

Chord Company

LeylineX speaker cable

WITH ITS SLEEK white outer covering, the LeylineX speaker cable contains two wires made from 16 strands, with tin-plated copper conductors. The plating is designed to prevent oxidation and improve the high-frequency performance over longer runs. The conductors are insulated with Chord's new XLPE (cross-linked polyethylene) dielectric. The use of an inferior dielectric material can result in unwanted tonal colourations. This is helpfully coloured red and black to ensure the correct phasing of the loudspeaker connections.

The X factor

With the LeylineX connected between my transmission line loudspeaker and valve monoblocks, I kick off proceedings with a great recording of Vladimir Ashkenazy playing Prokofiev's glorious *Piano*

Concerto No.1. This powerful performance sounds superb and breath taking throughout. Reproducing a piano well can be a significant challenge for an audio system, but the LeylineX does a fantastic job of seamlessly linking my amplifiers to my loudspeaker.

The piano sounds totally realistic and the energy of Ashkenazy's playing is conveyed very well. There is excellent image placement and clarity not only of the piano, but the entire orchestra. The piano is perfectly positioned in front of the orchestra, the latter being well spread out across the soundstage. The crescendos of the piece are full and open, and the trumpet blasts are bright without ever sounding harsh.

Turning to some vocals, I play a recording of Sophie Zelmani singing *How It Feels*. Her voice is consistently clear and precise, with no trace of

sibilance. The lower frequencies in the instrumental backing are tight and punchy and the percussion is crisp and clean throughout.

In summary, the LeylineX is an amazingly robust and impressive value speaker cable, especially if you get a dealer to supply and fit the terminations as they can usually be obtained at a much lower cost than the factory equivalent. **NR**



▶ DETAILS

PRICE
£5 per metre plus
£120 for termination

TELEPHONE
01980 625700

WEBSITE
chord.co.uk

OUR VERDICT

