

Bryston BCD-1 \$2695

This first CD player from the venerable Canadian company best known for its power amplifiers was like a bolt out of the blue. The BCD-1 delivers a coherent musical presentation in which each instrument is clearly separated from the rest, giving the listener the ability to follow complex arrangements with ease. This resolution, along with the BCD-1's magnificent sense of layering, depth, and space, elevate the BCD-1 above the similarly priced competition. The BCD-1 is also very "clean" sounding, with quick transients, see-through transparency, and dynamic immediacy. The build-quality is outstanding, as are the premium parts inside (fully discrete Class A output stage, for example). It all adds up to one compelling package. (Reviewed by AT in Issue 184)

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