



BEST AMPLIFIER

LUXMAN L-590AX MKII

Reviewed: June 2016 issue

It might be retro in looks with lines of buttons and two big, illuminated power meters – but there's nothing old-fashioned about the delicious sound of the Luxman L-590AX MKII integrated amplifier.

Biased into Class A operation up to 30 Watts, it can deliver 160 Watts in Class A/B if the occasion demands, so will drive just about any loudspeaker. And it does so with authority – producing a smooth, rich sound with plenty of clarity and life. On Led Zeppelin's 'Whole Lotta Love' the bass line was punchy and tuneful while Jimmy Page's guitar riff stopped and started with no smear.

While the Luxman likes to rock it also has a great sense of delicacy, giving female vocals superb atmosphere.

There's a built-in MM/MC phono stage, high-quality headphone out, defeatable tone controls and two pairs of loudspeaker outputs.

It all adds up to a hugely impressive package that not only looks good but sounds sublime too.

For the original review, see page 28.

