

HIGH FIDELITY

RC's guide to the gear that will get the best out of your records. By Paul Rigby



WELCOME MAT

BLUE HORIZON RECORD MAT

You may have seen turntable mats on sale, constructed from all manner of weird and wonderful materials like cork or glass. This new release from Blue Horizon is slightly different in that it arrives in two pieces to minimise any vertical tonearm height issues. That is, if any mat is too thick, your arm will have too far to reach and the angle the stylus hits the groove will be too extreme, which will result in distortion.

The Blue Horizon mat, however, minimises such errors. For standard records, you use the entire two pieces, which interlock seamlessly. For thicker, audiophile examples you only need one piece. This reduces the mat height and helps to maintain a more consistent vertical tracking angle.

The Blue Horizon is constructed from a mixture of cork, leather and India rubber and, during tests, I noticed a significant improvement in bass performance, a tidied up soundstage, a more ordered performance and increased mid-range detail. An easy-to-implement and very effective sonic upgrade. 01276 501 392

www.bluehorizonideas.com