

■ Denon D-M41DAB £225

Denon has dominated the micro system category for as long as we can remember, and the D-M41DAB continues its unrivalled reign.

Now with Bluetooth, this system has also dipped in price of late and is looking even better value than ever.

The USB input no longer features, but there are still analogue and digital optical inputs for playing music from external sources. It does, however, mean you won't be able to use a memory stick.

Not backward in coming forward

The whole character of this system was dramatically improved in the last round of changes, giving a pleasingly forward presentation. It's still pleasantly even, but it really throws itself into rhythms with confidence. Dynamics, too, are particularly insightful and expressive.

The drop in sound quality from CD to Spotify stream has no effect on the

D-M41DAB's sonic mastery. The combination of low-end stability and dynamic sensibilities leaves us with a remarkably human performance for a hi-fi system at this price.

The D-M41DAB doesn't quite put its predecessor the D-M40DAB to shame, but it certainly puts it in the shade. It offers a character of performance that could hold its own against groups of separates costing much more.

WHAT HI-FI?
★★★★★
AWARDS 2019

**BEST
MICRO SYSTEM**



This Denon can
hold its own
against separates
that cost far more

You can always upgrade the D-M41DAB by adding your own pair of stereo speakers in place of the supplied pair, but we don't think you'll feel the need - not least because you'd need to spend a fair bit more cash to get a markedly better sound.

The inclusion of Bluetooth is a major plus in this context, but it's the overall integrity of the Denon's sound that seals its Award in this category.