



VALHALLA 2

Reference Cables

Chasing the Voodoo Down

Redefining reference standards once again...

When the original Valhalla cables were released in 2001 it changed our ideas of what was possible. Valhalla provided proof that cables could improve the musical performance of a Hi-Fi system profoundly. Universally praised by reviewers around the world, it set a new standard for cables against which all others have been measured – and consequently found wanting. Valhalla became the benchmark of cable performance. It emphasized the importance of cables like never before.

With the introduction of the Valhalla 2 cable series, the bar has been raised yet again. Audiophiles will be amazed and delighted by the performance of this groundbreaking range of cables. Nordost is the only cable manufacturer that has the technical resources to produce products like these.

Committed to research.... serious about sound

Ever since Nordost was first founded, we have been accumulating a wealth of proprietary knowledge, allowing us to make truly great cables. Nordost has been seriously committed to research and development for many years. In addition to our own internal R&D studies, we use independent contractors. A number of years ago we embarked on an extensive project with Acuity (a UK signal research facility), to measure and verify the improvements that listeners hear when applying cables to audio systems. The

results of this research have given birth to new technologies such as the H.O.L.O.P.L.U.G.™.



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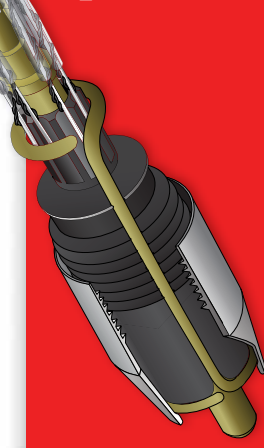
HOLO:PLUG™

COMPLETING THE CONNECTION

The HOLO:PLUG™ is a patent pending connector designed to be the best possible interface between the cable and component. It maintains perfect signal integrity throughout the system that can be measured and quantified. Designed to transfer every last nuance of detail, the HOLO:PLUG™ is a miracle of mechanical and electrical integrity. Each connector is designed to work at maximum efficiency in its particular application. The HOLO:PLUG™ imparts a 3D or holographic image to the musical performance.

The HOLO:PLUG™ is a very different design from that of a conventional phono plug. It features a unique dual low mass ring design to facilitate "asymmetrical balanced" cables.

Each connector has unique attributes that optimize power and signal transmission.



HOLO:PLUG™ technology is available in the following products:

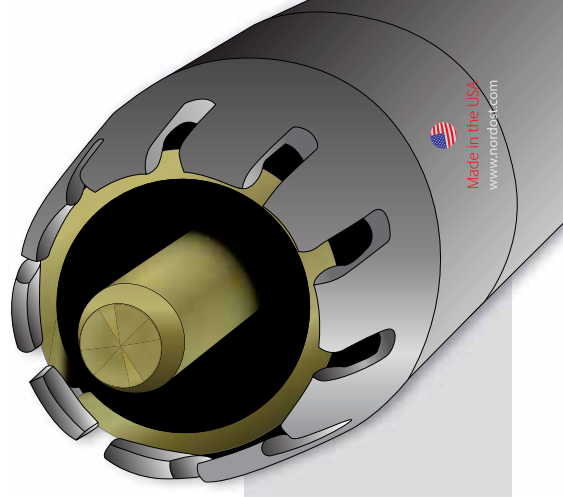
- Valhalla 2 analog cables use RCA/phono plugs and XLR Balanced connectors.
- Loudspeaker cables use HOLO:PLUG™ spade connectors.
- V2 power cords use HOLO:PLUG™ carbon fiber IEC and US or SCHUKO wall plugs.

The male HOLO:PLUG™ XLR connector uses gold plated solid brass alloy pins. It is tuned for optimum mechanical performance to reduce vibration and unwanted resonances.

The female HOLO:PLUG™ XLR connector uses gold plated brass alloy hollow pins. It is designed to reduce non-conductive elements when mated to a male chassis mounted connector.

HOLO:PLUG™ Features

- Solid Core Bronze Alloy pin plated with 85 microns of gold
- Low mass, dual ring design
- Triple plating process
- Front ring with multiple redundant contact points
- Vibration control
- Proprietary rear ring termination to improve grounding
- 360 degree contact mating surface to minimize eddy currents
- Made in the USA



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Not just one good idea... many great ideas.

The strength of Nordost products is that they are not based on just one good idea but many great ideas. Valhalla 2 cables incorporate all of them.

- The V2 cables use Dual Mono-Filament technology to achieve the most effective insulation method in the industry. This complex construction combines the very best available FEP insulation material in a virtual-air construction. This achieves minimum insulation contact and excellent mechanical damping.
- The V2 conductors are made with an extremely pure, solid copper core, plated with 85 Microns of silver.
- Nordost manufacturing techniques include the use of extruded FEP in a precisely spaced and dimensioned tube for signal cables.
- Superior geometry and consistency in conductor spacing.
- Terminated by hand in our US factory using HOLO-PLUG™ technology.
- V2 provides solutions for each and every application; a continuous, coherent, technological and material link.



