



FLOORSTANDING LOUDSPEAKER OF THE YEAR, UP TO £2,000

Monitor Audio Bronze 200

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Monitor Audio has made the value-oriented Bronze range since 1998, and that line of loudspeakers has seen a lot of development since then. None of which prepared us for the design, build and sound quality of the excellent Bronze 200 from the latest range; the most affordable floorstander in the line-up and one that tops the ‘bang for your buck’ charts. And yet, despite its beer-budget price, the Bronze 200 has top-notch features, including the company’s own ceramic-coated aluminium/magnesium drive units (gold-anodised for optimum stiffness in the tweeter), all housed in a 15mm thick MDF cabinet.

In our listening test, Simon Lucas praised the Bronze 200 for its excellent treble, “The combination of gold dome tweeter and Uniform Dispersion Waveguide serves up a wide, yet properly focused, top end,” he said, “and it has the body and substance to prevent the treble attack becoming wearing.” He was no less impressed by the midrange, saying “the Bronze 200 demonstrate good control of the midrange, particularly where attack and decay are concerned. And there’s plenty of dynamic variation on show.” And was equally impressed by the bass; “the speakers’ ability to snap into and out of bass sounds with real positivity... There’s worthwhile texture to low-end sounds, too.”

While he also thought the soundstage was not too ‘expansive’, Simon also stated, “it’s cogently laid out and never sounds crowded.” In short, a loudspeaker that is ideal for listeners in a smaller room with more value-driven – but still high performance – equipment who don’t want a loudspeaker that sounds wildly over the top.

In the Bronze 200, Monitor Audio have made a loudspeaker at a very attractive price that always manages to disguise the compromises made to make a floorstanding loudspeaker as affordable as this. Any loudspeaker that manages to sound this good, look this good, and cost this little deserves to win an Award! +

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