

## Isobluehifi The wallshelf

**U**K specialist furniture manufacturer Isobluehifi has developed a new Wallshelf for source components.

The company is owned by Phonography High Fidelity Limited, which has many years of experience as a British audio dealer. All products are tested to ensure that everything performs well sonically and looks good visually. In particular, as a turntable specialist, the manufacturer is keen to ensure that the Isobluehifi range of equipment supports are suited to both analogue and digital sources.

The Wallshelf is entirely British-made and its visual appearance complements the distinctive design of the company's modular Hi-Fi Table. Available in nine different finishes, it features an adjustable isolating platform which enables the support surface to be levelled precisely. In addition, a cable management system has been built into the wall plate of the Wallshelf itself. It has been designed with turntable enthusiasts in mind, but it is equally well suited for CD players, digital streamers and preamplifiers.

The Wallshelf is superbly made and utilises high quality real-wood veneers that have been individually applied by hand to the stained and treated MDF components. There are five standard veneers in the '60 Series' to choose from: Cherry, Natural Oak, Black Ash, Natural Ash and Mahogany. In addition, there are four 'Special Branch' superior finishes available in Cherry, Maple, Pippy Oak and Walnut that also feature solid wood edge-lipping. However, as the veneer is hand-fitted, other finishes can be accommodated, possibly at no additional cost, depending on the type of wood veneer chosen!

The Wallshelf is supplied flat-packed in a well-packaged box that contains all the fittings, Allen keys and instructions required for installation. The unit itself consists of a support wooden shelf that is fastened to the wall with the supplied central bolt and wall screws. If you are worried about the ability of the Wallshelf to support your precious and weighty turntable – fear not! The central 12mm diameter bolt that screws to a depth of about 65mm into the wall protrudes by 120mm from the wall and passes through a hole in the wooden wall plate, fitting well into the under-shelf bracket. This, coupled with the three other wall screws, means the shelf can easily accommodate equipment weighing over 20kg in weight.

Fitting inside a recess in the main shelf sits the adjustable inner shelf in a matching veneer. The veneer of the inner shelf is hand-cut from the same piece of veneer that is used on the main shelf, so the grain is a perfect match across the entire top surface. Now that's what I call attention to detail!

The inner shelf is adjusted to be perfectly level by means of four spikes – one in each corner – that are rotated from the underside of the shelf using an Allen key. The tips of the spikes have been carefully rounded to ensure that they don't dig into the wooden inner shelf that rests on top of them without detriment to the desirable isolation properties that are essential for an audio equipment support. Once the shelf is level, the spikes are each fixed in position using a locking nut. At the rear of the fixed shelf, there are two cut-outs to accommodate cables that will run down the back of the wall. A matching wooden cable cover to fit over cables descending from the shelf will be available shortly.

### Sound quality

Isoblue has designed the Wallshelf to ensure that it doesn't just look good, but also has all the sonic properties necessary to meet the requirements of the demanding audiophile. The choice of materials and the supporting infrastructure have all been designed to maximise the sonic performance of the Wallshelf and the company plans to investigate the use of the acoustic and aesthetic properties of other materials in the future. But for now, if you're looking for a wooden shelf unit that looks good, sounds great and oozes quality, then look no further! **NR**

### DETAILS

**PRICE:** £374 (60 SERIES), £475 (SPECIAL BRANCH)

**CONTACT:** 0208 123 6777

**WEBSITE:** ISOBLUEHIFI.COM

### OUR VERDICT

