

BEST TURNTABLE £1000+

Thorens TD160HD/TP250

£1560

THE TD160HD MAY look a shade traditional, but in performance terms this new deck is truly cutting edge.

Unlike Thorens' older designs, this one doesn't use springs to isolate the playing surface from outside interference. Instead it has a combination of RDC and polymer to control vibration ingress.

Clean, precise, fast and punchy

In use, this Thorens sounds clean, precise and very well defined. There is very little sense of the turntable adding any character to the sound. Dynamics are strong, making the likes of Orff's *Carmina Burana* a joy, while timing is as crisp as you like, helping to get the most out of Mary Blige's *No More Drama* set. The Thorens is also fast and punchy, and has no trouble dealing with musical complexity. All in all this is a superb sounding deck. Just as importantly it is easy to set up and a pleasure to use thanks an easy speed change and impressive general build quality. It's a worthy Award winner.

... VERDICT

This Thorens is no style king, but when it comes to outright performance and ease of use, it's a real superstar

Basic looks they may be – but the sound produced is special indeed

