

# Pro-Ject Unveils **Signature 12.2** and **The Classic Reference** Turntables

*The Signature 12.2 and The Classic Reference turntables showcase decades of experience, craftsmanship, and audiophile-level sound.*



Above: Pro-Ject Signature 12.2

**Didcot, Oxfordshire, UK, 25 September 2025: Henley Audio, the exclusive UK distributor for Pro-Ject Audio Systems, has announced the UK availability of two new turntables from the Austrian maker.** The Signature 12.2, Pro-Ject's new flagship, represents the pinnacle of its turntable engineering, while The Classic Reference draws one of the brand's limited-edition designs to deliver high-end performance at a lower, though still premium, cost. Both will make their official UK debut with Henley Audio at this weekend's UK Hi-Fi Show Live (Ascot, 27–28 September).

Previously previewed as prototypes at audio shows, the decks now arrive in their final production versions. Each is handmade in Europe, reflecting Pro-Ject's long tradition of in-house craftsmanship and precision engineering. Both also share the company's focus on balanced connections, with the option of upgrading to True Balanced cabling for the ultimate performance with moving-coil cartridges.

## Signature 12.2 – The pinnacle of Pro-Ject design

The Signature 12.2 is the most advanced turntable Pro-Ject has ever built. It is assembled from more than 100 individually CNC-machined parts – all made in-house – and all metal parts are meticulously hand-polished over two full days before final assembly. Its hand-painted MDF chassis is finished in ten layers of piano black lacquer, rounded at the edges to reduce standing waves, and sits on newly designed conical-tipped spring-loaded feet adjustable from the top of the chassis for perfect levelling.

At its heart lies a 10.5kg aluminium platter, precision CNC-machined as a base before recycled vinyl records are glued on top to provide a perfect mat. This 'sandwich' is baked and precision-balanced, enhancing resonance control and highlighting Pro-Ject's commitment to sustainability. Beneath it, an inverted ceramic ball bearing with magnetic support ensures ultra-quiet running. A new 12" aluminium tonearm uses a 3-point pivot bearing – a switch from its predecessor's uni-pivot system – delivering greater stability, less friction, and better handling of today's heaviest MC cartridges.

## Signature 12.2 – Three Key Highlights

- Crafted with hand-polished parts and ten layers of piano black lacquer.
- Heavyweight 10.5kg platter topped with recycled, baked vinyl for precision and sustainability.
- New 3-point pivot tonearm bearing for superior stability and tracking.

Signature 12.2 Features	Signature 12.2 Specifications
NEW 3-point pivot tonearm bearing construction	Dimensions: 580 x 220 x 480 mm (W x H x D)
NEW modified counterweight system	Drive principle: Flywheel belt drive
NEW motors mounted in aluminium motor block for effective vibration damping	Effective tonearm mass/length: 21.7 g / 12" (304.8 mm)
NEW round-shaped MDF chassis	Main bearing: Ceramic (ball/plate) / Motor control: Precision generator
NEW spring-loaded feet with conical tip, adjustable from the top of the chassis	Overhang: 13.2 mm
Heavyweight mass-loaded design	Platter: 10.55 kg, magnetically decoupled
Magnetically decoupled main platter	Power input: 15 V / 1.6 A DC, universal PSU
Resonance-optimised alloy	Signal-to-noise: -75 dB
Inverted main bearing with ceramic ball	Speed: 33, 45 (electronic change) / Speed variance: 33 ±0.09% / 45 ±0.08%
Flywheel belt drive	Tonearm: 12" aluminium, 3-point pivot
High-gloss, hand-polished aluminium surfaces	Weight (incl. packaging): 37 kg / 60 kg
Handmade in Europe	Wow & flutter: 33 ±0.01% / 45 ±0.01%

## The Classic Reference – Evolution of a Classic


The Classic Reference builds on The Classic EVO and the enhancements developed for Pro-Ject's limited-edition 175 Vienna Philharmonic turntable, itself an evolved version of the Classic EVO. While the 175 remains a sought-after collector's item, The Classic Reference brings that design and engineering ethos to a wider audience, combining refined materials, balanced connectivity and a clear upgrade path.

