



BLU-RAY PLAYER  
LG  
BD570  
★★★★★  
£ 190

**FOR**

Lovely, lustrous Blu-ray pictures; decent spec, good build, nice looks

**AGAINST**

Not the best DVD upscaler around and strangely inhibited sound

**VERDICT**

Not much wrong with Blu-ray images, but this isn't the all-rounder some rivals are

# Budget LG is not quite on the money

## THE INEXORABLE DOWNWARD

trajectory of the price of a decent Blu-ray player continues apace. After last month's *Supertest* shakedown our new favourite player is the £170 Sony BDP-S370, but already it's got brand-new competition in the shape of this LG BD570.

**"Blu-ray discs load decently quickly and look very alluring"**

And it's quite a nice shape, too. The flappy front panel has to stay open if you want to use USB memory to access BD-Live facilities, as the BD570 does without any internal flash

memory, but otherwise it's a good-looking machine with plenty going on, specification-wise. Wireless DNLA compliancy, for use with any PC or DNLA server attached to your home network is a particular highlight. On-screen menus are logical and concise, and these are words that apply equally to the remote control.

Blu-ray discs load decently quickly (even the interminable *Terminator 2*) and look alluring. The LG draws from a wide-ranging colour palette to deliver natural, high-contrast images – it has a notable facility with textures of all types, and handles motion well. Detail levels are high, black levels agreeable and

picture noise repressed well in all but the most trying circumstances (that slow pan in the first scene of *The Dark Knight*, for example).

## The downside of upscaling

The BD570's success is slightly more qualified when upscaling DVDs. Colours, contrasts and detail levels remain impressive, but there's picture noise in evidence more often than not.

Sound from any source is, by prevailing standards, on the diffident side. It's nicely balanced at all times, certainly, and is commendably detailed, but there's no denying the lack of dynamic oomph. In a sector as competitive as this, that's not quite good enough.



SONY  
BDP-S370  
★★★★★

£170  
Hugely impressive across the board, the S370 is a fearsome statement of Sony's 2010 intent

PANASONIC  
DMP-BD65  
★★★★★

£180  
If you like your pictures rich and colourful, and your black tones deep and dark, you won't go far wrong here

