



Gold Note PH-1000

**HIGHLY COMMENDED
PHONO STAGE**



The Gold Note PH-1000 is a *piece de resistance* of electronic wizardry, a phono stage that attempts to provide the vinyl enthusiast with every possible means of matching both the cartridge on their turntable and the vinyl that it is spinning. This starts with loading, which covers the gamut of impedance, capacitance and gain that the cartridge works with. The PH-1000 offers no fewer than 12 impedance settings from 10 Ohms to 100kOhms with the option to add an external loading resistor if required, these are spread across both RCA and XLR inputs with eight (MC only) options on the latter. You can choose between six levels of capacitance if you decide to treat your MM (or stepped-up MC) to this level of preamplification quality, and regardless of which cartridge type you have there are seven levels of gain to choose from on top of the standard 65dB (MM 40dB).

Also, where 99% of the alternatives offer RIAA EQ and a few offer one or two alternatives

the PH-1000 has a remarkable 18 preset EQ options alongside the option to set up four custom curves, which effectively means a built-in, high quality tone control.

In his test, Jason Kennedy thought, “The PH-1000 delivered rather engaging results, not least because of its remarkable ability to extract bass from nearly every slab of vinyl that the stylus traced.”

He concluded by saying, “The Gold Note PH-1000 is a tour de force of a phono stage/ preamplifier, it may be expensive, but you try and find this sort of feature set for less, it will be a long search. The sound it produces is very even handed and refined, the quality of electronics is clearly in the premium league, and this combined with the ability to change so many parameters on the fly makes it a fabulous piece of kit for vinyl lovers looking to get the best out of their collections.”

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