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# XTZ Earphone 12

By: Kim Olsen - 1 / 5-2015

Swedish XTZ delivers in-ears with a stunning performance at a low price.

The market for headphones, for use on the go, not just developing rapidly, it is also a market that can properly be found to be in total competition.

Swedish XTZ want a piece of the pie, and with a price of kr. 299, - for their Earphone 12 it is certainly not the price that scare buyers away.

XTZ is not entirely unknown in the Danish market; they are able to deliver both the speakers, room correction, subwoofers and amplifiers, all in an end of the price scale where the people can participate.

Earphone 12 has a bit unique possibility of also using the app as XTZ has been made, this time with the feature that there is a DSP of the Dirac Research involved. Dirac delivers DSP blah. BMW and Bentley, but also to Naim, dataset, Oppo and of course XTZ.



It is not exactly impressive how much technical information is. It is informative, but mainly focused on the advantages of DSP, but without being technically practical. Includes multiple sized ear buds and aircraft adapter.

The only concrete that is to say is that there is a double 8.6 mm unit in PET with a neodymium magnet system. PET unit is treated, but there is nothing enlightened about how or with what. The sensitivity is on the respectable 93dB. However, they must have something to live on to play well.

Bass levels can be adjusted depending on the size earplugs used which is both practical and smart. The big selling trick, Dirac DSP app is unfortunately only for iphone. It seems, however, as intended.

The idea of the app is to go beyond the limitations inherent in having a very small device in a very small enclosure. With a DSP can thus correct physical defects which are extremely difficult to change - quite a smart way to think outside the box on. The same procedure is used for XTZ's wireless headphone Divine there is a

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Your most recent purchase !? (710)

Connecting Lepai 202 ... (2)

Help Linn Kabinett ... (6)

Crossover-coils impor ... (37)

Which of the dise 2 motherboard. (

What do you hear now? (9547)

Hifi4all down (139)

IMAX - good and bad (14)

More watts (92)

Experience / knowledge of Dy ... (0)

Linn Majik LP12 (15)

Off Topic (56)

U-Baffle questions (1)

TC Group (Tannoy) has been r ... (0)

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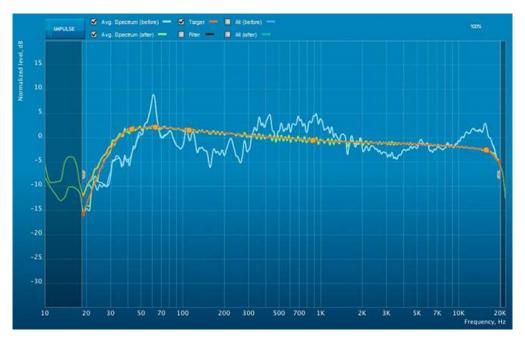
Spar 30% på Focal XS 2.1

opera consonace referanc...

Denon Pma 920

close competitor to Parrot Zik we also declares. The app provides a much more clear and crisp sound, but

when the level also emphasized strongly is a direct A / B comparison very difficult. These are several preset options, besides a reasonable frequency linear reproduction is also possible to increase the levels in certain parts of the frequency band. Frequency response with and without app acc. XTZ



They weigh not much, 13 grams, and fits well in your ear even longer. There is provided a flat cable, and they are magnetic.

For the price, build quality surprisingly high.

## The sound

Generally sound quite neutral; bass and upper midrange has a smaller raise as though straightens out when using DSP app, but reproduction is still as good without the app, it will be extremely interesting for those who want to use Earphone 12 other than iOS devices.

AC / DC's "Whiskey on the Rocks" has a guitar is raw without tearing, cymbal sound is well defined and appears clear. There is quite a nice kick feel, while Brian Jonas voice sounds as it should; of cheap whiskey and ditto smoke. Transientstop completed brilliantly, and allows the dynamics and the solution to appear as best (after all, AC / DC).



Dunker from Norwegian Lumsk is very present; an almost intimate representation where the recording space,

however, has come up with, albeit slightly narrowed. One feels that the singer sitting up close, it allows you to hear the vast majority of the many small level changes, phrasing and other variations. Midrange purity makes piano and guitar always feel close to, and never hidden away. The bottom is, however, a bit bulky.

