

£2300 - £25,000

Naim delivers superb surround and simplicity

PLASMA TV | DVD PLAYER/PROCESSOR/AMP | SPEAKERS

Naim + Fujitsu

£8930

★★★★★★

NAIM'S FORAY INTO home cinema is gathering pace: after the long wait between the announcement of the DVD5 DVD player and its eventual arrival in the shops, the n-Vi all-in-one system has completed the process in just three months. That's lightning speed by Naim standards!

The n-Vi - £2995 as standard and £3250 as here, with an optional DAB/FM radio tuner - combines a DVD/CD player, 5.1-channel AV processor and digital amplification in one of the company's heavyweight matt-black cases. The onboard processing will handle Dolby Digital/DTS 5.1 soundtracks, processing stereo or earlier surround sound using Dolby Pro-Logic II or DTS Neo:6, while the amplification, sourced from Tripath, is a Class-T design said to combine the linearity of analogue amps with the efficiency of Class-D digital working.

The unit delivers 5x50w into an 8ohm load or 5x90w into 4ohms, and as in other Naim products close attention has been paid to power supplies: the n-Vi uses a switch-mode power supply with fully isolated outputs to the various sections of the unit - nine in all. Other aspects of the technology include a wide range of set-up and adjustment options, including test screens for setting up your display. Meanwhile the unit has one optical and two electrical digital audio inputs, three analogue audio inputs (including a 3.5mm stereo jack on the front for a personal audio player) and preouts to allow the front left and right channels to be connected to a stereo system or extra power amps.

Video outputs are on S-Video, RGB Scart and component analogue connections, and a DVI-D digital feed,

↑ FOR

Slick, well-sorted, and capable of high standards of performance with music and movies

↓ AGAINST

n-Vi unit is 5.1-channel only; that's about it

→ VERDICT

Naim's no-compromise home cinema all-in-one combines with the company's fine compact speakers and Fujitsu's bargain screen to make a superb AV system

with the promise of an add-on scaler board later this year.

The n-System speakers and n-Vi were clearly made for each other: comprising four bookshelf-sized n-SAT enclosures, an n-CENT centre

"The n-System speakers and n-Vi were clearly made for each other"

speaker and the n-SUB active subwoofer, the package is capable of extremely high standards of performance on the end of the n-Vi, with fine integration between the main speakers and the subwoofer, and plenty of power for those big movie soundtracks, while at the same time delivering excellent detail with music, whether from DVD or CD. This is both a great movie solution and a high-quality music player, and anyone buying this in place of a conventional system of separates is unlikely to be disappointed.

Completing the package here is the fine P42HTA51, the latest-generation 42in plasma screen from Fujitsu, and something of a steal. It delivers fine performance whether via analogue or digital video inputs, and is just the thing to make the most of the excellent picture quality the Naim delivers to match its superb audio.

Put it all together and you have a system capable of excellent performance without cluttering up the room. Those rooted in Naim's traditional two-channel world may be shocked by the n-Vi, but we have to say the product name is bang-on: given its performance and style, this is a very desirable system.

WOULD SUIT... Anyone who

PLASMA SCREEN

FUJITSU P42HTA51

★★★★★★ £2295

Stunning performance: this is an excellent screen for bargain money, undercutting many other big-name displays

DVD PLAYER/AMPLIFIER

NAIM N-VI

★★★★★★ £3250

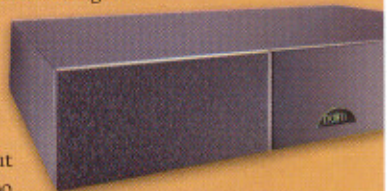
A remarkable unit, combining DVD player, processor and amplification - think of it as a DVD5 with amplification thrown in (almost) for free



INSTANT UPGRADES

NAIM NAP200 £1445

HOW EXACTLY DO you upgrade a one-box system? Simple. The n-Vi's stereo line outputs enable the firm's 80w-per-channel NAP200 stereo unit to be used on the front left/right channels, giving even better performance with music, and more clout for movies, too.



looks for no-compromise and no-clutter in a system



WATCH IT WITH...



THE BROTHERS GRIMM



Terry Gilliam's latest crack at the classics has divided opinions, but there's no denying the fact that, in its Region 1 release, it both looks and sounds very fine, with a dark, rather menacing visual style and subtle use of the Dolby surround mix.

ASPECT RATIO 1.85:1
SOUND DOLBY DIGITAL 5.1

SPEAKER SYSTEM



NAIM N-SYSTEM

★★★★★ £3385

Compact, stylish and capable of high-quality presentation whether with music in stereo or multichannel soundtracks

THE RAW FACTS

Fujitsu P42HTA51	Naim n-Vi	Naim n-System
<p>Screen size 42in</p> <p>Aspect ratio 16:9</p> <p>Resolution 1024x1024</p> <p>Progressive scan PAL/NTSC</p> <p>Inputs 2xRGB Scart, component, composite, HDMI</p> <p>Dimensions 64x103.7x8.7cm</p> <p>Weight 37.5kg</p>	<p>Disc formats played CD, CD-R/RW, DVD-V/A, DVD-R/RW, DVD+R/RW</p> <p>Decoding formats Dolby Digital/Pro-Logic II, DTS/Neo:6</p> <p>Amplification Tripath Class-T, 5x50w into 8ohms</p> <p>Tuner Optional FM/DAB module with clock</p> <p>Digital inputs Optical, 2xelectrical</p> <p>Digital outputs Electrical</p> <p>Analogue inputs 1 DIN stereo, 2xstereo phons, 3.5mm stereo input on fascia</p> <p>Analogue outputs Front channel preouts on DIN socket, subwoofer out, five speakers</p> <p>Video outputs S-video, RGB Scart, component, DVI-D</p> <p>Other connections Multiroom comms in/out, RC5 remote in/out</p> <p>Accessories supplied Narcom DV remote handset</p> <p>Dimensions 8.7x43.2x31.4cm</p> <p>Weight n/a</p>	<p>Drive units 19mm ring tweeter, 19cm mid/bass units (n-SAT), 19mm ring tweeter, 2x13cm mid/bass (n-CENT), 25cm n-SUB</p> <p>Power handling 100w (n-SAT), 120w (n-CENT), n-SUB SUB has internal 350W amp</p> <p>Sensitivity 87dB/W/m (n-SAT, n-CENT), n/a n-SUB</p> <p>Impedance 60ohms (n-SAT, n-CENT), n/a n-SUB</p> <p>Subwoofer controls Gain, crossover (with LF bypass), LF extension, phase, mode, preset memories</p> <p>Subwoofer input Mono/stereo preamp level, speaker level</p> <p>Accessories supplied Remote handset for subwoofer</p> <p>Optional accessories Floor stands, wall brackets</p> <p>Frequency response 50Hz-20kHz (n-SAT, n-CENT), 20-250Hz (n-SUB)</p> <p>Dimensions 28.5x20x20.8cm (n-SAT), 16x43x30cm (n-CENT), 38.5x38.5x39.3cm (n-SUB)</p> <p>Weight 5.5kg (n-SAT), 10kg (n-CENT), 29.6kg (n-SUB)</p>

CONTACT DETAILS

www.naim-audio.com
01722 426600

www.fujitsu-general.co.uk
020 8731 3450