

Pro-Ject Elemental | Turntable | £150

Fine deck ticks all boxes for newcomers to vinyl



The Elemental delivers a surprisingly capable sound, delivering good insight alongside a surefooted rhythmic structure

WHAT HI-FI?
SOUND AND VISION



Decent, sturdy build

Build is relatively sturdy and finish is fine for the price. There are three colour options for the plinth: if the white of our review sample doesn't appeal you can have red or black instead. The MDF platter and felt mat are available only in black

How does the Elemental perform? Once settled, it delivers a surprisingly capable sound. The deck has a tidy presentation - one that delivers a good amount of insight alongside a surefooted rhythmic structure.

Play Bob Marley's *Stir It Up* and this Pro-Ject delivers a convincing sound with a nicely agile bassline and well-proportioned vocals. There's plenty of detail in Marley's voice, and enough subtlety to make us forget we're listening to an entry-level deck.

We're pleased with the player's fluid way with dynamics and its ability to tie instrumental strands together to form a well-organised whole.

Ravel's *Bolero* shows that the Elemental is capable of rendering a good soundstage. It's nicely layered and fairly large in scale.

Fine value for money

Bolero also reveals that the deck isn't easily fazed, the music sounding composed even when things get busy. While this record player isn't going to stun with authority or outright punch, in each area we think it delivers enough to satisfy with the kind of equipment it's likely to be partnered with.

Those who want a good-quality record player at an entry-level price should start here. They won't be disappointed.

Rating ★★★★★

FOR A cohesive and engaging sound; plug-and-play nature; clever engineering; good build

AGAINST No lid; needs care in placement

VERDICT The Elemental is yet another top-class budget deck from Pro-Ject. It's a fine first step on the vinyl ladder

Also consider

Pro-Ject Essential II £200

★★★★★

A more conventional deck but this Award-winner has a lid and sounds great