Dual Mono-Filament Technology

Power Cord

Valhalla 2 Power Cords set the same benchmark standard in their category as the other Valhalla cables do in theirs. But thanks to the application of our latest Dual Mono-Filament technology they enjoy an even bigger margin of performance over the competition. The cable consists of 7 solid silver plated 16 AWG OFC conductors, each suspended in a Dual Mono-Filament matrix. The separate solid core conductors eliminate strand interaction, hot spots, and carbonization, which can occur in stranded cables. Unlike conventional power cables,

which have propagation speeds that are less than 50% the speed of light, the Valhalla 2 Reference Power Cord has a speed of 91% the speed of light. Extruded FEP insulation is superior to all other materials. It has very low signal loss and high thermal efficiency, causing it to dissipate heat quickly. The use of FEP in a Dual Mono-Filament construction means that power is transferred more effectively, while the low resistance of the cable keeps power loss extremely low. The result... truly superb sound quality.



- **Insulation:** High purity class 1,1 extruded FEP
- **Construction:** Dual Mono-Filament
- **Conductors:** 7 x 16 AWG Solid-core
- **Material:** 85 microns of silver extruded over 99.999999% OFC
- **Connectors:** Gold-plated IEC Wall plugs: US/UK/EUR
- **Power Rating:** 20 Amp
- **DC Resistance:** 1.3 Ohms per 1000 ft
- **Capacitance:** 8.0pF/ft
- **Propagation delay:** 91% Speed of light



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Analog Interconnect

The Valhalla 2 Interconnect consists of 10 conductors made from solid, optimized diameter 99.999999% oxygen free copper, each plated with 85 microns of silver. Its surface is highly polished and treated before a precision Dual Mono-Filament wrap is applied. A precision FEP tube is then extruded over each conductor. The ten FEP tubes are then bonded with a proprietary technique to create a tubular interconnect cable, enclosed in two layers of silver shielding. The V2 interconnect is offered with an RCA or XLR HOLO-PLUG™.

V2 is extremely fast, at over 87% the speed of light. It transmits wide bandwidth signals with incredible speed and minimum phase shift. The V2 cable is state of the art, bettered only by the mighty Odin. It delivers incredible transient response and dynamic resolution so that no musical detail is lost. Each Valhalla 2 interconnect cable is hand built in the USA with HOLO-PLUG™ RCA phono plugs or gold HOLO-PLUG™ XLR connectors.



- **Insulation:** High purity class 1,1 extruded FEP
- **Construction:** Dual Mono-Filament with two layers of silver plated shielding
- **Conductors:** 10 x 24 AWG Solid-core
- **Material:** 85 microns of silver extruded over 99.999999 OFC
- **Connectors:** HOLO-PLUG™ Gold plated RCA/XLR
- **Dielectric constant:** 1.38
- **Capacitance:** 17.0pF/ft
- **Inductance:** 0.076 uH/ft
- **Propagation Delay:** 87% speed of light



Digital Interconnect

Digital signals are subject to extremely precise transmission and termination standards. Ensuring that your digital cables meet those standards is vital to achieving the best possible performance from high-resolution digital systems. The Valhalla 2 Digital Interconnect employs our advanced Dual Mono-Filament construction to mechanically dampen its silver plated, solid copper conductors, while also reducing dielectric contact by over 85%.

Two versions of the V2 digital are available: a 75 ohm and a 110AES/EBU. In order to achieve exact impedance matching, the 75 Ohm version uses a single conductor, while in the 110 Ohm version two conductors are bonded together. A double layer of silver shielding is then applied around them. Like all our Valhalla cables, the Digital Interconnects are hand built in the USA. The 75 Ohm cable is terminated with BNC connectors for correct impedance matching and is supplied with gold plated RCA adaptors. The 110 Ohm cable uses gold plated XLR connectors. Ensuring that they have the minimum effect on the digital signal, our connectors are selected for their sonic properties and their impedance matching characteristics.



- **Insulation:** High purity class 1,1 extruded FEP
- **Construction:** Dual Mono-Filament with two layers of silver plated shielding
- **Conductors:** 75 Ohm 1 x 16 AWG Solid-core, 110 Ohm 2 x 18 AWG Solid-core
- **Material:** 85 microns of silver extruded over 99.999999% OFC
- **Connectors:** Gold plated 75 Ohm BNC/RCA, 110 Ohm AES/EBU
- **Dielectric constant:** 1.38
- **Capacitance:** 75 Ohm: 15.3pF/ft, 110 Ohm: 10.5pF/ft
- **Propagation delay:** 89% speed of light



Tonearm Cable

The Valhalla 2 Reference Tonearm Cable is designed specifically to pass the most fragile signal in your system. The quality of the conductors, connectors, and the termination itself are all critical to realizing the performance of a high-quality analog replay system. This is especially true since the output of a typical moving-coil cartridge is around 10,000 times smaller than many CD players. The V2 Tonearm Cable's conductors use the same silver plated, solid 99.999999% OFC copper as the other Valhalla cables but are tuned and configured for their specific task. The following terminations are available: Din-type to HOLO-PLUG™ RCA, Din-type to HOLO-PLUG™ gold plated XLR, and RCA to RCA. An integral earth wire is provided, while balanced terminations are available to special order.



