



RCTEL

RCTEL  
7000 INTEGRATED AMP FOR TAP1002

PROGRAM  
TAP1  
TAP2

LISTENING  
AUX  
TAP1EX  
TAP2EX



# Rotel RA 1062 Integrated Amplifier

by Jason Hector

What do we look for when buying a component? Good sound at the price is a given but what about features, build quality, reliability and a reputable brand? They all count for something but it is very rare to find one product that encapsulates them all. The Rotel RA1062 is that rare beast, being pretty much all things to all people. It is a powerful but subtle, full featured but audio tweaked integrated amplifier from a brand renowned for its reliably musical, budget sector products.

Look at the feature list and it is hard to think of anything that has been missed off. The RA1062, like the 1060 before it, features separate listen and record selectors, two tape loops, remote control of all major functions, a contour (read tone) control that can be turned off, a balance control and a headphone output. The 1062 has even gained a moving magnet phono-stage and some lovely blue LED's.

Good points from the audiophile perspective are that circuit layouts are symmetric and feature metal film resistors and polystyrene or polypropylene capacitors in the signal path. The amplifier also sports a large and heavy in-house designed toroidal transformer followed by a T-network capacitor. This combination forms a low impedance, highly regulated power supply to help the amplifier's dynamic capabilities.

The fit and finish is excellent and again would put many more expensive products to shame. All of the controls feel solid and weighty and the product is a joy to use.

Sound wise the Rotel, far from announcing itself, simply got on with the job of driving the speakers and propelling

music into my listening room. Totally rhythmically committed, the sound was emotionally charged in just the way the flat-earther in me likes. Yet this amplifier also has a surprisingly effective presentation of spatial cues and instrument timbre.

In my review of the 1062, I spent a lot of time on its failings. Don't let that mislead you. What is important is that while you can better its performance by spending (considerably) more, the Rotel does get most things right.

Throughout my time with it, it never failed

to make entertaining music. A friend has one at home driving a pair of old Acoustic Energy AE1's and it makes a great sound. The speakers and CD player will be changed before the amplifier.

It's great to see that Rotel have managed to take an already good product in the 1060 and improve it

considerably, both in sound and features, while keeping the price static. I think you would have to spend well in excess of £1000 to significantly better the RA1062.

This product deserves this award because it is something the industry sadly lacks and needs more of – a high quality, good value product you can live with. Just make sure you treat it to a decent source and speakers and sit back and enjoy.



**Price:** £595.00

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