

PLANAR 6 RS EDITION • REGA SPECIAL

The step up weighs six hundred grams less.

Weigh both decks. The senior one is lighter. Everywhere else in this industry, money adds mass. Here it buys mass out: less stored energy, less handed back late as distortion. The Planar 6 RS takes the lightest structure Rega makes, dresses it in the oldest clothes in the catalogue, and hands it the Planar 8's finest instruments.



The Ear Best Buy • April 2026

01

THE POINT

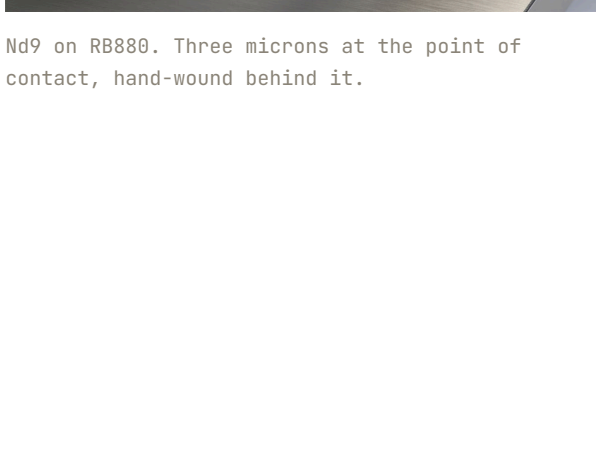
Three microns, and everything behind them

Start where the music does. The tip of the Nd9 is a fine line nude diamond, monocrystalline, grown rather than found, and its minor radius measures three microns from above and thirty in the vertical, which makes the business end of this machine narrower than a blood cell. The whole deck exists to keep an appointment that small.

The rod that carries it is boron, stiffer than steel at a fraction of the weight, so that what the diamond feels arrives at the generator unedited. Behind it sit a neodymium magnet and a new generator geometry, symmetrical, so the two channels balance. Nothing else gets a vote.

Each one is hand-made in Rega's own building, and it arrives on this deck fitted and aligned at the factory: a maker sure enough of its own geometry to close that question before the box is opened, and confident that the buyer's first hour belongs to the music rather than to a protractor.

Rega once titled a book about its turntables A Vibration Measuring Machine, four words that are the whole philosophy. So this page reads the machine the way the machine reads a record. From the point of contact, outward.



Nd9 on RB880. Three microns at the point of contact, hand-wound behind it.



02

THE ARM

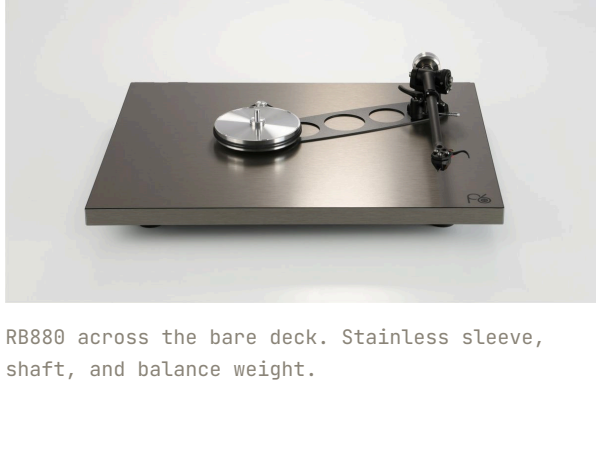
A steady witness

The arm comes down from the Planar 8. The RB880 brings the senior range's habits with it: the vertical bearing housing is aluminium, the sleeve and shaft inside it are machined from stainless steel, and even the balance weight is stainless, custom to this arm.

The bearings are assembled and matched by hand, set for almost frictionless movement with no play worth the name. Rega calls the tube's design intelligent redistribution of mass, which is the whole deck's argument in one part: material exactly where the loads run, and nowhere else.

The cable out is Rega's own, low in capacitance, ending in high-specification plugs, so what the diamond gathered reaches the phono stage untouched. Chain of custody, kept.

An arm has one job, which is to hold the witness still. This one adds no testimony of its own.



RB880 across the bare deck. Stainless sleeve, shaft, and balance weight.



03

THE PLINTH

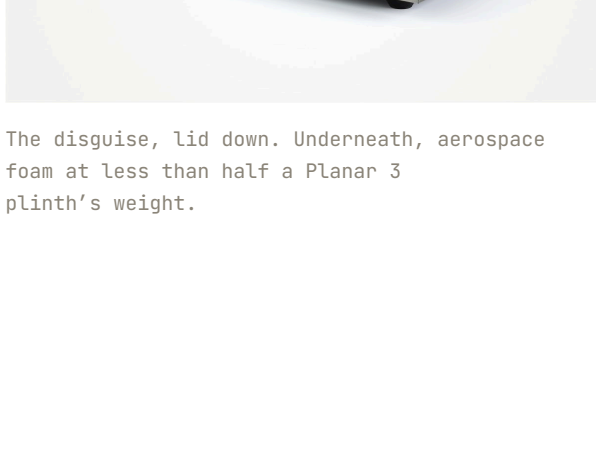
Mostly air, on purpose

Here is where the six hundred grams went. The core of this plinth is Tancast 8, a closed-cell polyurethane foam developed for aerospace work, skinned in the phenolic laminate of Rega's senior decks and faced, for the RS, in brushed aluminium with matching edging.