It features Pro-Ject's EVO 9 AS HG tonearm with ultra-low friction ABEC-7 cardanic bearings in a massive aluminium housing, paired with an SME connector for quick cartridge swaps. The aluminium platter is precision-machined and damped with TPE, sitting atop an MDF/aluminium sandwich chassis with TPE-suspended sub-chassis for isolation. Importantly, it includes both traditional RCA outputs and balanced XLR sockets – offering the kind of noise-free connection typically found in professional recording studios.

At first glance, the switch-mode power supply may look basic – but all Pro-Ject turntables, including the Signature 12.2, hide a clever secret. Inside each deck, a precision DC-driven AC generator powers the motor and creates a completely clean sine wave, ensuring ultra-clean power and remarkably stable speed. For those seeking even higher performance, both models can be upgraded with Pro-Ject's optional Power Box RS2 Phono (£799) and Phono Box RS2 £1399) phono stage.

## The Classic Reference – Three Key Highlights

- Design heritage from The Classic EVO and 175 VPO, now available in continuous production.
- RCA and balanced XLR outputs for professional-grade connection.
- Upgrade-friendly, with long-term support and external power supply options.

The Classic Reference Features	The Classic Reference Specifications
NEW high-end 9" S-shape EVO 9 AS HG tonearm	Dimensions: 460 × 131 × 351 mm (W × H × D, lid closed) 
NEW SME connector for quick cartridge swaps	Drive principle: Belt drive
NEW balanced XLR and single-ended outputs	Effective arm length: 230 mm
Aluminium/MDF sandwich chassis	Effective arm mass: 24.2 g
Clamp It record clamp included	Included accessories: 15V DC / 0.8 A PSU, dust cover, Leather It, Clamp It
Electronic speed control (33, 45, 78 RPM)	Main bearing: Stainless steel
Fully adjustable azimuth and VTA	Overhang: 18 mm
Handmade in Europe	Platter: 300 mm aluminium with TPE damping ring
Height-adjustable decoupling feet	Power: 110/120 or 230/240 V AC, 50/60 Hz
Leather It turntable mat included	Signal-to-noise: 73 dB
Precision-balanced TPE-damped aluminium platter	Speed variance: 33 ±0.08% / 45 ±0.10%
Sandwich sub-chassis with TPE suspension	Speed: 33, 45, 78 RPM (electronic change)
TPE-damped counterweight	Tonearm: EVO 9 AS HG
Ultra-low friction zircon pin-point cardan bearings	Wow & flutter: 33 ±0.03% / 45 ±0.04%

Together, the Signature 12.2 and The Classic Reference distil Pro-Ject's decades of expertise into products that set new standards for their price. The Signature 12.2 is a stunning example of what's possible in high-mass turntable engineering, while The Classic Reference continues the legacy of The Classic EVO and 175 VPO. Both deliver build and performance that, while far from cheap, would cost far more elsewhere – bringing reference-grade vinyl playback within reach of more music lovers.

Available now in the UK through authorised Pro-Ject dealers, distributed exclusively by Henley Audio, the Signature 12.2 is priced at £10,599.00 (€12,000). The Classic Reference is priced at £4,349 (€4,990) for the Piano/Silver finish and £5,199 (€5,990) for Acacia/Brass.

Ends.



Above: Pro-Ject The Classic Reference

## Notes for Editors



### About Pro-Ject Audio Systems

Pro-Ject Audio Systems is widely recognised as one of the finest turntable manufacturers in the world. Its mission is to produce the best-sounding analogue components at the most competitive prices possible. The current range spans a wide variety of price points, with a variety of products targeted to key demographics or to accommodate any of the modern listener's unique requirements. Based in the Austrian countryside, Pro-Ject Audio Systems uses specialised manufacturing partners in mainland Europe to produce its products.

[www.project-audio.com](http://www.project-audio.com)



### About Henley Audio

Henley Audio has been importing and distributing industry-leading hi-fi equipment to the UK and Ireland since 1997. With a passion for great sound and a firm focus on brand integrity, it works to deliver excellence in both product and service. Formed as the result of a management buy-out of Ortofon UK, Henley Designs Ltd. (trading as Henley Audio) operates in-house sales, marketing, service, support, and warehouse teams to offer the full turn-key solution for suppliers. The brands it represents are highly regarded in their own right and share a symbiotic relationship with other brands in its portfolio.

[www.henleyaudio.co.uk](http://www.henleyaudio.co.uk)

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