

## New Product Announcement: Upgraded Speaker-Cable Terminations (500 & 1000 Series Multi-Spades & Bananas), ABS "Breakouts"

Knowing that nothing is perfect means knowing that everything can always be better. In the face of that reality, AudioQuest does its best to make products as nearly perfect as possible, perfect on an absolute basis, or the perfect compromise for all lower models.

After many years of CF, PK and SureGrip Spades and BFA/Bananas being used on almost all AudioQuest speaker cables, we have developed 2 new series of connectors. These parts don't look so different from previous models, but every detail of their composition and connection system has been carefully reconsidered and optimized.

SureGrip-BFA/Bananas remain unchallenged for their ability to transmit signal with minimal degradation at an "everyday" price. The springy beryllium-copper electrical connection is still the best material possible for this versatile system. The Cold-Weld System of screwing the speaker-cable conductors directly against the beryllium copper is ideal. The Direct-Silver or Direct-Gold Plate uses no counterproductive nickel barrier layer. The labeling system maximizes inventory flexibility with a minimum number of SKUs. These superb parts continue to be available in packages of 4, and they continue to be the standard AQ termination for Type 4 and Rocket 33 cables, and are sold separately.

SureGrip Spades employ the same excellent connection system as the SureGrip-BFA/Bananas, and also use labels to maximize inventory flexibility. Being Direct-Silver and Direct-Gold Plate over solid copper, SureGrip Spades are also in their way state-of-the-art terminations, outperforming almost all other bigger, fatter and supposedly fancier spade lugs.

However, now there are AudioQuest's new 500 Series and 1000 Series Bananas and Multi-Spades! Both series began as part of a mandate to equal or exceed the performance of the previous WEL Signature Spade Lugs while also being ergonomically easier to use and, if possible, affordable for use on more models.

**Spade Lugs:** The same extreme Pure Red Copper first used for WEL Sig. Spade Lugs and RCA & XLR plugs is used to make 1000 Series terminations (and is also used on AQ's amazing NRG-1000 AC Power Wall Plugs). The basic shape of the 1000 Series Multi-Spade is the same as AQ's proven SureGrip connectors, but newly fine-tuned and finessed to be as perfect as possible. The plating is the same Hanging type as used for the previous WEL Sig. parts. This labor-intensive process requires that each part is attached to a hanger and dipped in a pure-silver bath, rather than conventional tumble plating. Not only does this provide a gorgeous finish (not usually a good thing as the standard way to get such a shiny finish is to first plate a nickel barrier layer under the silver or gold), but also the exact chemistry of the plating bath and the bonding of plating to underlying part can be more productively controlled ... something you can hear, and over time see as Hanging Silver is comparatively immune to turning black (though eventually cleaning with a silver polish cloth might become desirable).

The happy result is that the pure and clear sound of WEL Sig. Spade Lugs is now standard in the form of 1000 Series Multi-Spades and Bananas on all models of Rock cables (Castle Rock to Obsidian), all Trees (Oak to WEL Sig.), and the little giant killer KE-4.

**Banana Plugs:** Until now, we have not been able to offer WEL Sig. quality in a Banana. We previously offered a discount for using SureGrip-BFA/Bananas when bananas were required on WEL Sig. Now, after years of frustration, we proudly offer a 1000 Series Pure Red Copper Banana with the same sophisticated Cold-Weld termination system as the 1000 Series Multi-Spade. At first glance, our new Banana looks a lot like the cheap & dirty Radio Spares parts from decades ago (and its many copies) ... but not only is the AudioQuest part made with a vastly better base material, including an ideal Cold-Weld attachment system, but the "spring" on the side is pure copper rather than steel or any other inferior metal. And of course there's the Hanging plating. We thank those who ages ago invented this mechanically-effective plug design, and we are now proud to have created new versions which clearly put the lie to "ah, those things sound terrible." Well, bananas did sound awful, but it's a new day!

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As for the new 500 Series Multi-Spades and Bananas (and NRG-500 AC Power Wall Plugs) ... They are the same parts as the 1000 Series, except using the same excellent Purple Copper used for AudioQuest's middle-level RCA plugs and XLRs. If you're asking, "gee, is that the only difference?" Yes, that plus slightly-reduced clarity and punch make the 500 Series parts totally killer high-value, but not quite as good as the 1000 Series. Cost efficiency vs. performance ... both series have them both in spades!

500 and 1000 Series terminations are available in packs of 4 (2 x Amp, 2 x Speaker) and packs of 6 (2 x Amp, 2 x Treble, 2 x Bass) because they don't use labels. Sorry about the extra inventory to carry both, but the parts are so beautiful we don't think that you'll complain. 500 Series parts are used on AQ-prepared Rocket 44 & 88, and GO-4 models. The Hanging Silver versions are considered standard; Hanging Gold terminations need to be specified at the time of ordering please.

An AQ Multi-Tool is included with every package of Multi-Spades or Bananas. The Allen-wrench end allows secure tightening (Cold-Welding) of the electrical connection, while the Phillips-head end allows tightening the strain-relief screws.

**Non-Metallic Breakouts:** Whether the barrel or case around a low-level connector, like an RCA plug, is metal or not doesn't relevantly affect the signal passing inside. However, when there is more current and larger magnetic fields the casing of an AC plug or a speaker cable "breakout" is in the path of the magnetic field and does disrupt the flow of current. AudioQuest first acted on this reality by using only non-metallic ABS casings for our new 500 and 1000 Series NRG AC Wall Plugs. Now, we are pleased to have improved the sound of AQ speaker cables by eliminating metal in the "breakouts" ... the pieces which cover where the overall cable ends and the separate negative & positive and treble & bass legs begin. Expensive tooling was required to make these new parts, with the happy result of not only better sound but the ability to sculpt the part into a more beautiful shape than was possible with machined breakouts.



### 500 Series Multi-Spades and Bananas

- Hanging Silver Directly Over Pure Purple Copper
- Cold-Weld System
- Hanging Gold Directly Over Pure Purple Copper on request

### 1000 Series Multi-Spades and Bananas

- Hanging Silver Directly Over Pure Red Copper
- Cold-Weld System

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Description	EU Retail	Part #	UPC
Set/4 500 Series Banana – Silver	€69	BAN500FRS	0 92592 07976 2
Set/6 500 Series Banana – Silver	€99	BAN500SBWS	0 92592 07978 6
Set/4 500 Series Multi-Spade – Silver	€69	SPADE500FRS	0 92592 07982 3
Set/6 500 Series Multi-Spade – Silver	€99	SPADE500SBWS	0 92592 07984 7
Set/4 500 Series Banana – Gold	€69	BAN500FRG	0 92592 07975 5
Set/6 500 Series Banana – Gold	€99	BAN500SBWG	0 92592 07977 9
Set/4 500 Series Multi-Spade – Gold	€69	SPADE500FRG	0 92592 07981 6
Set/6 500 Series Multi-Spade – Gold	€99	SPADE500SBWG	0 92592 07983 0
Set/4 1000 Series Banana – Silver	€199	BAN1000FR	0 92592 07973 1
Set/6 1000 Series Banana – Silver	€299	BAN1000SBW	0 92592 07974 8
Set/4 1000 Series Multi-Spade – Silver	€199	SPADE1000FR	0 92592 07979 3
Set/6 1000 Series Multi-Spade – Silver	€299	SPADE1000SBW	0 92592 07980 9