I have decided to select a material first and then develop an initial design, based on the materials properties. Flexi ply is a ‘flexible’ form of plywood. It can be formed into ‘curved’ shapes with relative ease. It is quite light and strong. Plus, it has a natural wood finish.

Composed of several layers of thin plies.

I intend to use this property of flexibility, to help me form an initial design / idea.

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A docking station will be added to the top. This will be centrally located.

The unit is at a convenient and comfortable height for an average user.

The curved layers of flexi ply can be clearly seen. The flexi ply has been formed into a shape that could not be produced by any other wood based product. A jig could be made to hold the layers of flexi ply together whilst gluing.

The two speakers remind me of two giant eyes, staring forward, at the user.

The beech finish gives a light brown, grained finish. It is a natural finish and the materials can be recycled at the of its life cycle.

I think this simple shape is aesthetically pleasing. It avoids sharp edges and corners.

I have added a base to ensure stability. It will stop the unit from ‘toppling over’, if knocked or pushed.

The cylindrical column is lightweight and lifts the speakers to a good ergonomic height for a seated user.

The column adds further, to the shape and form of the overall design, without over complicating it.

Retractable mains lead, retracts back into the column / stand automatically. It only extends to the amount wanted by the user. When unplugged, it winds back into the column automatically. This is a safety feature.

The cylindrical column is lightweight and lifts the speakers to a good ergonomic height for a seated user.

The column adds further, to the shape and form of the overall design, without over complicating it.

CLIENT OPINION: My client likes this simple and yet stylish design. It could be manufactured within the budget allowed (£50). The products life cycle has been assessed and consequently, material that can be recycled has been used. It can be disassembled easily, as there are very few parts / components (with the exception of the electronic components). Overall, my client likes the style of the design.