

Best Turntable £1,000 And Over 2019 Rega Planar 8



The Rega Planar 8 is an unsuspected, belt drive turntable that replaces the long running and much loved RP8. While it is possible to recognise elements of the RP8 in the design, this a turntable that doesn't look like anything that has been done by them before. The Planar looks and feels like something from the Aerial Atom school of industrial design. The feel is important too. With so little of it in many places, it would have been an easy thing for the Rega to feel lightweight and insubstantial but it really doesn't. You can buy bigger and more ornate turntables for the same price but I don't know of much that feels more solid.



With large scale music, the Planar 8 is effortlessly open and three dimensional. The sound extends out beyond the speakers but does so without leaving any sense of a hole in the space between them. The entire performance of the Planar 8 is a demonstration of what vinyl can deliver as a format once you meet the required investment. There's no warmth or bloom to this - it's as warm as the recording and nothing more. This is a phenomenal turntable and one that makes a justifiable claim to being state of the art at the price point and it takes our award.