

## Component cables

### B-Tech BTXL24015

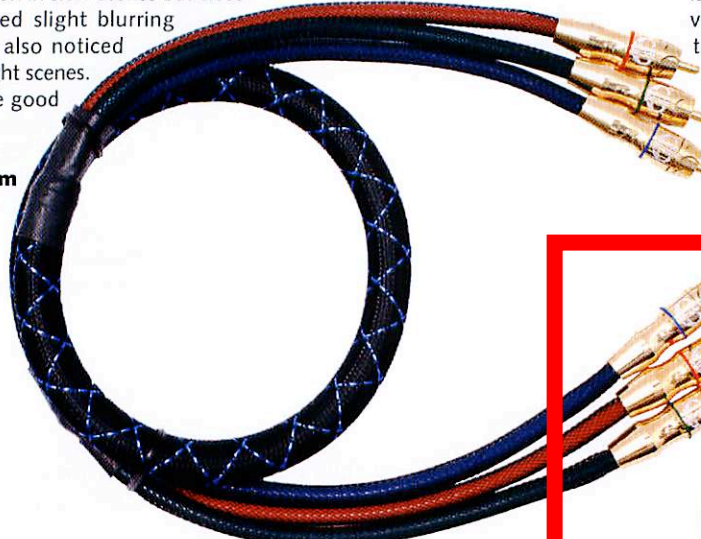
Length: 1.5m £23

Colour-coded for simple installation, these component cables from B-Tech have been especially designed not to fall out of their sockets – a common problem with the weight of the shielding used on high-quality leads. Some care must be taken when fitting them, however, as a fair amount of force is needed to get a snug fit. The connectors themselves are made of oxygen-free copper, and there are both copper and aluminium layers in each cable to prevent interference. A rubber sleeve prevents strain on the outer nylon jacket where the inner cables separate. In tests the picture was bright, with good definition in slow scenes but close-ups occasionally suffered slight blurring during movement. We also noticed some colour bleed in bright scenes. However, at £23 they're good value for money.

Contact 01689 848535

Web [www.b-tech-int.com](http://www.b-tech-int.com)

Overall ★★★★★



### QED Qunex SR-CV1

Length: 1m £85

QED's component cables are held together by two metal clips with a flat design as found on some high-quality Scart leads. This is no problem if your component sockets are in a row, but less convenient if they're arranged in an L-shape, like our test display. Brightly coloured rings on each zinc alloy plug help you to match the cables with their appropriate sockets, and there's also silver plating for better signal transfer. As well as being rated at 75ohms, the copper used in the SR-CV1 cables is claimed to be 99.999% oxygen-free for best performance. A layer of polyethylene insulation also helps prevent interference, and the cable is fully compliant to the 1.2a HDMI specification. Images were sharp and detailed with stable colours and very little noise, but for £85 we expected a bit more.

Contact 01279 501111

Web [www.qed.co.uk](http://www.qed.co.uk)

Overall ★★★★★

Robert Follis Associates  
Active Home - Feb 2007

### Ixos XHV904

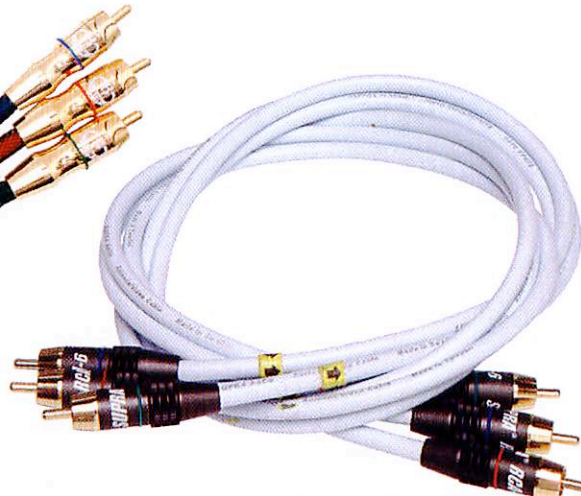
Length: 1m £84

The Ixos XHV904 comes as three separate cables, making it particularly easy to position at the back of your screen. Once there, however, you may wish to use a cable tie to hold them in place. Ixos has actually plated the connectors with silver – the idea being that this offers less electrical resistance than copper and also prevents oxygen from contaminating the copper wire inside. Both foil and braid shields are also wrapped around this to prevent interference. In use the picture was a little darker and perhaps warmer (there was a tad more red) than with other component cables, and you may need to adjust your settings if you prefer a cooler or more natural image. That said, detail didn't suffer in any way, colours were natural and overall pictures were clear and sharp. If you're hooking up via component these cables are highly recommended.

Contact 0870 345 9980

Web [www.futureshop.co.uk](http://www.futureshop.co.uk)

Overall ★★★★★



### Supra AnCo 3RCA-3RCA

Length: 1m £80

Supra's component cables were the lightest on test. As with the Ixos leads, they are supplied as three separate cables colour-coded via a single rubber ring on each plug. As each cable is fitted individually, it's unlikely to cause any confusion, however, and there's even a sticker to show the signal direction for installation. Longer leads are available at £15 a metre. Like most of its rivals, the Supra leads are rated at 75ohms and constructed using an oxygen-free copper core, with a silver-plated, copper-braided screen around the outside to prevent interference. For £80, of course, we expect nothing less, and the picture from the Supra was the sharpest of all the component cables on test. This proved to be a double-edged sword, however, as some areas appeared especially grainy at times. The high price may still put some people off but, all in all, this is a quality option.

Contact 01223 441299

Web [www.supracables.co.uk](http://www.supracables.co.uk)

Overall ★★★★★