The result reads like a misprint. This plinth is stiffer than a Planar 3's and weighs less than half as much, because most of what fills it is air, sealed in cells with no mass to store energy and nothing to hand back late. Rega's argument against weight, taken as far as the material allows.

Where stiffness must concentrate, it is added deliberately. Between the tonearm mounting and the main hub bearing runs the double brace, phenolic resin at double thickness exactly where the loads gather, locking the two points that must never move against each other into one stressed beam.

And the whole of it hides in plain sight, inside the rectangle and hinged dustcover Regas have worn since the seventies: the most conventional silhouette in the range, drawn over the most radical structure Rega fits to a full plinth, aerospace foam doing wood's old job. The disguise holds until you pick the deck up.



The disguise, lid down. Underneath, aerospace foam at less than half a Planar 3 plinth's weight.



04

THE DRIVE

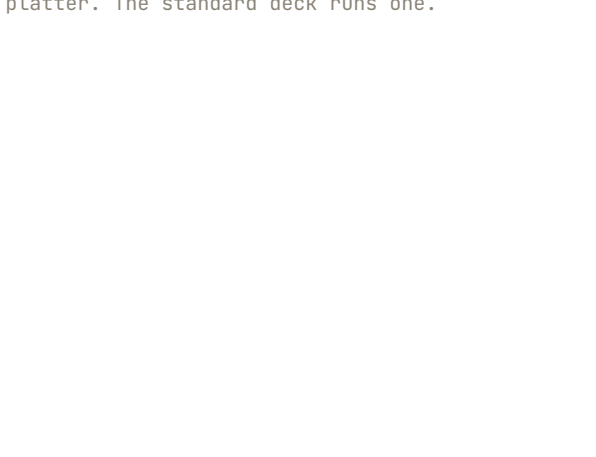
Two belts, one speed

The motor is the quiet kind, a 24-volt synchronous unit hand-tuned to the individual Neo Mk2 it ships with, its anti-vibration circuit set for that motor alone.

From there, the RS doubles its grip. A CNC-machined twin pulley turns the aluminium sub-platter through two Reference EBLT belts where the standard deck runs one, splitting the load and averaging the pull, so the platter is pushed steadily from two lines at once and a flaw in either belt is halved before it can reach the music.

Above them sit sixteen millimetres of dual-layer float glass, opti-white and clear, flat because float glass cannot help being flat, inert mass exactly where spin turns it into stability. Speed changes electronically and trims in steps of a hundredth of a turn.

Speed error is the distortion the ear forgives last. This deck holds its tempo with both hands.



Twin Reference EBLT belts on the aluminium sub-platter. The standard deck runs one.



05

THE ARITHMETIC

Twenty-five pounds, itemised

For once, read the price with the parts list open. A standard Planar 6 is £1,280, and it arrives without a cartridge; the Nd9 fitted here is £695 on its own. That is £1,975 before anyone has touched the arm. And the Planar 6 RS Edition is £2,000, complete, fitted, and aligned.

Which prices the RB880 at twenty-five pounds. A £765 arm. The Ear ran the same sum inside its Best Buy review and reached the same conclusion. Rega designs and builds the deck, the arm, and the cartridge in its own buildings, which is how the price of the whole comes to undercut the sum of its parts.

And the sum cannot be assembled any other way. Rega does not offer the RB880 on a standard Planar 6, nor the Nd9 as its factory option: the combination exists only here, boxed as one decision, with a smoked dustcover over it and a lifetime warranty under it.

Twenty-five pounds for the Planar 8's arm: the manufacturer showing its working.

SPECIFICATION

The numbers worth stating.

And the two that are not, left out on purpose. Still.

TO NEARM	Hand-assembled precision RB880 • aluminium vertical bearing housing • stainless-steel sleeve, shaft, and balance weight • hand-matched bearings • Rega low-capacitance cable
CARTRIDGE	Rega Nd9, factory-fitted and aligned • moving magnet, neodymium • fine line nude monocrystalline diamond, minor radius 3 µm • boron cantilever • tracking force 1.75 g
DRIVE	13 24 V low-noise motor, hand-tuned to its Neo Mk2 • CNC twin pulley • two Reference EBLT belts • aluminium sub-platter
SPEEDS	33 / and 45 RPM, electronic change • fine adjustment in 0.01 RPM steps
PLINTH	Tancast 8 aerospace foam core • HPL skins • brushed-aluminium face and edging • double-brace stressed beam
PLATTER	16 mm dual-layer float glass, opti-white clear
POWER	Neo Mk2 PSU • 24 V AC • 7.2 W
DIMENSIONS	447 × 117 × 360 mm, lid closed • 5.4 kg • Neo 180 × 150 × 50 mm
PRICE	£2,000 complete: deck, RB880, and Nd9, aligned at the factory
DUSTCOVER	Smoked, hinged, supplied as standard
WARRANTY	Lifetime, against manufacturing defects
WOW & FLUTTER, RUMBLE	Not published. Still. Judge it by ear, not by brochure.

