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# CD PLAYERS

For those who stuck by their treasured CD collections, there are plenty of fine players around

**WHAT HI-FI?**  
★★★★★  
**AWARDS 2019**

**BEST CD PLAYER  
UNDER £500**

**PRODUCT OF THE YEAR**

## ■ Marantz CD6006 UK £315



**Continual, clever tweaks** from Marantz have not only kept this remarkable generation of CD players relevant, they've kept it top of the class too. The CD6006 UK first bagged our Product of the Year Award a couple of years ago and a price drop meant that it retained its crown last year; a similar fall in price has meant the same in 2019.

The original, standard CD6006 was also an Award-winner, and we have long praised its solid build and smart finish. The controls work with precision and the transport is impressively quiet. There are machines that cost hundreds of pounds more that don't feel this good to use.

Over the years, there have been improvements to the digital-to-analogue circuitry's power supply and upgrades to

the analogue output stage. That may not sound dramatic, but Marantz has plenty of experience when it comes to making a good product better through tweaking.

It doesn't take hours of comparisons to discover that Marantz's engineers have done a terrific job. The CD6006 UK delivers a crisp, clear and robust sound. As with the standard version, it's worth turning off the digital output and display for serious listening. The presentation just sounds cleaner and more precise.

We load Bruce Springsteen's *Working On A Dream* into the UK Edition's slick drawer and enjoy a full-blooded rendition of *My Lucky Day*. The Marantz punches harder than ever with this track, delivering the song's momentum with considerable skill. The wailing guitars

A price drop ensures that the CD6006 UK retains its crown

come through with power while the Boss's vocals are rendered with all his famed energy and passion. There's plenty of detail and an ability to organise it into a musical and cohesive whole.

*The Planets* by Holst is a tougher test, but one that doesn't faze this player. It takes the wild dynamics of *Mars* in its stride, delivering a full dose of power, scale and drive in the process. The stereo imaging is stable and precise while the player's tonality doesn't stray far from the slightly rounded balance Marantz's products have long had.

Is the CD6006 UK Edition a bargain? We thought so when it originally came out at £450, but now it is available to buy for just £315; that makes it an absolute belter of a bargain, no doubt.