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Meridian Explorer² USB DAC Takes Listeners on the Ultimate Musical Journey



Press release

Meridian Audio announces Explorer² the portable, compact and rugged USB DAC capable of delivering best-in-class audio performance, including compatibility with MQA 'Master Quality Authenticated' lossless audio files.

Building on the original, award-winning Explorer – the Cambridgeshire-based company's debut portable DAC – the new model features a significantly more powerful DSP capability than its predecessor. It is this advanced Meridian-designed digital signal processing, which enables Explorer² to decode and render the MQA format, delivering authenticated master-quality replay.

Designed and hand made in the UK, Explorer² employs audiophile –grade components throughout. The elegant all-metal enclosure houses a 6-layer circuit board and the compact unit – it weighs just 50 g – up-samples all input signal to 176.4/192kHz and includes Meridian's proprietary apodising filter, which helps deliver a clearer, more transparent sound. The up-sampling and apodising technologies are inherited from Meridian's award winning Reference 800 Series and they correct errors in the original digital recordings while helping improve the quality of standard recordings.

Explorer² is simple to use and install. It connects to virtually any computer with a USB port – drivers are provided for Linux, Macintosh, and Windows operating systems – and a trio of LED indicators show the status of the unit, confirming the current sample rate.

Commenting on the launch of Explorer², Rayner Sheridan, Director of Marketing at Meridian Audio said “Its effect on audio performance is entirely at odds with its compact dimensions, and its ability to unlock MQA lossless audio files makes Explorer² the go-to USB DAC for those who want to hear their music exactly as it was recorded.”

Key Points for Editors

- MQA lossless audio certified
- Meridian quality from a pocket DAC
- Includes USB DAC and headphone amplifier
- Full range of Meridian Resolution Enhancement technologies
- Asynchronous USB Audio Class 2.0 compliant
- Plugs into any computer with a USB port
- Exceptionally high resolution (24-bit/192kHz)
- 6-layer circuit board with audiophile-grade components throughout
- Advanced headphone control, ideal for sensitive headphones
- Makes any music files sound its best
- Compact, elegant and rugged metal enclosure
- Cable connection to avoid motherboard stress
- Hand made in the UK

Meridian Explorer² DAC – Suggested UK Retail Price: £199.00

Hi-res Image selection here: images.meridian-audio.com

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ABOUT MERIDIAN AUDIO

Meridian Audio, based in Cambridgeshire, UK, was founded in 1977 by two music lovers: psychoacoustics expert Bob Stuart and design engineer Allen Boothroyd. With almost 40

years of innovation and development of consumer home entertainment systems offering exceptional performance, Meridian Audio is recognised as a world leader in high-quality audio and video reproduction. Meridian developed the world's first audiophile CD player, digital surround controller and digital loudspeaker; and the MLP lossless packing system included in Blu-ray Disc. The company's award-winning optical disc players, DSP loudspeakers, video systems, streaming and personal audio products are unique in the industry, maintaining a super-quality digital signal from the studio to the home, using advanced digital signal processing to deliver natural sound and crystal-sharp images. In 2008 Meridian entered the world of automotive with its partnership with McLaren Automotive. Drawing from its expertise in the home entertainment sector, Meridian developed two stunning stereo and surround systems for the McLaren 12C, 12C Spider and P1. The in-car system for the Range Rover Evoque signalled Meridian's partnership with Land Rover in 2010. The following year Meridian extended its automotive partners to include Jaguar, launching in the XJ Ultimate. In 2012 Meridian introduced its innovative Signature Reference Sound System in the All-New Range Rover. This is the world's first 3D in-car surround, which redefines in-car audio possibilities by applying Meridian's unique technologies such as Trifield 3D, setting new standards in the automotive world.

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