

PRESS RELEASE

QUAD

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Above: Quad S-1 loudspeakers in sapele mahogany finish

S Series Speakers Supply Sumptuous Sonics

Quad's latest loudspeaker range, the S Series, sports a bespoke ribbon tweeter for a spellbindingly sensuous sound

Cambridgeshire, England -- Quad, the distinguished British audio brand, marks its 79th year with an all-new loudspeaker range: the S Series. Each model combines advanced Kevlar-coned bass/midrange drivers with a specially designed ribbon tweeter, supplying effortless sonic expression to capture all the nuances and passion of the original performance.

The range comprises two standmount models (S-1 and S-2), two floorstanders (S-4 and S-5) and a centre speaker for home cinema systems (S-C). Just 285mm high, the S-1 incorporates a 100mm bass/mid cone, while the larger, though still elegantly proportioned, S-2 uses a 125mm bass/mid cone. The two floorstanders sport three-way configurations, coupling a 100mm midrange driver with two 125mm bass drivers in the S-4, and a 125mm midrange driver with two 165mm bass drivers in the S-5. The S-C is a two-way design, incorporating a pair of 100mm bass/mid drivers.

All S Series models sport a bespoke ribbon treble unit, delivering effortlessly extended high frequencies that are audibly superior to those supplied by typical dome tweeters. The use of a ribbon-based driver is not new to Quad; in fact, the company's first loudspeaker was known as the Corner Ribbon, launched in 1949. Back then, ribbon drivers were delicate affairs, easily prone to burning out if overpowered.

The new ribbon unit developed for the S Series is a thoroughly modern affair, utilising the latest techniques and materials. The ribbon itself is a sandwich construction, making it robust enough to handle high-powered amplifiers, and is fully immersed in a powerful magnetic field so that it accomplishes its dual role of being both the voice coil and the sound radiator.

As well as delivering excellent transient response and superb musical detail, the sound from this ribbon unit is smooth right up to the highest musical overtones beyond the limits of human hearing. Controlled directivity maintains this sound quality over a wide horizontal arc to cover all listeners whilst vertical dispersion is tailored to avoid floor and ceiling reflections, resulting in the purest high frequency performance at the listening seat.

This ribbon tweeter is aligned with Quad's Kevlar-coned bass and midrange drivers through sophisticated crossover networks. While the standmount models use carefully tuned, rear-firing reflex ports to augment the bass, the floorstanders are unusual in incorporating three ABRs (Auxiliary Bass Radiators) in place of a port. These passive, rear-firing bass units support the main drivers to extend bass response down to 35Hz whilst maintaining an accurate and articulate rendition of instrument fundamentals.



Above: Quad S-5 in sapele mahogany, front and back. Note the three 165mm ABRs to the rear

Beautifully presented with rounded top edges at the front and rear, each speaker cabinet uses a sandwich construction of alternate layers of MDF and high-density particleboard to reduce panel resonance to below the level of audibility. Aesthetically, the look is classically Quad yet subtly updated, available initially in a choice of black or sapele mahogany wood veneers. These will be joined in the autumn by premium, hand-lacquered piano white and piano black finish options.

Commenting on the design of the S Series, Peter Comeau, Director of Acoustic Design at Quad's parent company IAG, said: "S Series speakers are fashioned to reveal all the delightful inner detail of whatever style of music is played through them, yet exhibit a full and dynamic performance, even from the tiny S-1, that exemplifies Quad's dictum of 'The Closest Approach To The Original Sound'."

Recommended Retail Prices

- S-1: £599.95 per pair
- S-2: £799.95 per pair
- S-4: £1299.95 per pair
- S-5: £1599.95 per pair
- S-C: £499.95

All Quad S Series models are available from mid-July.

