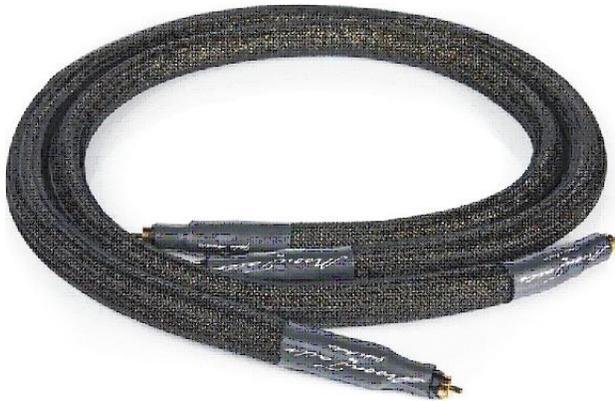


Interconnect cable

Jade Audio Moon Tails, one meter \$550.00 US



The American company Jade Audio has been developing cables since 2006, and the Moon Tails model is the newest of all the cables it has released. The model range is relatively small with a few interconnect models, speaker cables and digital cables made to order. The prices range from ambitious \$4400.00 for a one meter all solid gold and platinum model through the Hybrid model to the new Moon Tail model being their entry level cable.

And what about the newer Moon Tails model? It looks thick, but it's very light and flexible feeling like it is filled with nothing but air. A cotton cord is used as the geometry for the cable holding apart the two conductors made from gold or silver plated 4N OCC copper wire. Taking the weight and width of the cable into account, the conductors are quite thin and no shielding is being used. The cable is equipped with gold plated Furutech RCA connectors. No markings on direction, channel or serial numbers were found.

During the test I tried to connect the cable to a diverse selection of components. When connecting to the computer where the terminals are close together the cable is not the easiest to use, but there is enough flexibility in the cable to allow the connection. When connecting to vintage devices there may be a problem in that the terminals are closer together.

The directionality was judged by ear. By doing so one has the feeling the changes are not significant and it was hard to determine which direction was better in that the changes were so subtle. In terms of speculation about the presence or absence of a ground shield, all that can be said is the cable might pick up noise in certain environments.

The sound of the cable is smooth, quick and light but not quite neutral, the midrange is quite visibly present; the sound has a certain warmth. The bass is not very deep but is fast and not lacking from the general picture. The treble isn't bright; it is soft, multifaceted and melodious. On the whole the sound isn't neutral, but it has a certain charm and is beautiful in its own way. What I liked was the sound was not dull; on the contrary it was very clear, airy and fast. The level of detail is quite high, with an emphasis on quiet sounds and reverberation.

The soundstage is average in terms of width and depth, and is well defined and aerial. At the same time the images and environment is presented in a rather chamber like way, somehow feeling cozy and comfortable. In terms of genres, the cable is more versatile than I initially thought. It can cope with

orchestral work and rock music that is more or less saturated; but due to its characteristics it gravitates towards light genres, vocal music and acoustic instruments.

Making the most of the characteristics of the cable can be done in several ways. You can bring emotion and warmth to a cold and terse sounding system. You can also try the cable on a system with an emphatic tube sound where the cable will fit as though it's in its natural environment.

In terms of measurements the cable is quite extraordinary; the resistance was similar to average levels of cables tested earlier, but capacitance and inductance in particular are extremely low.

Measurement results:

Capacitance, pF: 0.014

Inductance, mH: 0.05

Resistance, ohms: 0.2