



BRITISH

GENTLEMEN'S QUARTERLY

APRIL  
2015  
£3.99

YEEEE HA!

# WILL FERRELL COMEDY COWBOY!

## He's even more of a big deal

BY STUART MCGURK  
PHOTOGRAPHED BY GAVIN BOND

COMMENT

### WALL STREET CRASH

## Rupert Murdoch's happy accident

BY MICHAEL WOLFF

# Plus! The 2015 GQ Car Awards!

SEX

## HUNG JURY

### The rise and rise of penoplasty

(Or why no  
man needs an  
extra inch)

BY TONY PARSONS

MONEY

## THE £10 BILLION POSSE

### Meet Britain's notorious hedge funders

BY CHARLIE BURTON

#LOL

## THE FAT JEWISH

### Instagram's comedy superstar

BY JOHN NAUGHTON





**1** Executive USB Portable Turntable by Crosley

Crosley sells itself on portability – this turntable sits inside a compact suitcase with built-in speakers (though it can also connect to external ones) – and old-school looks. On both counts it delivers handsomely, though we did hope it would feel less plasticky. You may not be able to shut the lid while playing music, but for a fun, inexpensive product it's spot on. £73. [crosleyradio.com](http://crosleyradio.com)

**Win:** Affordable; retro looks; studio-grade sound  
**Fail:** Plasticky

★★★★☆

**2** RP3 by Rega

With a design that bites its thumb at anyone who calls it old-fashioned, the Rega would easily be the joint winner except one of the aspects we love about USB systems is that they usually bundle the computer ports and pre-amp into the turntable itself. Rega, however, requires putting an inconvenient "phono stage" box between deck and speakers. £475. At [harrowaudiohifi.co.uk](http://harrowaudiohifi.co.uk)

**Win:** High performance; clear sound  
**Fail:** Extra box for USB connectivity

★★★★★

**3** Essential II Phono USB by Pro-Ject

This is a brilliant turntable with a full sound, but its Achilles heel is that the clip-together mains adapter easily comes apart. Otherwise this has plenty going for it, including a minimalist design, an anti-skating system and impressive shock absorbance. The external belt-drive, however, will divide users: is this analogue at its analogue best? Or is it simply a faff? £261. [project-audio.com](http://project-audio.com)

**Win:** Fullest sound  
**Fail:** Plug problems

★★★★★★

**4** Vinylplay by Flexson

A good, all-round turntable that's sold as a companion to the Sonos multi-room streaming system and has design cues to match. On the downside, the counterweight is tough to adjust and changing the platter's speed requires removing the turntable and altering the belt drive. We expect more for our money. £330. [flexson.com](http://flexson.com)

**Win:** Sonos-compatible  
**Fail:** Fiddly to adjust speed

★★★★★

**5** TN-300 by Teac

This is the most stylish of the group and also has some nice points of difference: rubber feet on the underside of the lid prevent it slamming and making the record skip; likewise, the heavy MDF platter wards off annoying resonances. As the RPM setting is electronic, though, we'd have liked it to offer all three possible speeds rather than merely two. £299. At [AudioVisualOnline.com](http://AudioVisualOnline.com)

**Win:** Smart design  
**Fail:** Two-speed set-up

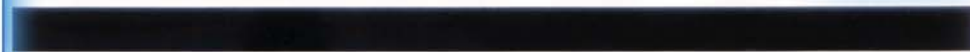
★★★★★★




**How we tested:**  
We plugged the turntables directly into a pair of **Ruark MR1** active speakers for a simple yet rich-sounding set-up. £300. [ruarkaudio.com](http://ruarkaudio.com)

The BREAKDOWN

	Crosley	Rega	Pro-Ject	Flexson	Teac
Dimensions (w x d x h)	356 x 305 x 127mm	445 x 360 x 115mm	420 x 330 x 112mm	540 x 430 x 190mm	420 x 341 x 119mm
Weight	3.2kg	5.6kg	4.1kg	4.8kg	4.8kg
Number of speeds	Three	Two	Two	Two	Two



## 5 TN-300 by Teac

This is the most stylish of the group and also has some nice points of difference: rubber feet on the underside of the lid prevent it slamming and making the record skip; likewise, the heavy MDF platter wards off annoying resonances. As the RPM setting is electronic, though, we'd have liked it to offer all three possible speeds rather than merely two.  £299. At *AudioVisual Online*.

*audiovisualonline.co.uk*

**Win: Smart design**

**Fail: Two-speed set-up**

★★★★★★★★☆