

BEST BUYS

There's a turntable to suit everyone, whether you're a budding DJ, a style guru, or looking for something sensible to keep your vinyl collection alive. Here are five of our favourites – for the full selection, check out the *Buyer's Guide* starting on p91 of this issue

BEST FOR VALUE

PRO-JECT DEBUT III PHONO SB



£ 180

First-time buyers are laughing here: this latest iteration of a classic deck includes a talented built-in phono stage – so it plugs into any stereo amp – plus a switch to change speed from 33 to 45rpm (many decks are manual). And there's a fine cartridge thrown in... magic!



BEST FOR BUDGET UPGRADERS

PRO-JECT RPM5



£ 400

Product of the Year in 2006, this outstanding turntable has already achieved near-legendary status, such is its blend of great value, stunning sound and cool looks. In action, the RPM5 excels: bass is deep and defined, mid-range open and involving, while treble has clarity and attack. Pro-ject has done it again.



BEST FOR DJs

TECHNICS SL1210 MK5G



£ 550

In clubland this deck has a bigger reputation than DJs Jules, Slim, and Tong put together. It loses stars due to our strict sound-per-pound reviewing system – you're paying a premium for tank-like build, plus DJ'ing extras – but if you want to raise the roof, rely on a Technics SL1210 (or two).



BEST FOR STYLE

WILSON BENESCH FULL CIRCLE



£ 2000

While the Clearaudio deck below bests the Wilson Benesch for 'bling', not all of us want our houses to look like Beekingham Palace. And this Wilson Benesch doesn't only ooze understated style, it also sounds awesome, offering an utterly composed yet insightful performance. The Full Circle cuts no corners.



BEST FOR MILLIONAIRES

CLEARAUDIO MASTER REFERENCE



£ 14,150

You might be familiar with Clearaudio's Award-winning £690 Emotion deck – now, meet its Daddy! Fabricated using the same distinctive combination of acrylic and metal, the Master Reference has such a supreme range of sonic abilities that it easily justifies the massive outlay (yes, really). As long you can find space to put the thing...

