# FREKVENS

Alimited collection in collaboration with teenage engineering

Sales start February 2020



**IKEA**®



## **FREKVENS** The ultimate home party

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No music, no party, right? Music is one of the most powerful and uniting cultural forces in society. It is something that unites people and amplifies emotions. Social life in homes are often centered around music, so having good sound in every room of the home has become a dream for many. This inspired a limited collection called FREKVENS.



## **Modular music**

IKEA<sup>®</sup>

"It is very simple, fun, playful. You will become like a home roadie. Setting up your own sound system and light show. It's good enough that you can set up a party, that day. People will appreciate that."

- Jesper Kouthoofd Head of design and founder teenage engineering Sales starting February 2020, FREKVENS limited collection consists of products that allow you to start a party easily in your home, or somewhere else. Wherever the music takes you.

The core of the collection, a portable music system was created with the creative collective teenage engineering. Inspired by the movement and ambience of a party, the solitaire speakers have modular possibilities allowing you to turn them into a sound system. Then just attach some LEDs, spotlights and choose your spotlight accessories for a totally unique party.



Get to know teenage engineering

It's a Stockholm-based creative collective made up of engineers and programmers that share the love for making music and electronics.

"We've wanted to make something that feels like IKEA, and at the same time challenge how we perceive them today. It's exciting to explore new territories, push the boundaries and challenge each other. IKEA is furniture, meatballs and soon... Party"

— Jesper Kouthoofd Head of design and founder teenage engineering





- "I can tell you three things that make a good party," Jesper says with a smile."Great friends and interesting people with good energy. Music. And something else to enjoy - food, drink, whatever."
- Jesper Kouthoofd Head of design and founder teenage engineering





We know that music brings people together. The core of collection is light and sound but what else do you need to throw a great party? FREKVENS also provides a few other essentials for example, water repellent cushion covers and modular and stackable tableware, perfect for party food. FREKVENS gives you much of what you need to throw a really good party, wherever you are.

FREKVENS side table 66×32 black 29,<sup>99</sup>



### Spontaneous sprees

FREKVENS bar stool/backrest in/outdoor **69,**99 "We look forward to introducing FREKVENS to people around the world. It's a playful collection that you easily scale up or down to suit your needs. Apart from looking super nice, it sounds great - so it's definitely the perfect reason to throw a party."

— Michael Nikolic Creative Design Leader IKEA of Sweden

FREKVENS Collection | IKEA Press kit



FREKVENS Collection | IKEA Press kit





"I hope it will give music and light, connecting people with happiness. We always make a better world, together."

— Michael Nikolic Creative Design Leader IKEA of Sweden





# "A prototype is worth a thousand meetings."

These are the familiar words of Ingvar Kamprad, founder of IKEA. They certainly rang true with FREKVENS creative process.

"The collaboration started more or less open. Basically no limits," says Jesper Kouthoofd. "The only thing that was said was 'how can we introduce sound in to the home in a new way.' After that, we went home and built loads of random stuff for three weeks. Then we drove down to IKEA, Älmhult, and put it all on the table. That's how we like to work. Around 50 items," says Jesper.

Since they are engineers, he believes it's easier to build something than try to explain a concept.

"The Items got narrowed down towards sound. What we said was 'why do you have to hide speakers. They are furniture in their own right.' Sounds should not to be hidden," says Jesper.

"So when you start to build a modular system and add fronts and accessories on, it's a more fun way to think about sound," he concludes.



## In dialogue with the designers

Music is today a natural part of our everyday life. You hear it on the subway, in stores and out on the streets - music is everywhere. When we asked people what sound they associate with their homes, most mentioned things like the sound of voices or children playing, and for many it is music.

IKEA is always looking for new ways of doing things, and the FREKVENS limited collection is no exception to the approach.

FREKVENS encourages spontinuity, creativity and mobility when it comes to sound around the home. The name, FREKVENS, meaning 'frequency' is perfect to describe the heart of the collection. With FREKVENS, we celebrate sound, we encourage togetherness and we enable people

to throw the ultimate home party.

#### Spontaneous sprees

Insights of how important music is in young people's life was the starting point in the FREKVENS collection, where IKEA has engineered new solutions for having fun, together with teenage engineering.

"We know that for younger people

spontinuity is key. The idea of gathering some friends could become a reality in minutes. What is needed to have a good party at home? That's what we wanted to investigate with FREKVENS. Together with teenage engineering, we have explored the possibilities of taking the party with us," says Michael Nikolic, Creative Design Leader at IKEA of Sweden.

"The light and sound collection builds on teenage engineering aesthetic value, high sound quality

and well designed products for people who love music. It is unlike anything IKEA has done before," Michael says.

"FREKVENS is a collection with its own personality - one very recognisable to teenage engineering enthusiasts. Throughout the collaboration we joked that teenage engineering knew us better than we did! They added their rebellious touch to the IKEA identity which made it feel even more IKEA. That's why we love it!" Michael says and laughs.

