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## High Fidelity Cables Reveal Series – Full Loom Edition

📅 November 24, 2018 👤 Siao Jer 📌 Cables 🗨️ Reviews 💬 0 Comment 🏷️ Full Loom Series 📂 High Fidelity Cables 📁 Reveal Series



The High Fidelity Cables's Reveal line has gotten a lot of attention – particularly for its notably high performance-to-price ratio. Although considered their “entry-level” cables, it’s a bit of a misnomer as some audiophiles preferred their Reveal line over some of their “higher-end” offerings. Apparently, many customers have also taken them up on [their trade-in program](#) – trading in their much pricer cables for a piece of this magnetic conduction technology.

*“Magnetic Conduction, is a patented method of building conductors. It utilizes magnetic fields through permanent magnets to control the electrons. It reverses the B-field direction and causes electrons to center into the middle of cable.”*


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More is explained on High Fidelity Cables' website [www.highfidelitycables.com](http://www.highfidelitycables.com).

We really enjoyed the [Reveal Interconnects \(RCA & XLR\)](#). It's a favorite when it comes to value. The [Reveal BNC cable](#) also received our "Best in Class" award a few months ago. For me, it brought a level of solidity and body that was missing at the time. And during testing of various iterations for [The Linear Solutions OXCO Audiophile Switch](#), I was utterly surprised by how much impact the High Fidelity Reveal Power Cable impacted the results. The Reveal power cord will be part of a larger review piece in the upcoming months.

Inspired by what was heard, I was able to put together a full loom of the High Fidelity Cables Reveal cables. This episode of the Full Loom Series will include the HFC Reveal series XLR interconnects, speaker cables, and power cables for the major components. Before we jump into the details of the system synergy, check out Audio Bacon's summary of HFC's magnetic conduction theory [here](#).

## The Cables



Physically, the cables are quite a sight – and not quite something you could DIY. It's thin with some gorgeous braided material topped with a clear lacquer type material. It's fairly flexible, but maybe not as much as you might think for a cable so thin.

There are multiple huge oval egg-shaped magnets in the middle of it that presumably drives the magnet conduction. One thing we did observe with the cable, particular for the XLR and power cables is that there may be a "twist game" involved to maneuver the plugs in the right place. It might require one to plan a bit more length because of the orientation of the cables.

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Siao Jer on Best Headphone Cable for the Focal Utopia? I Like the Danacable Lazuli Reference

commentator on SOtM dCBL-CAT7 Audiophile Ethernet Cable Review

Howard on The Audiophile's Short List – The Best Digital Coaxial Cables



We enjoy the solidity and flexibility of the design. They are sturdy and snap into place firmly. Also, the magnet will be heavy, so it'll weigh down a little if you're running it laterally across certain a rack. Lastly, it's important to note that these cables are **designed to be directional**. You'll be able to note the source or destination end on the plug ends.

### Break-in Period

Magnetic conduction requires much more time to break-in over your typical audiophile cable. Our impressions were done after four weeks of break-in – about 800 hours. High Fidelity Cables recommends about *double* this amount of time. This is because these cables need more time to “magnetize” all of the connected components as well.

Due to system flux of this reviewer's system, this was the maximum amount of time we were able to allocate before evaluation.

### So what could you expect at around 1,500 hours?

Rick Schultz, founder and lead designer of High Fidelity Cables, has mentioned it'll still sound superb but a full loom break-in is from 1,000 to 1,500 hours.

*At that point, the full potential of the loom, and the intended sonic signature is unleashed. In other words – it gets better. Upper-end extension and overall clarity as well as a sense of “air.” The cable starts to become more transparent and lose that midrange bloom. It becomes very linear and musical.*

The beauty is that you don't have to “start over” if you were to unplug the cables – give it another 50-100 hours and you're back in business. You're essentially able to break-in the cables where you left off.

### The System

High Fidelity Cables always have a place in our systems. Sometimes it's the power conditioner, other times it's a power cable or an interconnect for some specific component. While the [Reveal interconnects](#) have been covered in the past, this particular piece is focused on how all these cables sound holistically.

