

Atlas Cables

Element Achromatic RCA interconnect



SPORTING AN ELEGANT white pearlescent outer sheath, this RCA interconnect belies the fact that it is an entry-level cable. The term 'achromatic' literally means without colour, and this is the stated sonic design aim of the range.

Compared with Atlas' previous Element offering (*HFC 412*), this has conductors with an increased OCC copper content. It also has a new design intended to stabilise the concentricity along the complete length of coaxial cable and reduce any inter-strand distortion in the process. There's also a new foamed polyethylene dielectric material to improve bandwidth. It is terminated in Atlas' Achromatic plug, connected to the wires using a cold-welded, solder-free crimping process. The contacts are self-cleaning and employ a rifled pin profile designed to improve alignment during

manufacturing. The body material is low mass and non-conductive to eliminate eddy currents in the plug.

Fit and forget

The Element is very flexible making it easy to fit around the back of kit and the plugs are a real step-up in quality. Having run in the Element, which is connected between a valve preamp and valve monoblocks, we play a recording of John Williams and the English Chamber Orchestra performing the second movement of Rodrigo's *Concierto de Aranjuez*. We're drawn into Williams' intimate guitar performance right from the start of the movement. There is a good sense of spaciousness and depth to the soundstage and the imaging, especially of the guitar, is excellent.

For a complete change of genre, we play some techno music in the shape of GoGo Penguin's *Initiate*. The vocal



sounds that are interspersed in the music are clear and well defined while the powerful bassline really propels things forward. The sound seems to fill every nook and cranny in the listening room, which again demonstrates just how significantly cables can affect the quality of the soundstage. The Element Achromatic RCA is superb value for money and is very much to be recommended. **NR**

DETAILS

PRICE
£86 for 1m
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OUR VERDICT

