



Gold Note Valore 425 Plus

WINNER
TURNTABLE



Valore is Italian for ‘value’ and ‘worth’ (as in both a financial and a moral sense) and the 425 Plus is the uppermost of the two models in the Valore range. The Valore 425 Plus is available in black MDF and Italian walnut plinths, and a transparent acrylic version. All three are 30mm thick. The choice of plinth colour also dictates the colour of the three feet and the 23mm thick platter itself: all have a felt slipmat.

The bearing for example is the same 60mm long bearing and spindle seen in Gold Note’s top decks. A large longitudinal groove is located on its axis to allow the lubricating oil to run constantly. The longer spindle limits any pendulum effect and distributes its inertial energy along its entire axis, thereby significantly lowering lateral friction.

The motor uses Pulse Width Modulation to control speed. This is basically using digital to power analogue, and is a function of some very esoteric turntable speed boxes. The external

speed box controls the power voltage in three steps: 230V AC input, 230V DC sampling of that 230V AC input, then 230V DC-12V AC conversion. This external box also includes a convenient speed 33/45rpm adjustment and fine pitch control. The arm itself is a slightly stripped-down B-5 version of the Gold Note’s B-5.1 arm found on its more upmarket decks, and this is an optional upgrade.

In our test, Alan Sircom thought that, “This is not one of those turntables that goes after stentorian bass... Instead, it’s a tidy, ordered, detailed, and – above all – quicksilver performer that acts from the midrange on out.” Noting also that “the Valore 425 Plus’s speed and honesty wins the day, every day.” He concluded the review by saying that “the Gold Note Valore 425 Plus is an excellent and inherently honest performer that doesn’t impose itself on the sound of LP.”

Reviewed in issue 168

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