- **Power Conditioning:**

- A single [High Fidelity Cables MC-0.5](#) was plugged into the same duplex as the power conditioner. The new MC-1 Pro is also used in lieu during testing.
- The Synergistic Powercell PC12SE with the [Galileo upgrade](#) and upgraded to the Blue Duplexes, connected to an SR Blue Outlet.
- Where applicable, devices were connected to the [Synergistic Research Active Ground Block SE](#) with HD grounding cables (RCA).

- **Source:**

- Lumin S1 Streamer/DAC
  - Ethernet: [SOTM dBL-CAT7 ethernet cable](#), Synergistic Research Atmosphere X Ethernet Reference
  - Power: High Fidelity Cables Reveal Power Cable
  - Isolation: [Synergistic Research Tranquility Base UEF XL](#)

- **Preamplifier:**

- PS Audio BHK Signature Preamp
  - Interconnects: [HFC Reveal XLR](#)
  - Power: High Fidelity Cables Reveal Power Cable

- **Amplifier:**

- PS Audio BHK Signature 250 Stereo Amp
  - Interconnects: High Fidelity Cables Reveal XLR cables
  - Power: High Fidelity Cables Reveal Power Cable

- **Speakers:**

- B&W 804D2
  - Speaker cables: High Fidelity Cables Reveal Speaker Cables

- **Network:**

- Router/Switch: TP-Link CR1900 Cable Modem Router, The Linear Solution OXCO switch with their LPS
- Ethernet: SOTM dCBL-CAT7 set, Synergistic Research Atmosphere X Reference Ethernet cable set
- Power: [SOTM SPS-500 Power Supply](#) (Vovox Textura Power Cord)
- Roon Nucleus with 2TB SSD (standard wallwort adapter)

As in our other posts in this series, a full loom consists of power cords for the main components, the use of XLR connecting the source, preamp, and amp, and speaker cables to the B&W 804D2 loudspeakers. The [Synergistic Research PowerCell 12](#) has its own unique Neutrik connector, so we use the Galileo cable that came with the upgrade. If a manufacturer has a corresponding ethernet cable, we will use that too. Lastly, tracks are all local files on the Roon Nucleus with a minimum resolution of 44.1kHz / 16bit in FLAC format.

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November 24, 2018 Siao Jer Cables Reviews 0 Comment Full Loom Series High Fidelity Cables Reveal Series



### Listening Impressions

安德烈波伽利 Andrea Bocelli & 張惠妹 aMEI - If Only (MV)

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It's been over 14 years since Andrea Bocelli released new original material. Nearing 60 years old, the huff in Andrea Bocelli's voice is still present in the track. With the HFC Reveal Full Loom, there's a more naturalistic and tangible quality. It allows Andrea to show he's still capable hitting those highs while preserving the right balance of warmth and presence.

The cables also reveal (pun intended) good separation between his and aMEI's vocals. aMEI is incredibly smooth and seductive, especially during her solo verse. With a melody that reminds me a bit of his famous duet with Celine Dion, *The Prayer*, the piano is palpable and the violins simply sing with tuneful concord. Instead of sounding mechanical or sterile, the Reveal loom promotes a more resonant and euphoric sound.

### Lianne La Havas - Green & Gold (Official ...



The Reveals have a wonderful tube-like bloom in the presentation. It's something you can really sit back and enjoy. It's evident in Lianne La Havas' vocals in *Green & Gold*. The smooth and relaxed nature reminds me of the character that Purist Audio Designs and Shunyata bring to their cables - with its own tonal flavors.

The electric guitar rolls off with a seamless roundness while the bass is noticeably tighter and deeper. Cymbals are light but well separated. The horns kick in with a warm and textured character. I think I'm ready to lay back on my couch and enjoy a good single malt with this one.

### Kamasi Washington - Fists of Fury





One of the concerns going into this review was the curiosity of how having a full loom would sound in regards to some of the notes heard in the [HFC MC-0.5](#) review. Would using more magnetic conduction be better, or come with some caveats? Fortunately, there does not seem to be any loss of warmth or sense that the music sounded “stretched”. In fact, it’s quite the opposite. The sound of the full loom is relaxed and laid back, but still very dynamic.