- **Insulation:** High purity class 1,1 extruded FEP
- **Construction:** Dual Mono-Filament with two layers of silver plated shielding
- **Conductors:** 4 x 22 AWG Solid-core
- **Drain Wire:** 1 x 24 AWG silver plated stranded OFC
- **Material:** 85 microns of silver extruded over 99.999999% OFC
- **Connectors:** HOLO-PLUG™ Gold plated RCA/XLR and both straight and right-angle Din
- **Dielectric constant:** 1.38
- **Capacitance:** 17.0pF/ft
- **Inductance:** 0.076 uH/ft
- **Propagation Delay:** 87% speed of light

Loudspeaker Cable

The Valhalla 2 Reference Speaker Cable consists of twenty-eight conductors divided into four groups of seven. Each conductor is made from solid core 99.999999% oxygen free copper and plated with 85 microns of silver. A Dual Mono-Filament wrap is applied and helically wound around each conductor before a precision FEP jacket is extruded over the outside. The transmission speed of the cable is extremely fast, at over 96% the speed of light. The V2 exemplifies state of the art technology with very wide bandwidth signals and minimum phase shift. It delivers incredible transient response and dynamic resolution, preserving depth of musical detail and allowing listeners to follow complex recordings with ease. The V2 Reference Speaker Cable is terminated with HOLO-PLUG™ gold plated spade connectors or Nordost low-mass Z plugs.



- **Insulation:** High purity class 1,1 extruded FEP
- **Construction:** Dual Mono-Filament
- **Conductors:** 28 x 22 AWG Solid-core
- **Material:** 85 microns of silver extruded over 99.999999% OFC
- **Connectors:** HOLO-PLUG™ gold plated spade connectors or Nordost low-mass Z plugs
- **Dielectric constant:** 1.38
- **Capacitance:** 10.9pF/ft
- **Inductance:** 0.125 uH/ft
- **Series Resistance:** 10 AWG equivalent
- **Propagation delay:** 96% speed of light

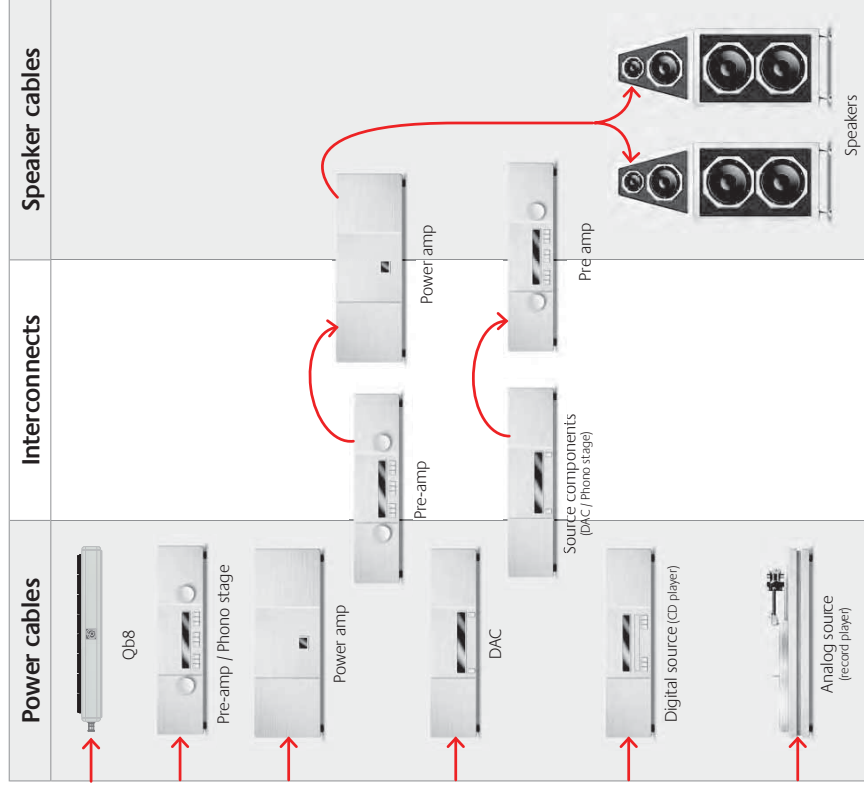


Getting connected...

Of course, you'll get optimal results by wiring your entire system with Valhalla 2, but if that's not practical or you are upgrading from an existing cable system such as the old Valhalla, where should you start?

Cables are the foundation of your system and your system is only as good as its weakest link. The most important cable in your system is the one coming out of the wall, and everything flows from there.

Within the system itself your priorities should be in the order we've laid out below, running from top to bottom. Don't worry if you don't own one of the units shown on the diagram, simply pass on to the next.



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MAKING THE CONNECTION

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