

# FURUTECH

HiFi Choice (UK) – ADL X1 mini test

July 2014



## Minitest

HEADPHONE AMP/DAC £167-£395

**Neville Roberts** looks at four DACs that can receive digital audio from your PC's USB port and drive your headphones directly

### ADL

#### X1

PRICE: £395 CONTACT: 01189 814238  
WEBSITE: [soundfoundations.co.uk](http://soundfoundations.co.uk)

**THIS PORTABLE DESIGN** supports digital inputs from Apple iOS devices up to 16-bit/48kHz as well as 24-bit/192kHz hi-res files from your PC via a USB port. In addition to the USB digital input, the X1 has a 4-pin 3.5mm line-level input for use with analogue sources. The 4-pin 3.5mm output will drive any headphones in the 12-600ohm range.

As well as standard headphones, the X1 also supports those fitted with a microphone and a switch on the front panel enables those fitted with a 4-pin jack. An adapter will be required if your headphones are fitted with a 6.35mm jack. A 3.5mm Toslink optical digital output delivers the digital USB source signal at up to

24-bit/192kHz sampling. Internally, the X1 has reference-quality components, including a gold-plated circuit board and connectors. It also has an internal rechargeable battery charged via the USB port.

When I connect the X1 to my PC and plug in the headphones, I am treated to a performance that is convincing and exuberant. As with

the other devices reviewed here, the higher sampling rates reveals greater clarity and somehow the quieter sections sound quieter!

#### VERDICT

A convincing and exuberant performer in a neat, slim case with an internal rechargeable battery