Joja Wendts "Asturias" has an impressive key velocity on the snare drum and the higher register of the piano, and that is good with the pressure of the depth keyboard and bass. There had to be opened up a little extra for the upper midrange and top when the number is a little dark in it. But otherwise the sense of the classic hifi parameters, and so with quite dry bass.



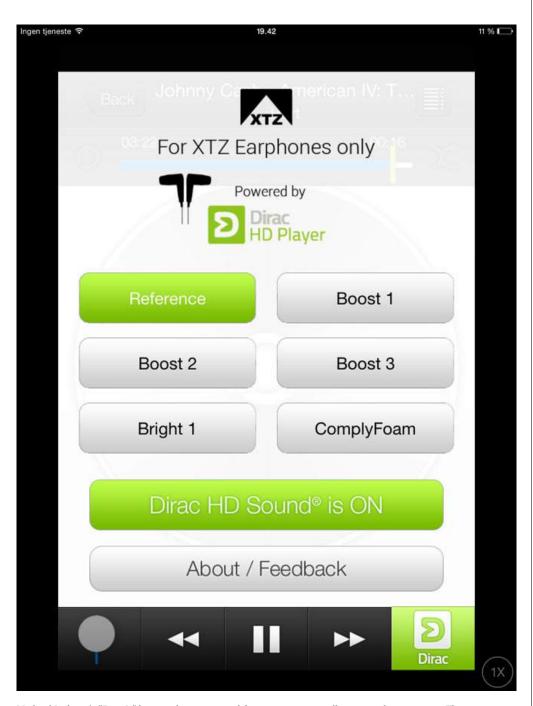
Gradation in the treble and upper midrange is surprisingly accurate and denser reproduced.

The resolution in the midrange is surprisingly good at Apocalypticas "In Memoriam", it allows the small subtle details that come out clearly. There are good bottom and timing of the track that might be like to be a little more energy in paukeanslagene.

Tam-stoppers have a pretty good weight and speed of drum pelt for rings, and although there is a subtle increase of bass that makes electric bass reproduction a bit dominant, it will never be a violent tonal effect when the reproduction is fine coherent and treble sticking never off from the rest of the register. Recording room and the sound is a lot less than on a set of wide open on-ear headphones, but it's virtually impossible not get the experience with in-ears.

Infected Mushrooms "Albibeno" goes clear and clean through, the bass is a bit swollen, but there is still the impact force must be in both bass and midrange. The bass demonstrates dynamics transientkontrol and impact energy.

http://nerds.dk/review/?rid=199 3/5



Michael Jackson's "Beat It" has good pressure and fine timing on grundbeatet, nothing escapes. There is not the openness and neutrality in the bass like a good pair of speakers can do, but for a set of in-ears in the low end, it is extremely sensible. The voice is classic Jackson, perhaps with a little less energy and enterprise.

Prokofiev's "Dance of the Knights" has an almost physical pressure effect in the bass, the fans are echoes of a set of in-ears true sense through and violins has a fine reproduction without getting too pointed or tearing in the ears. Dynamic is the number of fine and energetic signature, especially the wind instruments, is well preserved.

#### Overall.

What can be said? Neutral Earphone 12 is not; there is a little extra bass and treble will never be on a par with a set of good open headphones. However. This here is a set of in-ears are fine exclude the worst noise from outside, they are among the cheapest to kr. 299, - and both dynamics and resolution is also fine - and that's also when we tested them at first and thought the price was around 1000 dollars. And it should be mentioned that XTZ has cheated - because you can adjust the bass level by switching the earplugs, greater earplugs provides more bass. It's not just smart, it's brilliant. In addition, there is obviously plied with App that gives a better and more linear sound - it's really well thought out.

For the price they sold for the bargain. And then you survive enough that performance does not match a set of

http://nerds.dk/review/?rid=199

headphones to 10-fold! It is undoubtedly great performance for the price.

We rarely give prices, but we will then be quoted for "10/10 for the price" - XTZ Earphone 12 is a little gem and it's affordable.

**Price:** Seen on offer to 299 - (primarily in various web-shops, there is not really a Danish distributor). **Specifications** pluggable 3.5mm -Cord Length 1.2m -Impedance 16ohm -FREQUENCY Response 18 - 22kHz - Sensitivity (to 1 KHz) 93dB -Driver Unit 2 x 8.6mm -Magnet: Neodymium -Driver: Treated PET -Weight: 13g

### For yderligere information, kontakt producenten

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