"The collection introduces something new for IKEA. A sound collection with simple bluetooth technology and stacking ability let's you create your own configuration for a great party, anywhere in the home. The other bonus is the collection has all the other things you need to get the party started," Michael adds.

Engineering vs mass production

With so many great early ideas on the





table, sadly we couldn't make them all. The development process of course had its twists and turns.

"We did a lot of development on the factory floor directly with the electronic supplier. It was interesting to get so close to the manufacturing but it also brought challenges," Jesper Kesper Kouthoofd, head of design and founder teenage engineering explains.

The challenge was that teenage engineering came with a lot of expertise in these products. The factory has fantastic ability but were required to learn the teenage engineering way of working. Some of the details were hard to implempliment.

"It is good to put the problems on the table. We enjoyed finding ways around the limitations. It was good for creativity and to test our thinking," says Michael Nikolic, Creative Design Leader at IKEA of Sweden..

"We are unorthodox creative engineers and it is really hard to try to rewrite the way factories work. We want to be involved along the way so we can push things to the limit," Jesper admits. He laughs and says, "but we got there in the end and we are really happy now it's being launched!"

We are equally as happy that FREKVENS has received a Red Dot Award. It shows us that design can be bigger than just the design, that togetherness makes things better. With a party collection like FREKVENS, we encourage people to be together.

#### An unlikely pairing

"One thing we really appreciated in this collaboration was to see how IKEA works. We were curious of this big organization – how is the process and how is it to work with other people?" Jesper says.

The decision process is much shorter at teenage engineering so this was good for IKEA and teenage engineering to navigate and learn from unfamiliar landscapes.

"The most important thing I learned is to always work with people you like, and good stuff will come out of it. And it's really good people at IKEA!" Jesper describes.

"Usually we do a little more niche products so I really appreciated working with a broader audience at IKEA – for the many people," he concludes.

#### Surprise party

"I'm hoping people will start to create things with these objects and surprise us with how they use them, that's what I want to see. Maybe using them in a context we haven't thought about" Jesper comments.

The FREKVENS collection will be available in IKEA stores February next year. The only question you need to ask is "where shall we party, at your place or mine?"





PE770801

**FREKVENS speaker w subwoofer** 30×20 black 149,-Designer: teenage engineering

80422647



FREKVENS speaker 10×20 black/red 69,99 Designer: teenage engineering 40428335



PE770514

FREKVENS speaker 10×20 black/yellow 69,99 Designer: teenage engineering 50422620

PE770490



FREKVENS accessories LED spotlight s4 red 19,99 Designer: teenage engineering 70428310



PE770640

FREKVENS accessories LED spotlight s4 yellow 19,99 Designer: teenage engineering

40422574



PE700498

FREKVENS portable speaker 6×10 black 19,99 Designer: teenage engineering 40422593



PE770496 FREKVENS LED spotlight black/white 29,99 Designer: teenage engineering 60420362



PE770494

FREKVENS LED multi-use light black 39,99 Designer: teenage engineering 30420354



PE770516

FREKVENS speaker base with light 5×10 white 9,99 Designer: IKEA of Sweden

60422629



PE770505

FREKVENS tripod black 69,99 Designer: teenage engineering

10428346

#### **Products - party**



PE770488

FREKVENS bar table in/out 74 black 59,99 Designer: Nicholai Wiig Hansen 90420332

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FREKVENS serving s5 assorted colors

Designer: IKEA of Sweden



FREKVENS cup 35cl assorted colors

PE770487



PE770502

FREKVENS side table 66×32 black 29,99 Designer: Jon Karlsson 60428344

FREKVENS mug 37cl assorted colors



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PE719881

70420309

PE770492

59,99

PE770489 **FREKVENS cajón drum plywood 39,99** Designer: Hanna Crondal

FREKVENS (7, 14,99 Designer: Ma 40420259



PE770503

**FREKVENS tray 56 grey 14,99** Designer: Maria Vinka



PE770504

FREKVENS tote bag large 80l silver 9,99 Designer: Maria Vinka 70420234



PE770501

FREKVENS serving plate 30×30 red 24,99 Designer: IKEA of Sweden

30420250



PE770506

FREKVENS tote bag medium 16ll silver 6,99 Designer: Maria Vinka

00420237



PE771771

PE770507

30421075

39,99

**FREKVENS raincoat silver 19,99** Designer: Maria Vinka

50419241



PE770491

4-p 39,99

30421075

Designer: Maria Vinka

PE771771

FREKVENS raincoat silver 19,99 Designer: Maria Vinka 90419239



PE719883

PE771767

4-p 9,99

20420284

Designer: Maria Vinka

FREKVENS cushion cover 48×48 silver 6,99 Designer: IKEA of Sweden 50424172



FREKVENS blanket 120×210 black

Designer: Maria Vinka

FREKVENS eating s3 stainless steel 19,99 Designer: Nicholai Wiig Hansen 00420317



PE770493

FREKVENS footstool VANSTA blackl 169,-Designer: Jon Karlsson

00419168

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Join the party, you're invited!

# **#FREKVENS**

#### Image overview















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