

**At home**

Without a suitably bombastic home music system, you will never achieve true happiness. Whether you keep things traditional with physical media or get your digital groove on, both methods of consuming music have significant benefits. Who knows, maybe you could even do both...

## Analogue retention

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At the opposite of the tech scale from the Squeezebox (below) lies this mechanical wonder. The aluminium and plywood **Clearaudio Ambient** (£2630, [www.clearaudio.de](http://www.clearaudio.de)) revels in the quality and potency of analogue recordings – vinyl still sounds better than any other format on the market – and makes far more of a centrepiece to a room than the Squeezebox ever could. Sure, skipping tracks or swapping albums requires standing, walking, lifting and stuff, but there's a certain tactile pleasure to the process, and the sonic rewards far outweigh the inconvenience.

