



MAINS CABLE OF THE YEAR Shunyata Research Omega QR-s

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Like most things from Shunyata Research, the Omega QR-s bristles with Shunyata’s own technology, each neatly described by its own acronym. Omega QR-s uses a QR/BB module (which provides a local reserve of energy to mitigate the inductive reactance of the power cord, but without resorting to an R/C network) and a NIC (Noise Isolation Chamber) device in the central tube surrounding the cable, which is already one of Shunyata’s Noise Reduction designs. Factor in the company’s VTA-Ag (outer copper strands with a solid silver core) conductors, its own CopperCONN connectors with carbon fibre outer shells, a design optimised for optimum current delivery by its proprietary DT/CD measurement system and finalised with Shunyata’s KPIP kinetic phase inversion run-in process and you have a lot of tech in one chunky cable inside its own flight case.

In our test, Alan Sircom felt that, “Shunyata’s Omega QR-s is one of the most dynamically unconstrained power cords out there, and that’s saying a lot. Granted this needs some big-hitter electronics to fully realise,

but it lets the dynamics through almost irrespective. This also comes with a marked increase in soundstage size and solidity. Instruments have their own three-dimensional space marked out in many systems, and often that comes with a sense of being rooted to the floor, but here that doesn’t just take on a three-dimensionality; it gains a visceral, physical presence that’s almost unnerving.”

Alan concluded his review by saying, “Although there are those who insist on the top of the tree no matter what, in reality, Omega QR-s is the top of the Shunyata tree for everything except Class AB power amps delivering more than about 200 watts per channel. If you are bringing some really heavy amplifier firepower to your listening room, then Omega QR has the extra fortitude you might need. For everything else, QR-s is probably your best bet.” +

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