

# Atlas Cables

## Element sc USB A-B cable



**AN UPGRADE TO** the Atlas Cables Element USB A-B, the Scottish company now employs solid core conductors in this budget option. The use of poor-quality conductors in a USB cable can result in unwanted effects on the data signal being transmitted, which can lead to data errors that the DAC has to correct.

From its research, Atlas has found that the use of solid core silver-plated copper conductors covered in a low-loss foamed polyethylene dielectric delivers the most consistent performance for data streams. The use of solid core conductors reduces internal data reflections between each strand of each conductor and results in more consistent timing of the data signal along each twisted pair. Simply put, all the data transmitted along the cable reaches the receiver at exactly the same time, reducing jitter and resulting in an improved performance.

In addition, Atlas uses a newly developed triple-screening for the cable, larger power and ground conductors compared with its predecessor, alongside Atlas-designed connectors.

### Hip to be square

To test the cable, I hook up the flat section 'A' USB plug to a Windows 11 PC and the other end – fitted, with the square section 'B' USB plug – to a Furutech ADL Stratos DAC. I am then ready to play the music files stored on my PC through my audio system.

I kick off proceedings with a high-resolution 24-bit/192kHz recording of Lyn Stanley singing

George Gershwin's *The Man I Love*. From the opening bars to the very end, it reveals a great freshness and the quality of the recording on this new big-band release really draws me into the performance.

Another 24-bit/192kHz WAV file of Vivaldi's concerto for violin, strings and harpsichord RV386, played by Interpreti Veneziani, demonstrates the well-defined instrument placement within the soundstage. The clarity of the music is stunning and the performance has excellent realism and musicality.

This is a superb value-for-money, great-quality USB cable for audiophile applications. **NR**

#### DETAILS

**PRICE**  
£52 for 1m

**WEBSITE**  
[atlas-cables.com](http://atlas-cables.com)

#### OUR VERDICT

