

# Grado

## SR125e

**PART OF GRADO'S** latest series, the SR125e has the classic styling and hallmarks of the brand that make it instantly recognisable. The usual chunky foam pads cover large cabinets housing the 40mm dynamic drivers, bold branding on each earpiece and a slim headband that all adds up to the yesteryear look and feel that divides opinion.

### Sound quality

These cans are much better utilised for home listening, via the supplied 6.35mm adaptor, although their open nature means that they let in external noise and you'll need some peace and quiet to enjoy them at their best.

The SR125es produce a nicely balanced frequency response that allows you to sit back and enjoy the music without it becoming fatiguing. Unlike some fashion-lead models, this headphone isn't going to swamp you

with bass, but this isn't to suggest that its limited in the lower frequency range in any way. It has a pleasantly extended response that digs out oodles of low detail on Elbow's version of Peter Gabriel's *Mercy Street*, and you're not left wanting in the bass department.

The SR125e isn't tweaked for big dynamics and can sound a little restrained at times. This characteristic could also be described by some as having warmth, and aids the Grado's suitability for longer listening, meaning that before you know it a couple of hours have slipped by. It's easily done, and Laura Mvula's vocals on *Live With Metropole Orkest* wash over us in an effortless way as the open and airy sound places us slap bang in the concert hall in a prized front row seat.

The SR125e is something of a dichotomy when it comes to its



suitability for use on the move or home listening. Its musicality is undeniable, but despite the 3.5mm jack plug fitment, the bulky cord, sound leakage and styling are unlikely to make them desirable for on the move use. Even at home you'll need a quiet spot to enjoy them at their best, but compromises are worthwhile for such good performance at the price ●

#### DETAILS

**PRICE**  
£150

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**WEBSITE**  
grado.co.uk

**REVIEWED**  
HFC 389

#### OUR VERDICT

