

FURUTECH

HiFi World (UK) – Destat II review

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SOUNDBITES



FURUTECH DESTAT II £400

Most of us will be familiar with the slight crackle of static electricity as they remove a vinyl record from the plastic inner sleeve, and many will have reached for the Zerostat pistol to cure it. Whilst it goes some way to solving the problem it does not solve it entirely, so I was curious to see what the DeStat II from

Japanese company Furutech could do that was better.

It's a teardrop shaped device that has a fan inside which blows a balanced flow of ions across the item being treated. The combination of both negative and positive ions is claimed to completely remove any static charge from LPs, digital media, as well as cables, sockets and equipment. It is powered by rechargeable batteries and a wall wart type charger is supplied.

Operation is simple. A sliding switch underneath is set for either ten or twenty seconds of treatment, the green button on the top is pressed and the unit is held about 10cm from the item being treated. Having used a Zerostat for years, mostly to keep dust away, but with little noticeable sonic benefit, I was

amazed at the difference in sound from a record after treatment by the DeStat II. The background was obviously quieter and darker, and a lot of what I thought was surface noise *completely* disappeared along with distortions that I had always assumed were due to wear and tear. The music felt more alive and in the room, bass seeming to have more body and depth, better midrange separation, and a smoother extended treble. I liken it to cleaning a particularly grubby pair of glasses and then being able to see textures and detail that was previously obscured. The effect was similar, although less pronounced on CDs, and DVDs acquired better resolution too. At £400 this product is not cheap but it is very effective and a ten second blast of ions has now become a standard part of my music playing routine. Definitely recommended. **TB**

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