

Cables &amp;

accessories

Whether it be a stand, headphone amp, cable or remote control, every essential extra here will help you get the most from your kit

## PRODUCT OF THE YEAR

### Best hybrid device

Furutech ADL GT-40 **£395**

Looking at Furutech's compact ADL-GT40 it seems inconceivable that so many components could be fitted into such a small space. But they have, and the result is this, a real Swiss Army Knife of a product, featuring a DAC, headphone amplifier and moving magnet/moving coil phono stage.

The DAC is an admirable performer, handling 24bit/96kHz and WAV files with ease while firing out a sound with lots of detailing, subtlety and precision. As a standalone unit we'd like it hugely anyway, but this nifty Furutech is so much more than 'only' a digital-to-analogue converter.

#### Far more than a DAC: it's a headphone amp and phono stage, too

Switch to listening through your favourite cans, using the ADL GT-40 as a headphone amp, and once again the results are great. This little gem had no problems with whichever headphones were used, and delivered a refined and smooth sound that rapidly became addictive.

Shift on to the phono stage, and you'll still get a more than acceptable sound, although the insight here doesn't match the best stand-alone models available. Bearing in mind the Furutech's other attributes, you can forgive it the odd foible.

All that, and we haven't yet mentioned the on-board analogue to digital converter that allows you to transfer vinyl recordings to your digital storage device, or even the fact that you can use the ADL GT-40 as a preamp at a push, if your power amp has enough gain.

The Furutech ADL GT-40 manages not only to be a jack of all trades but also masters the bulk of them, and is more than capable at the rest. We like its conveniently compact size, and for the money - equivalent to single components at this price - it's nothing short of incredible.



#### DID YOU KNOW?

ADL stands for Alpha Design Labs, Furutech's entry level line of accessories. The Formula 2 USB is part of the ADL range.

**WHAT HI-FI?**  
SOUND AND VISION  
**AWARDS 2011**

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**FURUTECH ADL GT40**