



Alana Acoustics

## Mana Acoustics

As hi-fi reviewer Paul Messenger once observed, Mana Acoustics is not "a metal bashing company". Mana doesn't build hi-fi supports along with railings, garden furniture and children's swings. We are pleased to be music and hi-fi enthusiasts who started building equipment tables back in the late seventies purely so that we could set up our turntables. However, when other people heard the effects those prototype supports had upon hi-fi systems there was no turning back: what had been solely a personal endeavour turned into a business.

Now, twenty years on, we're proud to say that owning Mana Acoustics' products tells the world that you're deadly serious about making your hi-fi work, that you want every last jot of music extracting from your LPs, CDs and tapes. You don't want a system that provides background music: you want one that nails you into your seat, mesmerises you and refuses to let you go to bed at night. That's why the UK's leading hi-fi writers and many top manufacturers use nothing but Mana supports at work and at home.



THIS MULTI-LEVEL INSTALLATION BELONGS TO ONE OF OUR CUSTOMERS, REVIEWER, MALCOLM STEWARD

There's no shortage of equipment supports available today. A few can be called original but the majority are just clones or variations on a tired, banal theme. Mana tables have the distinction of being the only patented designs on the market. They're genuine originals. They couldn't be copies because they break all the rules that were established when dedicated supports first started being recognised. In those pioneering days tables had to be light. Mana tables are not - just try lifting a Reference stand. They had to be rigid: have you ever seen a Phase 7 swaying hypnotically? And glass shelves were out: Mana uses glass exclusively. While we're at it, don't bother looking for any tubular steel or self-assembly sections in a Mana stand: we never use them even though they would make life simpler for us.

What really separates our supports from the competition, though, is that in spite of rejecting conventional wisdom, they work consistently, far more effectively and they're not component specific. They make dramatic differences to any component or system's performance. Take any piece of equipment you care to choose, place it on a Mana stand, and we guarantee it will sound significantly better. Whether it's a Linn Sondek turntable, a Naim CD player, a Krell amplifier, or a Rotel tuner, its performance will rocket. You'll truly hear things you've never heard before.

What is more, Mana's individual supports form part of an upgradeable system. You can, for example, take a basic Sound Table and upgrade it to Reference status by placing a small Mini Table on top of it. Add a Flat Top and you're up to Phase 3. Stand that on a Sound Stage platform and you have a Phase 4 table. By this time you'll be completely shell-shocked by the massive improvements to your system's performance. But in a high quality system there will still be more potential left to exploit. How? By adding further tiers to the support system. Ask Mana's founder, John Watson just how far can you go before the improvements stop coming and he'll simply enquire about the height of your room's ceiling! And with our supports you can forget about diminishing returns. Every additional platform earns its keep and takes you closer to the music.

The multi-level installation pictured left belongs to one of our customers, reviewer, Malcolm Steward. His system currently uses Phase 7 supports under the turntable and CD player, a hybrid six-tier stand under the pre-amplifier and a six-tier amplifier stand on four Sound Stages supporting his power amplifiers, power supplies and active crossover. His Naim SBL speakers rest on three-tier Mana stands. It's an impressive array but he nonetheless tells people that "work is still in progress". Even in such a heavily Mana'd system there remains room for improvement without compromising the system's usability. As we tell owners of similar systems, when you run out of fingers to count the support levels you simply replace the Reference Tables with Sound Stages to keep the top-level components at a reachable height. Only the system's performance hits the ceiling.

Before we describe the stands in detail we'd like to assure home cinema enthusiasts that Mana supports aren't just for audiophile use. Placing a Laserdisc player or VCR on a Mana stand will improve both its picture and audio quality. As we said before, Mana supports don't discriminate: if it's electronic or electro-mechanical, it'll perform better on a Mana table.

Our products have been widely praised and honoured by all the major writers in the specialist press. We're proud that such experienced, discriminating music lovers - who have access to the finest hi-fi and the widest range of support furniture - have chosen to use Mana supports in their home and reference systems. Here are some of their observations:

*Mana obviously improves the musical message possible from your audio system. The Phase Four demonstrated that the technology hasn't yet reached its limit, and that old faithfuls such as the LP12 can be turbo-charged to new heights of musicality. In the case of a Mana Reference owner, I can think of few better uses for a spare £350!*

MARTIN COLLOMS, HI-FI NEWS AND RECORD REVIEW, JANUARY 1995

## WHAT HI-FI?



The Mana Sound Frame, November 1992

*All I know is the Krell amplifiers sounded tighter and quieter on the Mana amp stands than on the (concrete) floor. I don't know what Mana charges for this furniture but it's worth at least a high three figures by my reckoning.*

KEN KESSLER, HI-FI NEWS AND RECORD REVIEW, AUGUST 1993



*I can only say that until I had the Mana Equipment Table fitted, my hi-fi system was at best half-cocked. Mana makes an important difference to the performance of a turntable but makes an equally big improvement to any component. The Mana Equipment Table is not just good, it's fundamentally necessary for good sound - no end of glib prose can express the table's importance strongly enough. At the risk of imposing audio terrorism upon the hi-fi buyer, if you don't put Mana at the head of your shopping list you will never hear the true potential of your hi-fi system.*

ALAN SIRCOM, HI-FI CHOICE, MARCH 1995

*They (Mana Phase 7 tables) radically diminish that ever-present feeling that your hi-fi is playing a not very convincing con-trick on your senses. In hi-fi reviewing argot, the music flows more naturally, in musical terms, good playing grooves, makes more sense and communicates far more fluently; it touches nerves.*

MALCOLM STEWARD, THE EAR (HI-FI CHOICE), ISSUE ONE.