THE VERDICT

From people who are not Rega

The verdicts arrived quickly. Within a month of launch The Ear had made it a Best Buy, Jason Kennedy reaching outside the family for his comparison: "it's like an SME with vitality".

AVForums titled its review after a fast Ford in plain clothes and judged this the most Rega-sounding turntable the company has ever made. Its verdict: the deck takes the standards set by the Planar 3 RS and "leaves them in the dust".

Sound Advice heard something "greater than the sum of those impressive parts" and watched the deck draw a huge share of the Nd9's potential. It also settled a smaller question: this is the last rung of the Rega ladder with a complete hinged lid. Hi-Fi+ followed in June.

The Ear Best Buy • April 2026	AV Forums "The Rega Cossie" • April 2026	Sound Advice Reviewed • May 2026	Hi-Fi+ Reviewed • June 2026
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For fifty years Rega has taken weight out of record players and been told, politely, that the market prefers its machines heavy. This deck is that argument carried to the limit of the material. Six hundred grams lighter than the deck below. Every gram left is working. **What is left is the music.**

- Find a Rega dealer
- Download the manual

The Engine Room

PRODUCTION NOTES • FIRST PRESSING • NATHANIEL ROBERTSON • THREE LIONS ENGLISH GBR

ARCHETYPE & STRATEGY Magician forward, Creator second, Sage engine, Outlaw held to one appearance. A maker's brand, making a transformation argument: air made structural, weight made optional, a classic chassis carrying senior instruments. The calibration is grounded in Jung's account of the archetype as a form that organises perception, not a costume (Collected Works 91): the Magician appears as engineering shown transforming, never as magic claimed. The conceit. The senior deck weighs less. Every section spends that paradox, and the page reads the machine the way the machine reads a record: from three microns of diamond, outward.	METHOD Ogilvy's fact-engine. One concrete, sourced figure per section: three microns at the stylus, a plinth under half a Planar 3's weight, two belts where the standard deck runs one, a £765 arm priced at £25 by subtraction anyone can check. Sutherland's psycho-logic. Heaviness is the category's costliest signal; Rega charges for its removal, the costlier signal because it asks the buyer to understand why. Scarcity is engineering-led: the configuration cannot be ordered any other way. Measurement, played straight. Wow and flutter remain unpublished, and remain respected.	VERACITY LEDGER VERIFIED Every figure re-traced on 2 July 2026 to Rega's product page or a named 2026 review: The Ear (Best Buy, April), AVForums (April), Sound Advice (May), Hi-Fi+ (June, listed by Regal). Quotes verbatim, one per source. VERIFIED Prices as reported by The Ear, April 2026: £2,000 complete, £1,280 standard deck, £695 Nd9, £765 RB880. The £25 subtraction reproduced and checked. NOT REPEATED One outlet expands RS as Reference Standard; Rega says Rega Special. Rega's own review wall misdates The Ear to 2025; the review is April 2026. FLAGGED "Narrower than a blood cell" is an illustrative comparison; the three-micron figure is Rega's. "Grown rather than found" renders Rega's "manmade" monocrystalline diamond. HELD BACK What Hi-Fi? has previewed the deck but not yet reviewed it. No badge borrowed from the Planar 3 RS, none invented. Hi-Fi+ appears as a date, not a quote, because its verdict text could not be verified.
THE SYSTEM The B2C page in a set of three. Rega for the consumer, Remote for business, Neural AI for government. One discipline across all three: the headline states the finding, each section turns on one sourced figure, and the voice is the client's own. Here the page reads the machine the way the machine reads a record, from three microns of diamond outward, and the close contracts onto the noun the page exists to serve: the music.	CRAFT METRICS Burstiness (CV) 0.74, inside the long-form band of 0.70–0.80. Mean sentence 17.5 words, median 12.5, range 3–53, across 62 sentences. Lag-1 autocorrelation –0.11: long and short interleaved, not clustered. The page breathes: hero dek on an expansion run (3, 5, 8, 14, 27), close on a contraction (22, 12, 8, 5, 6). One Ballardism, the appointment at the stylus, kept deliberately small. Widow pass run on the final render: no paragraph ends on a single word.	LEXICON & PUNCTUATION British spelling throughout. Oxford commas. Spaced en dashes, zero em dashes. Cringe-list register: clean. Quotes sacred, verbatim, one per source.