

Sonos is working on its first-ever Bluetooth speaker

One of two devices recently filed by Sonos with the FCC is a Bluetooth speaker, *The Verge* can confirm. In the filing for product model S17, Sonos directly states that it's "a high-performance wireless speaker and part of the Sonos sound system. The device's primary function will be for streaming with Wi-Fi, but **also features Bluetooth audio streaming** and Bluetooth Low Energy, used for simplified setup." (Emphasis added by *The Verge*.) No other previous Sonos speaker has supported Bluetooth music playback, though the Sonos One includes BLE for the same reason of easier setup.

The product label for S17 features a curved blue line running across it, which could be a reference to the speaker's unique functionality in the Sonos lineup. It will seamlessly integrate with the company's multiroom audio platform like any other Sonos device.

A label for the Sonos Bluetooth speaker was included in a recent FCC filing.

The filing also mentions that this unannounced Sonos product includes a USB-C port and an ethernet jack. The latter is found on all of the company's existing speakers.

Other Sonos speakers require Wi-Fi to play music, podcasts, audiobooks, and other content from popular streaming services. But the first time ever, Sonos will support Bluetooth pairing, letting you play any audio from a Bluetooth-enabled device and ensuring that the speaker will work at times when Wi-Fi is unavailable. (The company has previously mocked the downsides of Bluetooth speakers in its advertising.) Sonos added support for Apple's AirPlay 2 to its more recent speakers, as well.

The Bluetooth speaker represents a new category for Sonos as the company continues to expand upon its product lineup through new first-party hardware and collaborations with other companies. Sonos recently partnered with Ikea on speakers that start as low as \$99, and its technology has also made its way into high-end architectural speakers from Sonance.

On Thursday, Sonos sent out media invites for meetings later this month that will likely revolve around new products coming sometime this fall.

<https://www.theverge.com/2019/8/9/20799366/sonos-bluetooth-portable-speaker-model-s17>