to evaluate the product carefully.

Choosing Technology Over Comfort
An impressive sound demonstration can make it easy to overlook how the furniture actually feels. However, the chair or sofa still needs to provide comfortable support during everyday use.

Before purchasing, sit in the furniture for more than a few minutes. Try the reclining positions, adjust the headrest, and evaluate the lower back support.
If the furniture is uncomfortable without the audio playing, the technology is unlikely to make it a satisfying long-term purchase.

Assuming Every Audio System Works the Same Way
Bluetooth connectivity, surround sound, and integrated speakers are not interchangeable features. Some products are designed primarily for music streaming. Others can connect to compatible home entertainment equipment. Ask what the furniture can do on its own and what requires additional components.

Forgetting About Electrical Access
Power reclining furniture and integrated audio systems require electricity. Before finalizing a layout, determine where the furniture will be plugged in and whether cords can be positioned safely.

This is particularly important in open-concept rooms where seating may be placed away from walls. A designer can help evaluate furniture placement and identify potential challenges before delivery

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What Mistakes Should You Avoid When Buying Audio Furniture?

Buying Furniture That Is Too Large
It is easy to underestimate the size of reclining furniture, especially when shopping in a spacious showroom. Always review the full dimensions, including the reclined position. A sofa that fits against a wall may still interfere with a coffee table or walking path when extended.

Overlooking Warranty and Service Details
Furniture with built-in technology has more components than a traditional chair. Buyers should understand how the frame, reclining mechanism, upholstery, motors, and audio components are covered. Your La-Z-Boy store can walk you through the coverage for each component.

Focusing Only on the Initial Price
A lower-priced product is not necessarily a better value. Consider the quality of the seating, comfort adjustments, construction, upholstery, audio performance, and available service.



Why Does Furniture Quality Still Matter When Technology Is Built In?

Technology can make furniture more interesting, but it does not replace the need for good construction.

A recliner with premium speakers still needs a stable frame, dependable reclining mechanism, supportive cushions, and upholstery that can handle everyday use. These are the features that determine whether the furniture remains comfortable and functional over time.

La-Z-Boy invented the recliner nearly a century ago, and its AudioLuxe collection builds on that experience. La-Z-Boy also offers customization options that allow homeowners to select upholstery and comfort features suited to their preferences.

For shoppers comparing entertainment furniture, this combination of furniture construction and audio technology deserves attention.

How Can Complimentary Design Services Help?

Selecting entertainment furniture involves more than finding the right chair. The television's location, viewing distance, room dimensions, electrical access, and surrounding furniture all affect the finished space.

At La-Z-Boy stores across Texas, complimentary design services can help homeowners plan a room that accommodates both everyday living and entertainment. Designers can assist with furniture placement, room layouts, upholstery selections, and coordinating pieces.

For homeowners considering AudioLuxe, this guidance may be especially valuable when determining between a recliner and a sofa or planning a larger entertainment area. A designer can also help determine whether the furniture's scale and appearance will complement the rest of the room.

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Why Does Furniture Quality Still Matter When Technology Is Built In?

What Should You Ask About Delivery and Setup?
Before ordering any power reclining or audio furniture, ask about the delivery process. Some products may require assembly, electrical connections, or additional steps to activate the audio system.

It is worth confirming what delivery services include, whether old furniture removal is available, and who to contact if questions arise after installation.

Availability, delivery services, and setup assistance may vary by location and product. For new products such as AudioLuxe, shoppers should also confirm which models and upholstery options are currently available.



