

Pro-Ject Makes its Best Ever Debut

Pro-Ject unveils the Debut Reference 10, distilling over 25 years of Debut development into its most accomplished model yet



Didcot, Oxfordshire, UK, 18 February 2026 - When Pro-Ject launched the original Debut turntable in the late 1990s, its immediate success helped reignite interest in vinyl and reverse the format's declining fortunes. While that first Debut was an instant hit, it was certainly not a one-hit wonder. In the years since, the Debut line has gone through several iterations, each refining the formula and building on its success.

Now, Pro-Ject introduces the **Debut Reference 10** – the pinnacle of today's Debut technology and its most accomplished model yet.

Sitting at the top of today's Debut range, the Reference 10 comes fully loaded with many of the upgrades that are available for the Debut Carbon EVO and Debut EVO 2 – all implemented as standard for high-end performance straight out of the box.

Key features include a heavy, resonance-resistant acrylic platter, an upgraded diamond-cut aluminium sub-platter for improved speed stability, and height-adjustable damped feet for better isolation and levelling.

The motor is fully decoupled and housed in its own substantial base, minimising vibration transfer to the chassis. An external DC power supply powers a built-in AC generator for clean current delivery, while built-in electronic speed control makes switching between 33 and 45 RPM effortless; 78 RPM playback is supported with a manual belt change.

New 10-inch Tonearm

One of the headline developments for the Debut Reference 10 is its newly developed 10-inch tonearm, created exclusively for this model. Longer than previous Debut arms, it reduces tracking error and inner-groove distortion.

Its carbon-fibre and aluminium sandwich construction combines rigidity with effective damping, and it offers full adjustability for azimuth and vertical tracking angle (VTA) – features more commonly found on higher-tier designs.

True Balanced Connection Capable

The turntable comes factory-fitted with Pro-Ject's Pick it PRO Balanced cartridge and is True Balanced connection capable. This allows lower noise and improved signal integrity when paired with compatible balanced phono stages.

By integrating balanced capability and a longer, fully adjustable tonearm, the Debut Reference 10 moves the Debut platform into more advanced territory while retaining the usability that defined the original model.

A Clear Path Through the Debut Range

The Reference 10 completes the Debut family, highlighting the qualities that have made the line a favourite for over 25 years. The range now follows a clear progression:

Debut Carbon EVO → Debut EVO 2 → Debut PRO B → Debut PRO S Balanced → Debut Reference 10

Prices span £450–£999, giving buyers a straightforward path into high-quality vinyl playback. The EVO 2 stays closest to the original Debut concept, while the higher models add carefully chosen performance upgrades.

Building on the legacy that made the original Debut a milestone in hi-fi, the Reference 10 combines a design that's effortless to set up and use with engineering and performance that truly exceed its price, setting a new benchmark for the range.

Availability and Pricing

The Pro-Ject Debut Reference 10 will be available in the UK from Pro-Ject dealers nationwide in March, priced at £999. Pro-Ject Audio Systems is exclusively distributed in the UK by Henley Audio.

Making its exclusive UK debut at the Bristol Hi-Fi Show 2026 (Friday 20th–Sunday 22nd February), the Debut Reference 10 will be demonstrated in Room 308, with the Henley Audio team on hand to answer questions and provide system advice.

Ends



Pro-Ject Debut Reference 10 – Key Specifications

NEW Features

- NEW 10" one-piece carbon-aluminium tonearm
- NEW Diamond cut aluminium parts
- NEW Acoustically inert acrylic platter
- NEW Aluminium sub-platter

Chassis & Build

- 8x hand-painted MDF chassis
- Handmade in Europe
- Satin black finish
- Height-adjustable metal feet
- Motor suspension with improved damping

Tonearm & Cartridge

- Pre-adjusted Pick it PRO Balanced cartridge
- Fully adjustable VTA
- Tonearm: 10" one-piece carbon-aluminium
- Effective arm length/mass: 254 mm / 16.6 g
- Overhang: 16 mm

Drive & Platter

- Drive principle: belt drive with electronic speed control
- Platter: 300 mm acrylic
- Platter bearing: high-precision stainless steel axle in bronze bushing
- Electronic speed switch
- Speed: 33, 45/(78) (electronic speed change)
- Wow & flutter: 33: $\pm 0.16\%$; 45: $\pm 0.14\%$
- Speed drift: 33: $\pm 0.4\%$; 45: $\pm 0.5\%$

Connectivity & Accessories

- Mini-XLR balanced phono output
- Premium semi-symmetrical phono cable
- Gold-plated RCA connectors
- Record Puck E included
- Dust cover included
- Included accessories: 15 VDC / 0.8 A power supply, dust cover, 78 RPM round belt, 7" single adapter

Performance & Power

- Signal-to-noise ratio: 68 dB
- Power consumption: 4 W / 0 W standby

Dimensions

- Dimensions: 462 x 145 x 345 mm (WxHxD)
- Weight: 6 kg net

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.

Website: 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 turnkey 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.

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