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Computer Audiophile Suggested Hardware List

Sun, 03/07/2010 - 16:57 — The Computer Au...

The Computer Audiophile Suggested Hardware list has been overhauled. Version 2.0 of the C.A.S.H. List contains expanded hardware and software recommendations geared even more toward the computer audiophile. There is no specific checklist or criteria a product must meet to be on the C.A.S.H. List. Great specs don't equal great sound or performance. However, it's clearly in everyone's best interest that these products are 100% worthy of recommendation. Like all articles here on Computer Audiophile the comments section is wide open to every reader in the world to leave an opinion. The list is continuously updated with additions and deletions to make it a great resource for CA readers to research products. The C.A.S.H. List a single data point from one of many sources of information about these and many more products.

Last Update 3/07/2010

Digital to Analog Converters

Berkeley Audio Design Alpha DAC $5,000
Review (12/10/2008) | Site

Weiss Engineering Minerva $5,000 (Replaced by DAC202 early 2010)
Review (06/23/2008) | Site

Bryston BDA-1 External DAC $1,995
Review (10/26/2008) | Site

Benchmark Media Systems DAC1 HDR $1,895
Review (05/28/2009) | Site

Wavelength Audio Proton $900
Review (06/22/2009) | Site

Ayre Acoustics QB-9 DAC $2,500
Review (10/11/2009) | Site

***d*CS Paganini DAC, Paganini Upsampler, Puccini U-Clock** $17,999, $10,499, $4,999
Review (12/08/2009) | Site

Integrated

Peachtree Audio Nova $1,199
Review (01/18/2010)
Part I | Part II | Site

Computers

Apple Mac Pro desktop $2499 +
Site (Listed 3/07/2010)

Apple G5 desktop $400 + (used)
No longer in production (Listed 3/07/2010)

Apple MacBook Pro $1199 +
Site (Listed 3/07/2010)

Zalman's TNN 300 (Case Only) $690
Review (11/28/2008) | Site

Origen's M10 (Case Only) $320
Article (02/08/2010) | Site

Computer Audiophile Pocket Server - C.A.P.S ~$1,500
Article (02/08/2010)

Audio Cards

Lynx Studio Technology AES16 (PCI) & AES16e (PCIe) $625, $699
Site (AES16) (Listed 3/07/2010) | Site (AES16e) (Listed 3/07/2010)

RME Hammerfall DSP 9632 (PCI) $499
Site (Listed 3/07/2010)

ASUS Xonar Essence STX (PCIe) & ST (PCI) $200
Site (Listed 3/07/2010)

ASUS Xonar HDAV1.3 Slim (PCI) $150
Site (Listed 3/07/2010)

Disk Storage

Thecus 5200B Pro NAS 5-Bay $699 (diskless) (Replaced by N5500 early 2010)
Review (04/20/2008) | Site

Thecus N7700 Pro NAS 7-Bay $1070 (diskless)
Site (Listed 3/07/2010)

Data Robotics, Inc. Drobo 4,5,8-Bay $399 (diskless)
Site (Listed 3/07/2010)

Onnto DataTale 4-Bay $300 (diskless)
Site (Listed 3/07/2010)

Onnto DataTale 3.5" External Enclosure $90 (diskless)
Site (Listed 3/07/2010)

Hard Disk Drives (HDD)

Seagate Barracuda ES.2 1 TB $160
Site (Listed 3/07/2010)

Seagate Constellation ES 2 TB $340
Site (Listed 3/07/2010)

Hitachi Deskstar E7K1000 1 TB $150
Site (Listed 3/07/2010)

Solid State Drives (SSD)

OCZ Vertex Turbo Series (MLC) $140 +
Site (Listed 3/07/2010)

MemoRight GT eSSD Series (SLC) $349 +
Site (Listed 3/07/2010)

Networking

Apple Airport Extreme (Simultaneous Dual Band) $179
Site (Listed 3/07/2010)

Apple Airport Express $99
Site (Listed 3/07/2010)

Netgear GS108 PROSAFE® 8-PORT GIGABIT $80
Site (Listed 3/07/2010)

Remote Control

Apple iPod Touch $199
Site (Listed 3/07/2010)

Apps:

PlugPlayer $5
Site (Listed 3/07/2010)

MPod $0
Site (Listed 3/07/2010)

Remote $0
Site (Listed 3/07/2010)

MonkeyTunes $0
Site (Listed 3/07/2010)

Real VNC $0 - $50
Site (Listed 3/07/2010)

Remote Desktop $0
Sites Windows (Listed 3/07/2010) | Mac (Listed 3/07/2010)

Screen Sharing $0
Site (Listed 3/07/2010)

Operating Systems

Microsoft Windows 7 Professional 32/64-bit $105 +
Article (02/24/2010) | Site

Apple OS X Snow Leopard $29
Site (Listed 3/07/2010)

Apple OS X Tiger ~$125
No longer in production (Listed 3/07/2010)

Voyage Linux $0
Site (Listed 3/07/2010)

Music Playback & Management

Apple iTunes & Amarra $295 - $995
Site (Listed 3/07/2010)

J River Media Center 14 $50

Article (02/24/2010) | Site

XXHighEnd $98 (€72)
Site (Listed 3/07/2010)

Max $0
Site (Listed 3/07/2010)

dBpoweramp Reference R13 $36
Article (10/29/2009) | Site

Recommended Windows Audio Output Modes

WASAPI

ASIO

Kernel Streaming

Music

Reference Recordings HRx (24/176.2) $45 per disc
Review (06/15/2008) | Site

Kent Poon's Audiophile Jazz Prologue III $43
Review (01/23/2009) | Site

Linn Records
Site (Listed 3/07/2010)

HDtracks
Site (Listed 3/07/2010)

B&W Society of Sound
Site (Listed 3/07/2010)

iTrax
Site (Listed 3/07/2010)

High Definition Tape Transfers
Site (Listed 3/07/2010)

The Tape Project (Analog Only)
Site (Listed 3/07/2010)

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Chris Connaker

Founder
Computer Audiophile

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