

**Budget
esoterica**
TURNTABLE

Pro-Ject RPM 3 Carbon



What's also apparent from the outset in the Pro-Ject's overall character is how well it tackles detail delivery for a deck in this class, without it being so spotlighted that the music becomes overly clinical or dry. The horn sections within the track have a welcome sense of warmth around their edges, which makes the track all the more accessible, while at the same time retaining enough focus for them to be equally well defined in the soundstage.



Unlike many entry level decks, which can sound hollow in these lower notes, Pro-Ject's RPM 3 Carbon conveys enough body and presence to ensure bass instruments sound convincing and lifelike.

This goes to the heart of what this Pro-Ject deck is all about: delivering a performance that lives and breathes in a surprisingly persuasive manner! ⚡

The sustained echo of the synthesisers and percussion has real body in the midrange, showing that the RPM package is well equipped to punch beyond what its physical form might suggest.

On most budget spinners it's usually a single aspect of this track that grabs my attention, whether it's the scale of the soundstage, the sweetness in the treble or the quality of the bass.

With the RPM 3 Carbon, however, there's no single sonic aspect that stands out; instead you get a very even delivery of the music, making it all more involving to listen to – and harder to analyse – as you're drawn in, enjoying the music.

HI-FI NEWS VERDICT

With a good selection of decks to choose from at this price point, the Pro-Ject RPM 3 Carbon faces stiff competition from the likes of Rega and Inspire, to name but two. And yet the Pro-Ject has plenty to shout about thanks to its superb arm, bearing and MM pick-up. But what really marks it out from the crowd is its sheer 'completeness', delivering a sound that hugely exceeds the sum of its modest parts.

Sound Quality: 85%

