

Monitor Audio Radius RS70 AV-12  
★★★★★ £1650



If that black finish isn't to your liking, there are four other Radius finishes to choose from

**THE RADIUS RANGE** just keeps on giving. We've lost count of how many incarnations we've seen (OK – it's now four), and this latest system is different again.

It's a more substantial (and pricier) set-up than the Radius package that took our Awards 2006 product of the year, though includes that system's RSW12 sub and R225 centre channel.

Monitor Audio says the R225 was designed with this system in mind, and should therefore compliment better still this floorstanding R270 front pair and the larger Rr180 rears. We'll see.

This system undoubtedly scores plenty of style points, with a sleek, svelte appearance that doesn't impose itself like many large systems can. It's also solidly built – right down to the R270's stabilising plinths.

Sonically, the system is massively impressive from the off. With the DTS mix of the *Event Horizon* special edition, the Radius package's strengths play perfectly into the hands of the film.

**FOR**

Open, detailed and dynamic; composed and coherent even when really pushed; smart style and finish; solid build

**AGAINST**

Music performance is good, if not great; not quite the awesome power of the B&Ws

**VERDICT**

Another excellent arrival to the Radius range that excels in delivering a clear, controlled, spacious sound

Brilliantly clear, detailed treble presentation means every subtle, tension-building noise is delivered expertly – in no small part thanks to that R225 centre, which also excels with dialogue. The system's dynamic power also makes the film's big frights suitably hair-raising. The speakers also boast a shark-like clamp when it comes to control of soundtracks, guaranteeing even the liveliest of action scenes remain

**“Serves up a massively open, spacious sound, belying its sleek size”**

coherent and easy on your ears. Integration between the speakers is smooth and effective, ensuring a solid surround soundfield.

**Power and control**

We reach for a classic test disc to see just how good this system really is – *Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers*. Its sweeping orchestral strings and explosive battle scenes demand scale and authority, and this Radius

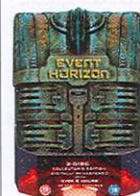
kit delivers, serving up a massively open, spacious presentation belying the size of the speakers.

While it isn't the most refined, natural sound when it comes to music, it's still perfectly listenable thanks to the level of insight and dynamic ability on show.

All the key boxes for movie enjoyment – detail, integration, dynamics and control – are merrily ticked by this confident Radius set-up. It should be seen and heard.

**Test it with**

**Event Horizon: Special Edition**



Despite getting largely lukewarm reviews on its initial release, this sci-fi thriller has picked-up something of a **cult following**. From a home cinema point of view its worth is undoubted. Delivering **detailed, tension-filled** dialogue scenes interspersed with **dynamic, explosive action**, this disc shows the Radius at its best, giving a clear and controlled, yet exciting listen.

**TECH SPECS**

- SYSTEM MAX POWER 100w
- SENSITIVITY 87dB
- IMPEDANCE 8 ohms
- DIMENSIONS FRONT 93 x 12 x 14cm
- CENTRE 12 x 61 x 11cm
- REAR 35 x 12 x 10cm
- SUBWOOFER 34 x 34 x 37cm
- BIWIREABLE NO
- FINISHES 5