PRODUCT INFORMATION

DCD-1520AE
Super Audio CD Player
with USB-DAC

The new DCD-1520AE CD/SACD Player delivers purity in design
and performance. The advanced AL32 processor, a 32-bit/192 kHz
D/A converter and the new DAC master clock design with low
phase noise oscillator and many more technical innovations as the
USB-B input surely qualify it to be a true enrichment for any other
amplifier on the planet, too.

To meet the requirements of today’s changing demands of HiFi
enthusiasts, Denon’s DCD-1520AE inherits a complex build-
quality like a precision mechanical ground construction on a triple-
layer base, a newly developed S.V.H. Mechanism with low centre
of gravity, and the anti-vibration aluminium die-cast tray care for
optimal digital disc playback combined with the possibility to
directly connect a computer to the USB-B input. The asynchronous
USB-B connectivity makes it possible to enjoy music in master
quality of 192kHz/24 bit and even the bit stream formats known
from SACD which are DSD2.8 and DSD5.6. All digital signals will
be treated carefully by the Advanced AL32 Processing as well as
high-grade 32-Bit/192 kHz DA converters guaranteeing highest
detail levels at all volumes. A DAC Master Clock Circuit Design
suppresses jitter and noise and achieves a clear sound image.

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Advanced AL32 Processing and a new high precision 32-bit/192kHz D/A converter, to dramatically enhance the music listening experience

Denon’s Advanced AL32 Processor expands audio data to 32 bits and uses a proprietary algorithm to interpolate the data and perform up-conversion and sampling, achieving a playback sound that is close to the original source. Since high-performance devices capable of large-capacity processing read data samples across a wide spectrum and process them in a single stage, they interpolyate signals with greater precision compared with multi-stage digital filters and other such devices. In addition, the use of algorithms ideal for frequency characteristics outside the audible range to filter sudden bursts of musical data or continuous sound at high frequencies protects sound quality from the adverse effects of aliasing noise or drops in high-range response. The Advanced AL32 Processor reproduces the delicate nuances of music, as well as spatial information such as the position of the artist and the breadth, height, and depth of the stage, in a more natural manner. High-precision 32-24, 192-kHz D/A converters have been used to bring out the maximum performance of the Advanced AL32 Processor. These D/A converters transmit differential output to each channel to improve sound quality during playback.

USB DAC function for PC/MAC audio in high sound quality

Rear USB-B input, for high-resolution sound from a PC/MAC, lets you connect your Denon player as a high quality soundcard and extends the functionality to a new level. The player is equipped with a USB-B input to let you enjoy audio files stored on a PC in the best audio quality you can expect. It is not just limited to PDM signals up to 192kHz / 24bit as of MP3, WAV or FLAC HD, but even supports the Direct Stream Digital DSD format in 2.8 and 5.6 resolution. All signals will get the treatment by the high quality digital and analogue circuitry. The USB-B input operates in asynchronous mode to reduce jitter to a minimum.

Optical and coaxial digital inputs. Front USB port.

With the digital inputs, you can use the Denon player as a standalone D/A converter (Supports PCM signals and sampling frequencies of 32-192 kHz). When you connect an iPod or USB memory (containing WMA / MP3 / AAC / WAV) audio files will be transmitted digitally. Denon’s Advanced AL32 Processor and other high-quality-audio circuits let you enjoy a rich, satisfying sound.

Denon’s Disc Drive Mechanism with S.V.H. loader for SACD, CD and CD-R/RW playback

Since Super Audio CD rotates at high speed, the drive mechanism itself is a source of considerable vibration. To thoroughly suppress that vibration, the motor shaft in this player has been shortened as much as possible, and the drive motor has been placed close to the turntable. To eliminate such mechanical variations and ensure maximum accuracy and playability in signal playback, corrections have been made for each unit individually. A S.V.H. (Suppress vibration, Hybrid Construction) Loader of a hybrid construction combining different materials gives stability to the disc drive so that the disc can be read with utmost accuracy.

D/A Master Clock design with low jitter oscillator and minimal Signal Paths

Since the player supplies clock signals to each device, a master clock has been placed immediately adjacent to the D/A converter to achieve accurate D/A conversion with minimal time axis jitter. A new low jitter oscillator has also been adopted to generate the clock signals. This Denon Master Clock design ensures that sound is correctly localized and your sound space is thoroughly realistic. Signal paths have been made thoroughly simple and straight to ensure a pure playback sound. The minimization of signal paths prevents signal degradation between circuits.

Vibration-resistant design with Direct Mechanical Ground Construction

The chassis has been designed throughout to eliminate the adverse effects on sound quality caused by subtle vibrations from the player’s interior or by external vibrations from the speakers.

NEW AND UPGRADED FEATURES

- Advanced AL32 Processing and a new high precision 32-bit/192kHz D/A converter, to dramatically enhance the music listening experience
- Denon’s Disc Drive Mechanism with S.V.H. Loader for SACD, CD and CD-R/RW playback
- D/A Master Clock design with low jitter oscillator and Minimal Signal Paths
- Play various types of digital content in high sound quality
  - Rear USB-B input, for high-resolution sound from a PC
  - Asynchronous support
  - PCM, DSD 2.8 and DSD 5.6 support (DxP)
  - Front USB-A input for iPhone/iPod, or USB mass storage device
  - Optical and coaxial digital inputs
- State-of-the-Art Denon Solutions for Maximising Content Quality
  - High quality audio reproduction from any kind of digital media recorded on a disc or stored on a computer or portable device
  - Dedicated headphone output stage for high level of details and transparent sound
  - Separated digital and analog power supply
  - Vibration-resistant design with Direct Mechanical Ground Construction
  - Minimum Signal Paths, to protect signal purity
  - Pure Direct mode, for pure enjoyment of music
  - Parts strictly selected for high sound quality
  - Digitally transmitted Play function for iPod and iPhone (via USB) for best sound quality
- EASE-OF-USE
  - Easy-to-use remote control for CD, Network Audio player and Amp operation
  - Battery recharge function continues to charge iDevice even in standby mode
  - Auto Standby and low power consumption at stand-by 0.2 W

Specifications

**SACD section**

- Channels: 2 channels
- Frequency response: 2 Hz - 50 kHz (±3 dB)
- Dynamic range: 113 dB
- Signal-to-noise ratio: 117 dB
- Total harmonic distortion: 0.001% (1 kHz, audible band)

**CD section**

- Channels: 2 channels
- Frequency response: 2 Hz - 20 kHz
- Dynamic range: 100 dB
- Signal-to-noise ratio: 117 dB
- Total harmonic distortion: 0.0016% (1 kHz)

**Output voltage**

- Digital output: 0.5 Vp – p/75 ohms
- -15 to -21 dBm
- 660 nm

**General**

- Power supply: AC 230 V, 50 Hz
- Power consumption: 38 W (Standby 0.2 W)
- Dimensions (W x H x D): 434 x 135 x 331 mm
- Weight: 8.2 kg

[NOTE]

* All specs can be subject to change
* Available in Black and Premium Silver

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