



Press Release

SA-11S2 - stereo Super Audio Compact Disc player
£3300

Marantz made a mighty impact with its recently introduced flagship SA-7S1 reference CD player, described by those in the know as probably the best disc spinner in the world.

Now the respected hi-fi and home cinema marque has attempted to deliver similar levels of performance, though at a somewhat more competitive price point. Step forward the new SA-11S2, which hopes to rewrite the rules for £2500 designs.

Fundamental to the SA11-S2's engineering philosophy was a desire to incorporate as much of the acclaimed technology of the SA-7S1 as possible and maintain its high standards of sonic ability. Moreover, the R&D team has implemented a plethora of new features and internal components for exceptional sound quality.

The technology

Central to excellent performance of the SA-11S2 is the same pair of powerful mono DACs as found in the flagship SA7-S1 - each comprising four separate processors - for both DSD and 24-bit PCM audio playback. These sit on a fully balanced dual-differential audio circuit, again identical to the SA-7S1, which provides superb stereo image by ensuring symmetry between the right and left channels.

To achieve the best possible sonic performance circuit topology is short and direct. It is packed with high precision metal-film resistors, chip mica capacitors and Marantz's proprietary HDAMs - High Definition Amplifier Modules.

These Marantz-designed devices, placed at I/V and low pass filter sections, replace the single chip, 'off-the-shelf' Op-Amps many other manufacturers use. The output buffer amps are latest generation HDAM-SA2 modules chosen for their outstanding speed and timbral accuracy.

Another feature central to the SA-11S1's class-leading sound is SACDM-1 mechanism module. Developed for SA-7S1 it features a 10mm case of extruded aluminium for rock-solid, vibration-free build, a die-cast metal tray that uses micro precision metals, and a coated, non-reflecting

material to prevent light reflection. It guarantees only a supreme, pure digital signal will feed the digital filters and the D/A converters.

Such outstanding attention to detail continues with the implementation of a high-capacity Super Ring toroidal transformer to avoid enlarging the circuit loop, lowering capacity, and risking inconsistent operation and quality. Internal wiring is channelled into separate circuits eliminating interference between circuits, while the transformer is entirely shielded by an aluminium shorting ring and a copper-plated case to keep unwanted magnetic radiation away from internal parts. This is a same solution as found in the SA-7S1.

Elsewhere, you'll find a high-precision clock and linear-voltage regulator, to prevent jitter; block chemical capacitors for the power supply; electrolytic and Schottky barrier diode for the power, filter, and audio output sections; oversized storage capacitors custom made to exacting Marantz specifications; and a low-noise LCD display that can be turned off.

This orgy of engineering is housed on a full-metal chassis that employs a double-layer bottom plate, a 5mm thick aluminium cover, and substantial shock-absorbing feet to virtually eliminate sound-degrading vibration. The case is even completely copper-plated to guard against electrical interference, and thanks to unique engineering no screws are visible. The result is a model delivering clean, minimalist lines to match its pure sound.

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Marantz is listed at the Tokyo Stock Exchange and the consolidated group has 628 employees in more than 50 countries. Marantz is a part of D&M Holdings Inc. The company can trace its roots back to the dawn of the first mono LP, when Saul Bernard Marantz, a native of New York, was unhappy with the equipment available to play his cherished record collection on. So he built his own! Saul officially founded the Marantz Company in 1953. Then, as now, the company's cornerstones were quality and innovation. For over half a century Marantz has been developing unique technologies and bringing landmark hi-fi and home entertainment products to market through its tireless and extensive R&D programmes. Such commitment to audio and video excellence ensures each Marantz design delivers class-leading performance. Additional information is available at www.marantz.com.

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Note to the editor, not to be published:

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