



NETWORK MUSIC SYSTEM

Marantz NA7004 £600

The world and his wife are offering solutions for music streaming these days, and hi-fi and home cinema aficionado Marantz is no exception. But rather than build a stand-alone music streaming system that is ready to connect directly to a set of speakers, Marantz has taken the separate route of choosing to integrate its network music system into an existing home cinema or hi-fi set-up by leaving out on-board amplification and making it eminently connectable to your existing amplifier.

The familiar 'breeze-block' Marantz build quality makes yet another appearance here, with a reassuringly solid feel that you imagine won't be phased by a knock here and there should you decide to move your NA7004 around your home in the future.

Sonically, the Marantz delivers in spades – even poor quality MP3s become listenable thanks to the

NA7004's M-DAX2 (Marantz Dynamic Audio expander) processing which compensates for any lack of digital information. With other audio sources the NA7004 delivers the goods with taut, well-timed bass and bags of mid-range presence.

It'll play content across your existing network (although it lacks wi-fi, preferring to offer only a wired Ethernet connection) from laptops and desktop PC to NAS (Network Attached Storage) drives alongside the glut of

streaming services out there today such as Napster, BBC iPlayer, Last.fm and their ilk. And as if that wasn't

impressive enough, the NA7004 can be controlled over a network using an iPod Touch or iPhone and has just been upgraded to offer Apple's innovative AirPlay streaming system.

In summary, Marantz's network music streamer might lack wi-fi but excels in every other area and is arguably the most listenable streaming system out there.

www.marantz.com ★★★★★

This is the most listenable streaming system out there



AUDIO EXPANDER: poor quality MP3s are transformed on the Marantz NA7004