



Bass Oval

Yellow Oval

## ANALYSIS PLUS BASS OVAL & YELLOW OVAL CABLES

BY JONATHAN HERRERA

**MICHIGAN'S ANALYSIS PLUS IS AN ALL-PURPOSE** high-end cable manufacturer with a big reputation in audiophile circles for its outrageously expensive speaker and interconnect cables. Its play at instrument cables benefits from the company's intriguing design concepts, chief among them the use of hollow-oval conductor geometries. To the engineers at Analysis Plus, more conventional round-conductor cable uses the conductor less efficiently in the high-frequency range, resulting in greater resistance and a slower rise time, which we hear as comparatively dull tone. The Analysis Plus cables use two isolated and shielded conductors per cable (as opposed to a coaxial design), which, combined with the thick jacket and robust internal shielding, makes the cables a bit bulkier and stiffer than most. But this bulk, combined with the exceptional high-quality materials, give the cables a serious look and feel.

Compared to the Yellow Oval, the Bass Oval is made from thicker-gauge cable, has a more flexible jacket, and is missing the Yellow's structural dielectric within the conductor's oval. It's more subtle visually, too: There were gigs where the Yellow's bumblebee look was simply too garish. Both cables come standard with

Analysis Plus straight or right angle plugs, but Neutrik Silent Plugs are available for a small upcharge. The Analysis Plus plugs were rugged (as was the cable/plug junction), but they don't work well in some jacks, like on my F Bass BN-5. Analysis Plus makes this clear on the website and suggests going for the Neutrik for use with certain panel-style ¼" jacks. Regardless, the cables seemed fit for many years of abuse, and they were extremely quiet and resistant to microphonics throughout testing.

The capacitance of each cable was fairly high, 53pF/ft for the Bass Oval and 73pF/ft for the Yellow. Capacitance (the ability of a cable to store an electric charge) is one way of measuring a cable's transparency with regard to high frequencies, but in my experience, it is just one of many important variables that contribute to different cables' unique sound. Compared to one another, the cables sound subtly different, with the Yellow being a touch shier in the mids and smoother on the top. Each is balanced, rich, and full-bodied, without murky low-mid clutter and brittle clangorous highs. Either cable would be a great choice for a bass, although I found the Bass Oval a little more hi-fi than the Yellow, if that's your thing. **BP**



### ANALYSIS PLUS

**Street** Bass Oval, \$99 as tested (10');  
Yellow Oval, \$109 as tested (10')

**Pros** Sweet and rich with excellent top-to-bottom detail

**Cons** A little stiff and bulky

**Bottom line** Wonderfully musical-sounding cables with a high-end look and feel.

### CONTACT

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