



★ BEST AMPLIFIER

QUAD VENA II



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All-in-one amplifiers don't come much more feature packed than Quad's Vena II. Amplifier? Check. Bluetooth? Check. Phono input? Check. Digital section? Check. Even better the digital section is based around the renowned ESS Sabre32 DAC – one of the most smooth and advanced digital-to-analogue converters out there. The Vena II's 55 Watt amplifier is enough to drive most modern loudspeakers to almost nightclub levels.

And it has a very Quad sound – always a good thing. The Vena II has that big, fulsome presentation you get from a well-developed Class A/B amplifier backed by a beefy linear power supply.

Spinning Jan Akerman's 'Am I Losing You' the Vena II was immediately easy in its delivery – relaxed yet pure, with a firm but full bass line that kicked the track along. The drum kit also had detail rather than merely being a backing track.

It was the same with all inputs, making the Vena II a true all-in-one marvel that is hard to beat.