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Specifications	S-1	S-2	S-4
Configuration	Two-way standmount	Two-way standmount	Three-way floorstander
Tweeter	12x45mm True Ribbon	12x45mm True Ribbon	12x45mm True Ribbon
Midrange (or bass/mid) driver	100mm woven Kevlar	125mm woven Kevlar	100mm woven Kevlar
Bass drivers	N/A	N/A	125mm woven Kevlar x2
Bass system	Reflex port	Reflex port	125mm ABR x3
Sensitivity (2.83V @ 1m)	84dB	87db	88dB
Recommended amp power	25-100W	25-100W	25-100W
Nominal impedance	8 Ohms	8 Ohms	6 Ohms
Frequency response (+/-3dB)	58Hz ~ 20kHz	48Hz ~ 22kHz	44Hz ~ 23kHz
Bass extension (-6dB)	55Hz	37Hz	37Hz
Crossover frequency	3.2kHz	3kHz	520Hz & 3.9kHz
Cabinet volume	8.15L	10.7L	47L
Dimensions (HxWxD)	285x156x240mm	330x180x260mm	870x180x300mm

Specifications	S-5	S-C
Configuration	Three-way floorstander	Two-way centre speaker
Tweeter	12x45mm True Ribbon	12x45mm True Ribbon
Midrange (or bass/mid) driver	125mm woven Kevlar	100mm woven Kevlar x2
Bass drivers	165mm woven Kevlar x2	N/A
Bass system	165mm ABR x3	Reflex port
Sensitivity (2.83V @ 1m)	90dB	86dB
Recommended amp power	25-100W	25-100W
Nominal impedance	6 Ohms	8 Ohms
Frequency response (+/-3dB)	42Hz ~ 23kHz	65Hz ~ 23kHz
Crossover frequency	570Hz & 3.2kHz	2.8kHz
Bass extension (-6dB)	35Hz	60Hz
Cabinet volume	72.4L	12.8L
Dimensions (HxWxD)	1070x205x330mm	160x400x200mm

QUAD

Of all the British high-end hi-fi brands, Quad boasts the longest and most distinguished history. The company has been at the cutting edge of audio since 1936, continually pushing back the boundaries of performance with technologies both new and established. In 1953, the Quad II valve amplifier was launched, setting new standards for audio amplification, and three years later Quad invented the first full-range electrostatic speaker – later known as the legendary ESL 57.

Throughout the ensuing years, Quad products have continued to win worldwide acclaim, building a reputation for excellence that bears comparison with the most distinguished brands in any field. Quad has been part of the International Audio Group (IAG) since 1998, following its acquisition from the Verity Group (alongside Wharfedale). The company's design and technical support teams and much-admired servicing department continue to be based in Cambridgeshire, England, supported by key personnel who have worked with Quad for decades.

IAG's exceptional resources and unrivalled audio manufacturing facilities ensure that Quad's current range boasts many award-winning products, including the latest generation of ESL electrostatic speakers, class-leading valve amplifiers, dynamic 'box' speakers and a range of solid-state audio electronics that fuse high-end performance with innovative connectivity. 79 years after its formation, Quad continues to be driven by the philosophy of its founder, Peter Walker, to produce "the closest approach to the original sound".

www.quad-hifi.co.uk

IAG

IAG (International Audio Group) is a manufacturer of audio equipment for domestic and professional use, plus professional lighting systems and luxury yachts. With its headquarters and manufacturing facilities in Asia and offices (including R&D) in the UK and North America, IAG is a manufacturer with a truly global reach.

IAG's audio business employs more than 2,000 people worldwide. Its factory complex in China is one of the largest custom-designed consumer electronics manufacturing facilities in the world and benefits from an exceptional level of vertical integration, with all component parts – even the tooling – made in-house. The Group's domestic audio brands – Audiolab, Castle Acoustics, Luxman, Mission, Quad and Wharfedale – all enjoy a worldwide reputation for excellence, with illustrious histories that stretch back decades. Top-class British audio engineering remains critical to these brands, with world-renowned designer Peter Comeau leading an acoustic design team brimming with international talent.

The combination of rich brand heritage, purpose-built production facilities in China and experienced audio engineers from around the globe makes IAG a unique proposition in the world of consumer electronics.

www.iaguk.com



For more information, product samples or high-resolution images, please contact Tim Bower
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