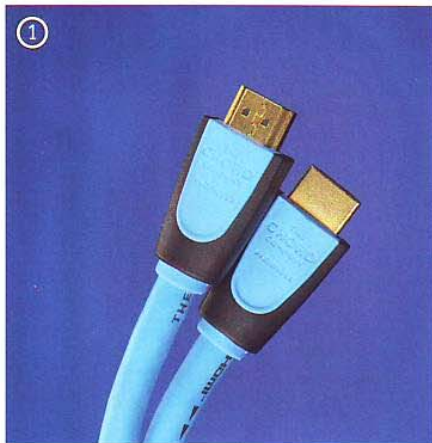


Awards'09

CABLES Still using those bundled leads? Trade them for these Award-winning wires and give your system a serious shot in the arm



PRODUCT OF THE YEAR

1 CHORD COMPANY HDMI SUPERSHIELD

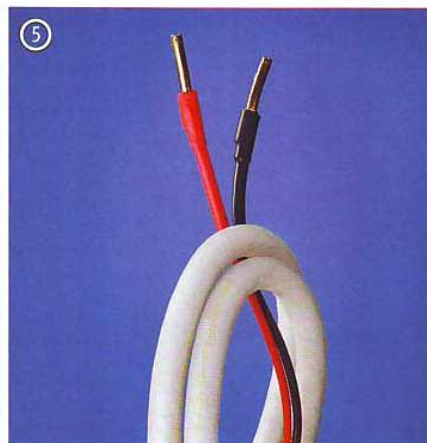
Our 'Best HDMI up to £50' is also our cable of the year. HDMI has become the de facto cable for home cinema systems and in 2009, without a doubt, Chord Company's Supershield has come out top. The HDMI 1.3b certification is a bonus, but the real reason it wins is because the punchy, brightly lit, crisp pictures defy the price-tag in scintillating style. And the burly, energetic audio delivered by the Supershield is just as thrilling.



BEST HDMI £50+

2 CHORD COMPANY HDMI ACTIVE

This is an odd-looking HDMI, complete with a big bulge mid-cable, but it performs superbly. The bulge is actually a high-frequency filter, designed to boost sound quality. It works: this is one of the most muscular and exciting sounding HDMI's we've ever heard. The impact it makes picture-wise is almost as dramatic, revealing extra detail and bite in all pictures. The 1.3c specification is just the icing on an extremely tasty cake.



BEST SPEAKER CABLE

5 CHORD COMPANY CARNIVAL SILVERSCREEN

Any suggestion that last year's victory by Chord Company over QED was a fluke can now be put to bed. In fact, QED released a new cable, the QED XT Evolution, to try and win the Award back. But it hasn't worked. The QED may be marginally more detailed, but it's also a little brighter, meaning it's not ideal for every system. This is where the Chord wins out, with a terrifically balanced, dynamic and authoritative sound that will enhance any system.

