

Black Cat Cable Review

The Black Cat cables arrive beautifully packaged. The inside removable box draw is red felt lined which nicely rounds off a top quality product.

Cable from left to right

- Black Cat 3202 - Speaker cables at 5 M
- Black Cat 3232 - RCA to RCA cable at 0.5
- Black Cat 3232 - 3.5 to RCA at 0.5



Test System

- Naim Supernait 2 Amp
- Systemdek IIX / RB 300 / Hana SL
- Rega Aria Preamp
- Astell & Kern AK240
- Chord Hugo 2
- Focal Electra 1024 Eb



System Connections

RB 300 – Aria – standard wire.

Aria to SN2 = Black Cat 3232 RCA to RCA

AK240 to SN2 = Toslink – Sys. Concept Inc (Canada)

Hugo 2 to SN2 = Black Cat 3232 3.5 to RCA

1024Eb to SN2 = Black Cat 3202 speaker cable – 5m length



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BC 3202 Speaker Cable

These cables are light in construction but very well made. The outer protective sheath is a woven cotton fibre giving the cable excellent flexibility.

Presentation wise the cables are single sheath with end split.

Termination – Copper Banana Plug with heat shrink rubber seal.

Length – 5M

Diameter 8mm



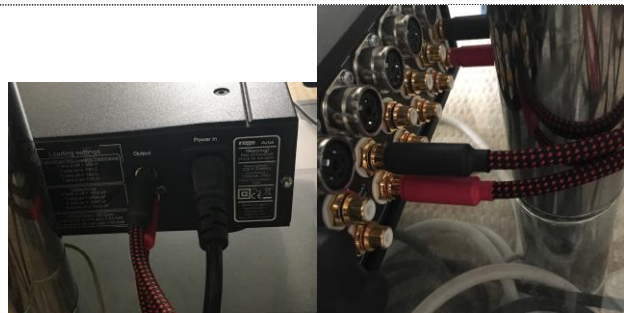
BC 3232 Cable from Rega Aria to SN2

Similar in construction to the 3202 with the woven cotton fibre outer sheath but separate cables end to end.

Termination – Gold plate RCA Plug with heat shrink rubber seal.

Length – 1M (x2)

Diameter 6 mm



Test 1 - Miles Davis on 6 eye Columbia re – release

Cable burn in – 100 hrs

The sound is simply stunning. Clarity of detail is excellent and balanced through the full spectrum. Bass well proportioned, not bloated or muddy. The treble is clear and smooth and not too dominant or sibilant. The cymbal brush work is very clear but does not detract from the mids which have excellent instrument separation and space.

The grain from the saxophone reed is clearly audible, the piano notes effortlessly present bass, mids and trebles together giving the needed note the weight you expect from a grand piano.

While these cables have a very detailed presentation to my ear the copper wire gives a natural tone to the music which I find highly addictive. I have spent hours listening to vinyl and there is not the slightest hint of listening fatigue which I have had previously from cables such as QED Silver Anniversary +



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BC 3232 Cable

Termination

A end - Gold plated 3.5 mm from Hugo 2 to RCA - SN2

B end - Gold plate RCA (x2) with heat shrink rubber seal.

Length – 1M (x2)

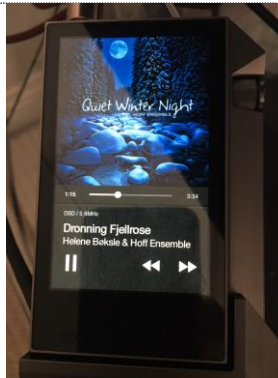
Diameter 4 mm



Test 2 - Hoff Ensemble – Quiet Winter Night
DSD 5.6 MHz recording from 2L Nordic Sounds

Cable burn in – 100 hrs

The cable has the same sound signature as the RCA to RCA which isn't surprising being from the same Black Cat range. However what is interesting is the level of detail these cables are able to articulate. The balance between the bass, mids and treble is still there, the space between the instruments is also there as is that wonderfully natural sound. But the level of detail that is conveyed is simply stunning. From fingers brushing on strings and breath taken on wind instruments to the beautifully natural presentation of male and female singers timbre; the Ensemble could be playing in the room with you. Absolutely intoxicating.



I had previously used QED Silver Anniversary + cable and while very detailed were quite surgical in their presentation which led to listening fatigue over longer listening sessions.

The Black Cat cables absolutely give a very detailed performance, but more importantly to me they have a very musical presentation. These are a good jump up price point wise to the QED Silver Anniversary +. With beautiful balance through the bass, mid and treble spectrum; more space for instruments to breathe and the ability to dig deep into the detail while giving a very musical and natural sounding presentation the Black Cat 3200 series is simply stunning.

Listening to these cables is an absolute pleasure every time and very worthy of their accolades. I would like to thank Todd Garfinkle for putting me in contact with Chris, and of course to Chris himself who goes over and above to ensure a perfect product.