

Analogue Studio Stainless Steel Record Stabiliser Clamp

This turntable clamp/weight supplied by Analogue Seduction is designed to keep records flat during playback and prevent slipping. Even if your record looks flat and you use a good turntable mat, adding a clamp/weight will effectively reduce the possibility of sudden speed changes caused by the record slipping on the turntable while playing.

This beautifully made clamp is 70mm in diameter, 25mm high and weighs in at 450 grams. It's made from stainless steel and is finished with a thin, black velvety felt covering on the underside where it sits on the record.

Apart from preventing slipping while playing, the clamp helps with a number of other issues. It increases the mass of the rotating system which can help to reduce flutter. As it applies a force to the centre of the record, it can help with the playing of warped records. Furthermore, by coupling the record more tightly to the rotating platter, it can help dampen internal resonances of the record and thereby reduce sonic coloration.

Sound quality

I could certainly hear improvements with the clamp in use during playing. I found that, with a record sitting directly on my acrylic turntable platter, there was a noticeable improvement in imaging and slight cleaning up of the top end. The music sounded more natural and flowed slightly better. All-in-all then, this reasonably priced clamp is certainly worth the money and does indeed offer sonic improvements. **NR**



► DETAILS

PRICE: FROM
£40

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WEBSITE:
ANALOGUE
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OUR VERDICT



Fidelity Audio SPower HC voltage regulator

If you are an inveterate tweeker like me, you may well consider performing little upgrades on your equipment. You may also wish to replace those noisy switched-mode 'wall wart' power supplies, such as those supplied with Logitech Squeezeboxes, with a nice linear power supply. If you do, you'll be very interested in using a top quality voltage regulator, such as this.

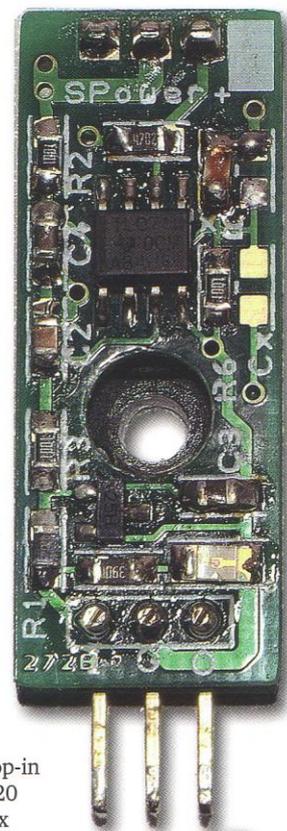
Entry-level separates and high end components alike often have cheap OEM regulators fitted. These are inherently very noisy, and the standard regulators corrupt the delicate circuits with high noise levels and slow reaction time. The Fidelity Audio SPower regulator addresses these fundamental problems, featuring a stable high speed low noise voltage delivery.

This top-quality device is a drop-in replacement for the 3-pin TO-220 package usually designated 78xx (for a positive voltage regulator) or 79xx (for a negative voltage regulator). It is available in a wide range of positive or negative voltages from 3.3V to 24V.

In use

I have used one of these regulators in the linear power supply that I built to replace the switched-mode power supply on my Logitech Squeezebox Touch and, therefore, required the +5V device. This can easily accommodate the 3A required by the Touch when bolted to a suitable heatsink, I found.

With the Spower regulator fitted, the Touch managed to extract more detail from the music. In particular, I could hear the bowing action on the strings of a double-bass more clearly – the sound was altogether more refined. It made a surprising improvement to this humble device, so comes highly recommended for tweeky, soldering iron owning types! **NR**



► DETAILS

PRICE: £42

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CO.UK

OUR VERDICT