Frequently Asked Questions About Furniture With Built-In Audio

- **What is furniture with built-in audio?** Furniture with built-in audio includes speakers or other sound components directly within the seating. Some products also offer subwoofers, wireless connectivity, and individual audio controls. The goal is to provide a listening experience without relying entirely on separate speakers positioned around the room.
- **Are recliners with built-in speakers worth it?** They can be worth considering for homeowners who frequently watch movies, listen to music, play video games, or enjoy sports. The value depends on sound quality, comfort, connectivity, construction, and how often the audio features will be used.
- **What is La-Z-Boy AudioLuxe?** AudioLuxe is a collection of premium audio furniture from La-Z-Boy featuring Sound by Klipsch. It combines integrated speakers and subwoofers with reclining furniture, adjustable comfort features, and wireless audio-sharing technology.
- **What is the Ovation AudioLuxe recliner?** The Ovation AudioLuxe Power Rocking Recliner is a La-Z-Boy chair with built-in Klipsch audio, power reclining, adjustable headrest and lumbar support, rocking functionality, storage, and charging features.
- **Does the Ovation AudioLuxe have a subwoofer?** Yes. The Ovation AudioLuxe Power Rocking Recliner includes two speakers in the upper back and a subwoofer in the right arm. The system is designed to deliver audio close to the listener, including lower-frequency sound effects.
- **Can AudioLuxe connect to a smartphone?** Yes. AudioLuxe supports wireless audio connectivity using Auracast Bluetooth technology. Compatible smartphones or tablets can provide audio that may also be shared with other Auracast-enabled devices.
- **Can AudioLuxe connect to a television?** AudioLuxe can be incorporated into compatible home entertainment setups, but connection requirements depend on the television, audio equipment, and desired features. Buyers should confirm compatibility and any necessary accessories before purchasing.
- **Does AudioLuxe support Dolby Atmos?** AudioLuxe can support a 5.1.2 Dolby Atmos surround sound experience when paired with the appropriate Klipsch Flexus Sound System. The complete setup requires compatible equipment beyond the furniture itself.

Frequently Asked Questions About Furniture With Built-In Audio

- **What is Auracast Bluetooth audio sharing?** Auracast is a Bluetooth technology that allows compatible devices to receive a shared audio broadcast. In AudioLuxe furniture, it can be used to share synchronized sound across compatible seating and speakers.
- **Is there an AudioLuxe sofa as well as a recliner?** Yes. La-Z-Boy offers an Ovation AudioLuxe power wall-reclining sofa with integrated Klipsch speakers, subwoofers, adjustable reclining seats, storage, and charging features.
- **Can furniture with built-in speakers work in a small living room?** Yes, provided the furniture fits comfortably and has the necessary electrical access. Buyers should measure the space carefully and account for reclining clearance, walking paths, and nearby furniture.
- **Is audio furniture suitable for families with children and pets?** It can be. The most important considerations are upholstery durability, cleaning requirements, and how the furniture will be used. Performance fabrics may be a practical option for busy households.
- **Is integrated audio furniture better than a soundbar?** Neither is automatically better. A soundbar offers a separate audio solution that can be used with different furniture. Integrated audio furniture places sound closer to the listener and combines the listening experience with seating comfort. Some systems can work together.
- **Can you customize the upholstery on AudioLuxe furniture?** La-Z-Boy offers fabric and leather options within its AudioLuxe collection. Available colors, materials, and configurations depend on the specific model and current assortment.
- **Where can you buy La-Z-Boy AudioLuxe furniture in Texas?** AudioLuxe is being introduced through select La-Z-Boy retail locations. Texas homeowners can contact their nearest La-Z-Boy store to ask about availability, showroom demonstrations, upholstery options, and delivery. Because the collection is new, call ahead to confirm which pieces are on the showroom floor.

Is Furniture With Built-In Audio Right for Your Home?

Home entertainment has changed considerably over the years. Televisions have become larger and more sophisticated, streaming services have expanded what people can watch, and sound systems have introduced new ways to experience movies, music, and sports.

Furniture is now becoming part of that evolution. Integrated audio seating offers an interesting alternative for homeowners who want to combine entertainment technology with everyday comfort. It can simplify certain aspects of a room's setup, bring sound closer to the listener, and provide personalized features that traditional seating cannot offer.

Still, technology should not be the only reason to purchase a piece of furniture. The right recliner or sofa should feel comfortable, fit the room properly, complement the home's design, and hold up to regular use. Audio features should improve the experience rather than distract from those fundamentals.

La-Z-Boy's AudioLuxe collection is an example of how established furniture design and modern sound technology can work together. With Sound by Klipsch, adjustable reclining features, and customizable upholstery, the collection offers a new option for homeowners who enjoy spending time in their living rooms.

For anyone considering an audio recliner or sofa, experiencing the furniture in person is a worthwhile part of the decision. Sitting in the chair, testing the reclining positions, and listening to the audio system can reveal differences that are difficult to appreciate online. A conversation with a designer can also help determine how the furniture will fit into an existing room or a larger home entertainment plan.

Ultimately, the best entertainment furniture should make the room more enjoyable to use, whether you're watching a favorite movie, hosting friends for a game, or simply relaxing at home.

Find your local La-Z-Boy store to experience AudioLuxe in person.