

Russ Andrews Mains Zapperator

The Zapperator is a little 'wall-wart' plug containing a dissipative filter that absorbs mains noise across medium to high frequencies. The development of the Zapperator range of products came as a result of the work that Russ Andrews undertook in the 1990s, looking at the effect of radio frequency interference (RFI) on the mains supply and the resulting audible 'smothering' of detail in audio signals.

Russ Andrews has found the Zapperators to be particularly useful in houses with wireless computer networks (these operate in the gigahertz range) and also in houses that use 'Ethernet-over-mains' computer networking, because they are designed to reduce the noise pollution that is generated by these home network systems. Mains Zapperators are designed to specifically absorb and dissipate RFI which is injected into the mains supply. This RFI can come from our own networks and also those of our neighbours. Needless to say, Zapperators do not interfere in any way with the normal operation of the home networks; they simply absorb the RFI produced by them.

In use

This filter is simply plugged into a standard, unused mains socket close to your audio system to create a 'quiet area' around it. Zapperators can also be used throughout a home next to potential sources of noise, such as a computer situated in another room.

It is an easy job to test such a device as it can be plugged in and unplugged at will. With the Zapperator, the music seems more lifelike and real. The edginess associated with strings becomes subtly more musical, mellow and effortless. **NR**



DETAILS

PRICE: £90
CONTACT:
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WEBSITE:
RUSSANDREWS.COM

OUR VERDICT



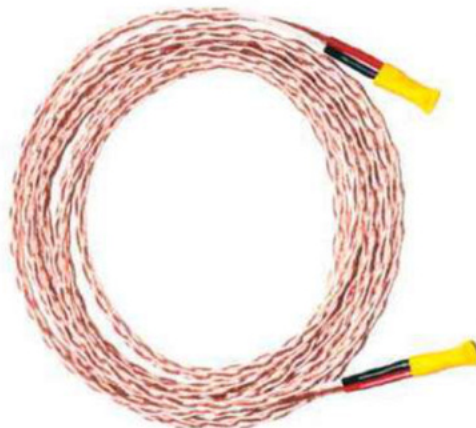
Russ Andrews Kimber 4TC speaker cable

The Kimber 4TC cable from Russ Andrews is one of the most popular in its range. The company states that Kimber's distinctive RFI-cancelling cable weave, together with its VariStrand technology, gives an even frequency balance across the audio spectrum and beyond. VariStrand technology uses seven strands of different diameters of copper in each of the wires, it's said. High-frequency signals travel along the surface of a conductor (the so-called Skin Effect), so Kimber uses several strands of copper in each insulated wire to increase the surface area.

The 4TC cable consists of eight Teflon-covered wires (four clear and four white) containing Kimber's Hyper-pure copper conductors. The cable can be supplied with the ends simply cut and stripped for you to use with your own connectors (as with the review sample) or, at an additional cost, fitted with banana plugs or spade connectors. As with all high-quality cables, these are directional, so the sleeving on each end is printed with an arrow. On a loudspeaker cable, the arrow should point towards your loudspeakers.

Sound quality

During extensive listening tests with these cables, I found bass to be super-tight and punchy, with a smooth and easy top end, which was highly engaging and emotional. Listening to Bach's *B Minor Mass*, all the members of the choir were clearly heard as individuals, rather than a 'choral mush', as it were. In my opinion, these cables are excellent value and offer super sound. **NR**



DETAILS

PRICE: £92 PER
2.5M
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