

3 OF THE BEST

Bluetooth turntables

Wondering if it's possible to fling vinyl at a wireless speaker without breaking it? Wonder no more. These platter-spinners will stream your records to wherever you want them...



Pro-Ject Essential III BT

What's the story?

Pro-Ject has an Essential III for everyone: there's a USB version for digital archiving, a phono-stage version for vinyl-intolerant amps, even a speed-changing version for those who can't bear to switch from 33 to 45rpm manually. And there's this one, for streaming to a Bluetooth amp or speaker.

Is it any good?

Like every Pro-Ject turntable, this one has it where it counts: low-resonance MDF platter and chassis, aluminium tonearm with Ortofon cartridge, DC motor for pitch stability. It's simple to set up and use – and sounds lushly, lavishly vinyl, with great timing, a beautifully even frequency range, and enough warmth to keep things just as toasty as they need to be. It's enough to make you forget it's using crusty old Bluetooth 3.0.

Price £319 / stuff.tv/Essential3BT

Stuff says ★★★★★

A no-frills charmer offering the best of both the analogue and digital worlds

Cambridge Alva TT

What's the story?

The words 'audiophile' and 'wireless' are seldom seen in the same sentence together, unless the words 'cannot be' are included too. Audiophilia has always included a hairshirt element, a strong suggestion of 'no pain, no gain'. Well, Cambridge is attempting to rewrite that particular rule.

Is it any good?

The Alva TT is a sturdy, beautifully made, audiophile-grade direct-drive turntable. Cambridge has added Bluetooth connectivity up to a hi-res aptX HD 24-bit/48kHz quality, which means you can wirelessly stream vinyl to your system at a truly high-end standard. And it's almost a formality to report that it sounds great, with all of that lovely vinyl expertise where warmth, timing and rhythm are concerned.

Price £1500 / stuff.tv/AlvaTT

Stuff says ★★★★★

Wireless audiophile performance from a brilliant record player – it's like witchcraft

Audio-Technica LP60-XBT

What's the story?

Never content to leave well enough alone, Audio-Technica has taken a critical look at its popular LP60-BT wireless turntable and given it a thorough going-over for the demanding tastes of 2019. The result is this LP60-XBT – and it's an upgrade well worth waiting for.

Is it any good?

AT has upped the Bluetooth standard to aptX 5.0 and improved both tracking and resonance-rejection. The result is a turntable that feels a little lightweight and plasticky, yet manages to include a phono stage, an aluminium platter, plus auto stop/start and speed change. Its wireless performance is very impressive. It's not the punchiest we've ever heard, but overall sound is better than you'd expect for the price.

Price £179 / stuff.tv/LP60XBT

Stuff says ★★★★★

Looks and feels quite like a bog-standard record player, but it's a fair bit more than that