

Atlas Cables

Ascent 3.5 MKII speaker cable



RECENTLY RELEASED FROM the Scottish-based cable manufacturer, Atlas Cables, is the entry point product in the Reference range – the Ascent 3.5 MKII loudspeaker cable.

The cable uses Atlas' Ohno Continuous Cast (OCC) 7N 99.99999% pure copper technology, where each strand is 'pulled' from a single copper crystal and the Ascent 3.5 MKII uses a 3.5mm² cross section of this stranded copper to create its conductors. For the dielectric, Atlas uses Fluorinated Ethylene Propylene (FEP), which is a type of Teflon that mitigates the velocity of signal issues that cheaper dielectric materials exhibit. The lower melting point of FEP critically also allows the perfect crystalline structure of OCC copper to be maintained during the manufacturing process.

The cables are terminated in either

(which are reviewed here) or OCC spade connectors. Both connectors employ cold-weld technology where no solder is used so that the integrity of the signal is maintained from the cable through to the terminal. Atlas helpfully includes an Allen key for the rhodium plugs so that you can ensure they are fully tightened onto the cable.

Burn baby burn

As with any audiophile cable, the Ascent 3.5 MKIIs need to be burnt-in for several hours before they can reach their full potential. To this end, Atlas helpfully includes a burn-in and demagnetizing CD, which can be left on repeat to do this for you. The CD contains a 10-minute track of assorted noises that cover the whole frequency



band and range from low-frequency single sine waves to multiple tones, which is a 'stressful' signal for cables – as well as for your ears. I would strongly recommend going out for the day and leaving it running while your cables run in at home!

After running in, I test the cables with a variety of music and they are really excellent. The imaging is superb and the sound is open and transparent. There is no sibilance to high frequencies and low-level detail is clear. Recommended even at the high price. **NR**

DETAILS

PRICE
£795 for a 2 metre cable pair plus £200 per additional metre

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WEBSITE
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OUR VERDICT