Some may prefer a sound more forward and with more treble energy and air, but the HFC Reveal sound has that “just right” grounded sense. It always remains “musical.” This is evident in Kamasi Washington’s *Fist of Fury*. Cameron Graves’ piano is dynamic and fast in its leading edges. This provides a beautiful contrast to Miles Mosley’s heavy and pacing electric bass before Kamasi’s relaxed and rhythmic sax kicks in. The Reveal loom just has a way of drawing you into the music – and keeping you engaged.



Lastly, not so much of a listening impression as a note about the HFC Reveal loom. In the course of our listening and running through iterations, we do observe that the HFC cables do generally *play nice with other cables* – which is great. The impacts and listening impressions we notice do seem to reverberate when used as a singular piece.

The degree of impact can vary depending on the component used. For example, in testing with the [Linear Solutions OXCO Switch](#), we notice the same impact whether the HFC power cable was used with the switch or the LPS for the router. The cable's influence was more pronounced with the switch than the router, but that character still carried through.



## Loom Comparative Impressions

Keep in mind, the High Fidelity Cables Reveal series represents a different price point compared to our last two reviews of the Synergistic Research and Audience full loom. A full loom for the High Fidelity Cables setup will start at an MSRP somewhere around \$7,800 while the other two looms start at a minimum of \$18,000. It's not quite apples to apples, but it shows what a value this HFC loom can represent.

Also, HFC recommends over ~1,500 hours of break-in to really open up and tighten the sound. We were only able to get around 800 hours so our impressions will be based upon that.



The [Synergistic Research Excite Series full loom](#) represents a live experience that seems to bring you to the front row. However, there are similarities in the warmth and dynamics to the HFC loom. The presentation of the HFC loom isn't quite as forward, nor is the soundstage as wide – but it strikes a nice balance. In this respect, the HFC is more similar to the Audience Au24 SX loom – especially in the case of depth and stage proximity.

The Audience loom also brings more focus, detail, and defined outlines which contrast the smoother, warmer-colored, tube-like bloom that the HFC brings. This bloom supposedly tightens up with a further break-in of the HFC loom. In any case, personal preference probably applies here.

The HFC loom's character seems to have been voiced by prioritizing tone and melody – which is desirable by many. Somewhat arbitrary, but from a *technical perspective*, the sense is that with the High Fidelity Reveals, you're getting 80%, 85% of the qualities that you'd get from the higher-priced cables, but at 40% of the price tag. You get a lot of what's "right" with the other looms — especially in the body, dynamics, and tonal contrast.

The HFC loom doesn't offer up as much of resolution, air, and treble presence as the other two looms – which could be due to the insufficient amount of break-in. But I'm sure *many* will find it equally as enjoyable as the other looms – and may even prefer the HFC loom due to the complete absence of fatigue alone.



## Concluding Commentary

At the beginning and end of every listening sessions the words “Sounds great!” were pronounced out loud. The full loom of High Fidelity Cables Reveals provides a sound that is dynamic, wholesome, and naturally toned. It’s also smooth and relaxed with an organic palpability.

I’ve gotten quite familiar with the High Fidelity Cables Reveal line, so these findings weren’t necessarily a complete surprise. If anything, it reaffirms my opinion on what an incredible value the Reveal line brings to the audiophile table. Aside from a full loom, these cables sound fantastic as standalone components and seem to, without exception, elevate anything it’s connected to.

This is great if you’re looking to progressively dial in a system – and upgrade over time. As mentioned, these impressions aren’t even with the recommended amount of break-in of ~1,500 hours – where the loom will further improve in the form of more air, clarity, transparency, extension, and overall tonal balance.

In essence, the High Fidelity Cables Reveal series will warm up the color and add a sense of body without detracting some of the other positive attributes you’ve built up in your system. With various components ranging from \$699 to \$1,299, the High Fidelity Cables Reveals continues to punch way above its weight. In addition, its sonic signature continues to be an audiophile favorite – making the Reveals a *really* easy recommendation.

Check out their entire line of products [here](#).



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