*The Phase Four acts like an enlarger for what's coming off the record. It allows the player to retrieve more information and present it in an impressively coherent, detailed and musical fashion. Quite how is not something Mana or I can explain. It's one of those rare occasions where more is more. More layers of Mana table equals more information. More subtlety in notes, greater depth of field, more colour and texture, and dangerous amounts of energy.*

JASON KENNEDY, HI-FI CHOICE, FEBRUARY 1994

*I'm not going to try and tell you what the Mana sounds like. It's irrelevant, behaviourism tells the whole story. The electron-implanted experimental rat doesn't need to know why it keeps pressing the button and starving to death, it just goes on pressing the button - just like I've been getting up and changing records for about twelve hours of every day. I've just been through all four sides of Dylan's Blonde on Blonde, which is something I haven't done in more than a decade.*

PAUL MESSENGER, HI-FI CHOICE, JUNE 1990.



### Ikea Lack Table

Sound Quality  
      
 Value for Money

### Mana Reference Table

Sound Quality  
      
 Value for Money

### Verdict

#### Mana Phase Four Reference Table

- ▲ PROS: Optimises first class sources; no waste upgrade path
- ▼ CONS: Addictive; low WAF (Wife Acceptance Factor)

SOUND QUALITY  
      
 VALUE FOR MONEY

HI-FI CHOICE FEBRUARY 1994

### Verdict

#### Mana Acoustics Reference

- ▲ PROS: Superb performance; great effects for a mere table
- ▼ CONS: A right royal pain to clean and dust

SOUND QUALITY  
      
 VALUE FOR MONEY

HI-FI CHOICE OCTOBER 1993

## Products

We manufacture a wide range of tables designed to support single components. Our basic model is the SOUND TABLE, which was the first commercially available Mana stand. It can be used alone to support a turntable, CD player or any single electronic component. It can also be partnered with one or more Mini-Tables, Flat Tops or Sound Stages to form a Reference Table or one of our Phase series of supports. Built, as are all our products, from fully welded, high grade, L-section bright steel, it has ultra hard high tensile steel floor and shelf spikes, and a sturdy plate glass shelf.

The next step up the performance ladder comes with the REFERENCE TABLE. This comprises a Sound Table topped with a balanced laminated board upon which sits a Mini Table and a glass shelf. All of our multi-tier equipment supports can be also "Referenced" to gain enhanced performance from the top-most component.

If you want further performance gains look to the PHASE 3 TABLE. This consists of a Reference Table with an additional Flat Top beneath the Mini Table. The design aims solely to provide improved performance from the component mounted on the glass shelf. The intermediate shelves are used solely to support the next tier, not equipment.

THE MANA REFERENCE TABLE COMPRISES A SOUND TABLE TOPPED WITH A MINI TABLE



THE MANA PHASE 3 WITH SOUND STAGE

Placing a Phase 3 Table on a single Sound Stage platform turns it into a Phase 4 Table. Again, it is designed to improve the performance of a single component and not to act as a multi-tier stand. Naturally, you can add as many Sound-Stage platforms or Flat Tops as you wish.

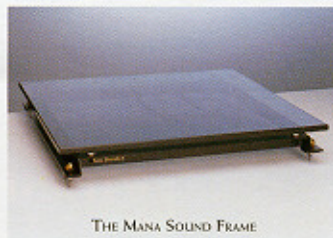
Until recently the PHASE 7 TABLE was our top single-component model. This consists of six Flat Tops supported by a Sound Frame. However, experimentation and feedback from our customers encouraged us to replace the Flat Tops with Sound Stages, which allowed us to increase the number of levels - and the table's performance - without making the support too tall to be practical. As a result, we now offer Phase tables with up to fourteen levels.

For people who can't accommodate a Sound Table, Reference or Phase Table, we offer three other supports. The MINI TABLE can be used to support items such as amplifiers placed close to loudspeakers. The POWER SUPPLY TABLE is smaller and is designed primarily to fit neatly within a Sound Table supporting turntable, CD player, or amplifier power supply units. The SOUND FRAME is a discreet isolation platform in situations where floor-mounting a support is not desirable or possible. It is ideal for use under components that normally sit on a heavy piece of furniture.

