

It was while browsing the aisles of the Noir Et Blanc trade fair in Brussels a while ago that we came across this elegant and rather affordable piece of furniture. Back home, we sent a message to the manufacturer, who kindly lent us a sample. They did well, because we really liked it.

lenQ is a product designed and developed in the Netherlands. It is first and foremost the result of a successful design, but also the combination of thoughtful design and the use of high-quality materials such as bamboo plywood and fiberglass columns. This creates a structure that is both rigid and lightweight. All the tests we have carried out over the years have shown us that solid wood or wood-based shelves 'sound' more natural than alternatives made of glass or MDF.

We were also impressed by the eco-responsible approach of the Dutch brand, which has chosen to use only sustainable materials with the lowest possible carbon footprint. Even in the production of carbon fiber tubes, efforts have been made to take this aspect into account.

To make the plywood, the bamboo strips are cooked, which stabilizes the natural color. This material is then cut on a CNC machine. The top is then covered with a scratch-resistant polyurethane coating, making





ORIGIN Netherlands

PRICE

€ 999 (1-4 complete with 4 platforms)

DIMENSIONS

600 x 400 x 25 mm (shelf)

HEIGHT

800 mm (model tested)

1 x 60 mm 2 x 190 mm

1 x 240 mm

it waterproof, seamless, wear-resistant and dirtresistant. The platforms measure 600 x 400 x 25 mm. For the columns, PlenQ uses genuine carbon-reinforced fiberglass, such as 3K fabric. The columns are connected by a threaded rod in a custom-made aluminum part anchored in the column. With PlenQ, there are no visible screws, bolts, springs, washers or nuts: everything fits together perfectly. The columns have a diameter of 25 mm and are available in 4 heights: 60, 130, 180 and 240 mm.

For all metal parts, PlenQ uses only black anodized 6061 aluminum, as used in racing bikes. These parts are custom-made, and the upper parts are flush-mounted, elegantly embedded in the upper platform. The shelves have two original cut-outs on their rear side. This allows cables to be concealed and, above all, cleverly separates the power cables from the signal cables. The cut-outs are well designed and allow for the passage of larger connectors and thicker cables.

INSTALLATION

The simplicity of the design makes installation extremely easy. It will take you no more than fifteen minutes to assemble your unit completely. In practice, it easily accommodates most of the equipment available. In addition, the cable management system is extremely practical to use.

SOUND

PlenQ strives to be as transparent as possible in terms of the environment, and it is equally transparent in terms of sound. The bamboo/carbon fiber combination is extremely effective in this regard. Many cabinets impose a coloration on your system's reproduction. This can be elegant or unpleasant, but it is often there, unless you opt for high-performance (but inevitably more expensive)





models such as the excellent Centaure. Used with a system we know inside out, the PlenQ did not betray its presence when listening, except to offer a very natural range of tones and lively, spontaneous dynamics. The manufacturer makes a big deal about its stand's ability to perfectly dissipate resonance. We totally agree with them. The PlenQ stand is not at all ostentatious, but it provides the system with a stable foundation that allows it to express itself without the slightest harshness and with excellent melodic contrast.

OUR CONCLUSION

This attractive cabinet, which combines elegant design and delicate musicality, is a wonderful discovery. You can customize it to suit your needs by mixing and matching the different tube heights. We appreciate its attractive acoustic performance combined with its discreet and very successful aesthetics. A pleasant European discovery that combines technology and ethics.

