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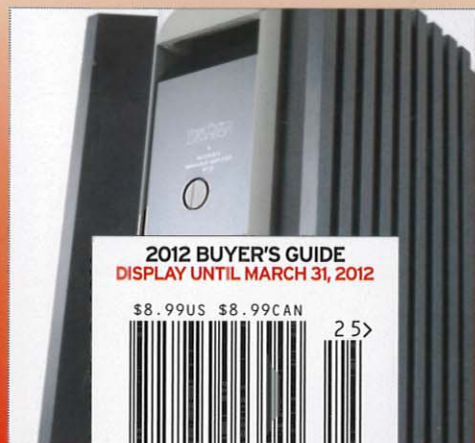
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Focal 705V/706V **\$495/\$650**

Although a bookshelf speaker, the \$650 Focal 706V delivers an oversized presentation, with the bass power and extension of many small floorstanding units. Very dynamic and visceral, it has a forward perspective that puts vocals right upfront. Shines on rock, blues, and orchestral music. Highish sensitivity makes it an easy load for an amplifier—50Wpc is plenty in a moderately sized room. If you can get by with a little less bass extension and output, consider the 705V for \$155 less. The similarly priced B&W 685 has more refinement in the mids and better soundstaging, but less bottom-end “oomph.” audioplusservices.com (183, 173)