We also supply wall-mounted supports as an alternative to floor-standing tables. The SOUND SHELF is



THE MANA MINI TABLE



THE MANA SOUND FRAME



designed for situations where wall-mounting equipment is necessary - in a home where there are young children or where the floors aren't stable. It provides performance enhancements for both source and amplification components. The REFERENCE SHELF consists of a Sound Shelf with an additional level of isolation provided by a Mini Table. Needless to say, you're not limited to one extra level. Bring on the Flat Tops!

We also manufacture a complimentary range of AMPLIFIER STANDS. Designed to support several components, these come with between two and six shelves as standard. If you need more shelves or particular spacing between them we can custom-build stands to your specification. Naturally, you can "Reference" an amplifier/system stand to enhance the performance of the component on the top shelf, and place the whole stand on one or more Sound Stages to the benefit of all the components it contains.

Having devoted our attention to turntables, CD players and amplifiers for many years we subsequently decided to see if the Mana support philosophy would benefit loudspeakers. It did - frequently to a degree that amazed and delighted us. We now offer dedicated stands for the Naim SBL and Linn Isobarik loudspeakers. Other floor-standing speakers have responded equally well to being placed on one or more Sound Stages. We've also discovered that these platforms regularly have a dramatic effect when used under compact speakers mounted on other manufacturer's stands.

We realise that the various combinations of supports we manufacture can be a little bewildering, and we haven't yet mentioned that you can substitute glass for the laminated board on a Sound Stage and use it as a low-level amplifier stand. If you're unsure about which support would provide the best results in your system, please feel free to call us and discuss the options. While you're talking to us we'll tell you about the most accurate SPIRIT LEVEL known to man, which we devised to ensure that you can set

up your Mana products and system with the painstaking care and precision they deserve. Engineered from black anodised aluminium alloy it has a sensitivity of 30 minutes for a 2mm deflection of the air bell. Circular and weighing only 70 grams, it even comes drilled to fit a turntable spindle.



THE MANA REFERENCE SHELF



5-TIER AMPLIFIER STAND WITH SOUND STAGE

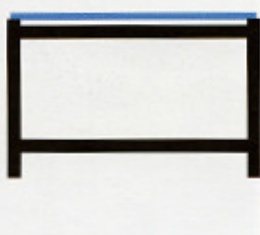


## STANDS, SHELVES AND UPGRADE COMBINATIONS

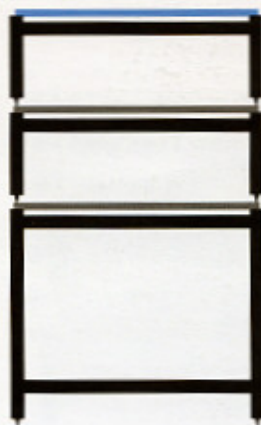
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REGISTERED DESIGN NUMBERS 1057675/1057676



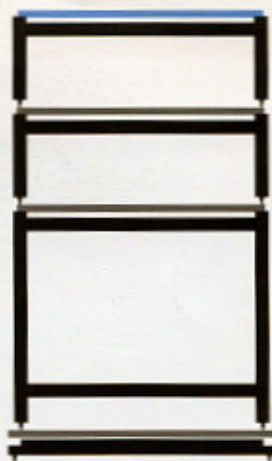
**SOUND TABLE**  
16" x 19.5" x 15.5" (H,W,D)  
406 x 495 x 394mm



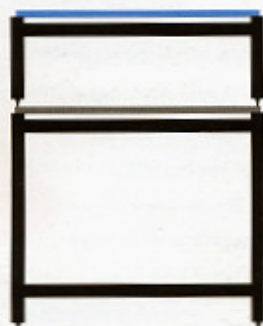
**SOUND SHELF**  
12" x 19.5" x 18.5" (H,W,D)  
304 x 495 x 470mm



**PHASE 3 TABLE**  
27" x 19.5" x 15.5" (H,W,D)  
686 x 495 x 394mm



**PHASE 4 TABLE**  
29" x 20" x 20" (H,W,D)  
737 x 508 x 508mm



**REFERENCE TABLE**  
22" x 19.5" x 15.5" (H,W,D)  
559 x 495 x 394mm



**REFERENCE SHELF**  
17" x 19.5" x 18.5" (H,W,D)  
432 x 495 x 470mm



**MINI TABLE**  
4.5" x 19.25" x 15" (H,W,D)  
114 x 489 x 381mm



**SOUND FRAME**  
3" x 18" x 14" (H,W,D)  
76 x 457 x 356mm



**POWER SUPPLY TABLE**  
4.5" x 17" x 13" (H,W,D)  
114 x 432 x 330mm



**SOUND STAGE**  
3" x 20" x 20" (H,W,D)  
76 x 508 x 508mm

*Reflecting its policy of continual research and development, Mana Acoustics reserves the right to modify the specifications of products at any time without notice.*

## EQUIPMENT RACKS ARE MADE TO ORDER



SIX-TIER AMPLIFIER STAND



THREE-TIER AMPLIFIER STAND



FIVE-TIER AMPLIFIER STAND  
WITH SOUND STAGE  
AND REFERENCE TOP



FOUR-TIER EQUIPMENT RACK



TWO-TIER AMPLIFIER STAND

For more details contact

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