

Choice EXTRAS

Chord Company

Epic Twin speaker cable

THIS LOUDSPEAKER CABLE is

a high-performance shielded wire with many of the characteristics of the more expensive Chord Signature. These cables are fitted with a free-floating screening to significantly reduce external interference from reaching the signal conductors. If you consider that quiet passages of music will only be tiny signals, it can be appreciated that this can be an important consideration.

The conductors are two 12 AWG. 19-strand silver-plated oxygen-free copper in a twisted pair configuration. They are insulated in PTFE that Chord considers to be essential to achieving the most neutral tonal characteristic from silver-plated conductors. Each conductor's insulation is coloured to indicate polarity – white with a red stripe is positive and white is

negative. These twisted conductors are then surrounded by PVC to support the dual-layer, high-density braid and overlapped foil shielding. This is then finished off in an external iacket of translucent brown PVC and printed to indicate the directionality. The diameter of the cable is 11mm.

Go bananas

Apart from being supplied unterminated, the cable can be fitted with Chord 24 karat gold-plated banana plugs, direct gold-plated copper spade connectors or BFA Camcon connectors. When supplied with connectors, the colour-coded heatshrink is also printed to show the signal direction.

As with any cable, it requires a minimum of 100 hours to run in before it will perform at its best and my review samples (which are fitted with banana plugs) are run in for this



time. As a result, I am rewarded with a sound from my system that feels open and effortless. In particular, vocals seem to have more detail and all the nuances of expression (including the odd intake of breath) are very evident. Bass is really well controlled and tight, while timing is excellent. To sum up these cables in one word, they are 'musical'. In short, they are quite simply a superb sounding set of speaker cables. NR

DETAILS CONTACT 01980 625700 WEBSITE chord.co.uk **OUR VERDICT** ****

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