

Drachenfels

Headphone Amplifier
Streaming Preamplifier



Versatile Champion with High Ambitions

With the introduction of the Linear in 2004, Lehmannaudio raised the sound quality of headphone amplifiers to a new level. The Drachenfels now represents a new generation of headphone amps: our champion with an entry-level price tag scores with leading-edge technology and, owing to its modular options, can be matched to ever new situations. With regard to sound it's particularly the tremendous wealth of detail that strikes the ear, together with a perfect control of what's going on. Even in the thickest musical hurly-burly the structure remains discernible at any time and every detail clear-cut.

Analogue? Digital? Drachenfels!

The modular design with cutting-edge components opens long-term perspectives for quality-minded music lovers who have demands on sustainability. No matter if streaming via WLAN or ethernet, linking Bluetooth sources or conventional digital players – owing to modular pc boards, which are available at short notice, the Drachenfels gives the right answer to all of these requirements. Even with the advent of new digital standards, a simple swapping of both module and rear panel will enable an upgrade!

The Drachenfels offers 12 dB of practice-oriented gain which, due to the smooth running ALPS Blue Velvet potentiometer with excellent synchronism and the ultra low-noise circuit, dispenses with the need for a gain switch. The power switch located on the front reduces the power consumption in standby mode to an eco-friendly value of less than 1 W. Moreover, its space-saving dimensions offer you plenty of placing options for the Drachenfels. Use it as a headphone amplifier or preamp and discover the happiness of intense music listening.

Highlights

- ultra noise free and transparent sound reproduction
- modular upgradeable

Features

- original ALPS potentiometer for optimum channel balance
- original Neutrik headphone jacks in studio quality for reliable contact
- precision capacitors for best possible transient response
- pre-out muted/unmuted depending on choice of headphone output

Options

- aluminium face plate available in silver, black or chrome

Available versions:

- Drachenfels (analogue)
- Drachenfels D (TOSLINK, SPDIF, analogue)
- Drachenfels USB (USB, analogue)

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Tech Info

Input impedance	47 kohms	Audio Connections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neutrik headphone sockets with gold-plated contacts • 1 x pre-out, 2 x phones out • Line in/pre-out: RCA
Maximum gain setting	12 dB with maximum potentiometer setting	Power consumption in operation	app. 4 W through external wide range medical standard power supply (without any optional pc board)
Analogue frequency response	10 Hz (-0,3 dB) to 35 kHz (-1 dB)	Enclosure dimensions W x D x H	160 mm x 120 mm x 43 mm (audio section)
Analogue S/N ratio	> 85 dB at +0 dB gain	Weight	0,5 kg (1.1 lbs.) net (audio section)
Analogue THD	< 0,006 % at 18 mW/330 ohms		
Channel separation	> 80 dB at 10 kHz		
Power output	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 330 ohms/110 mW • 33 ohms/180 mW 		
Output impedance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • pre-out 105 ohms • phones out 5 ohms 		

Version: May 2019. Subject to change without prior notice.

Press Commentaries

STEREO *'During extensive listening checks, in particular with a Beyerdynamic DT880, the Lehmannaudio turned out to be an outstanding headphone amplifier, but could also stand its ground as a mini preamp when compared to proven competitors from Cyrus to Meridian from the author's stock. Its rhythmically agile, yet at the same time cultivated verve rouses spontaneous enthusiasm. Even the bass of this midget is unexpectedly powerful and deep, so the helicopter on "The Wall" sounds accordingly impressive. (...)*

Superb headphone amp and minimalist preamp in one, custom-expandable via digital module and soundwise excellent. A universal gem and a bullseye – chapeau!

STEREO/05 2017



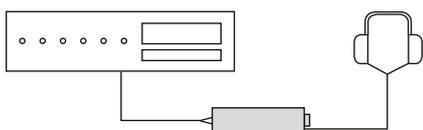
*'As has rarely been heard before, this compact little machine brings to light acoustic details which so far slipped my attention even with considerably pricier amps. In the long run its nimble, neutral way of dealing with the music material leads to a very essential quality: the **suitability for long-time listening**. (...)*

All instruments and the phantastic voice blend into a harmonic overall picture while taking care of every detail – this is true enjoyment.'

hifi&records/01 2017

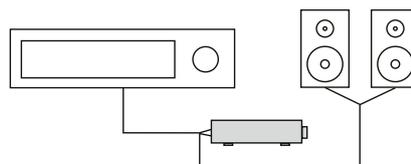
Sample Applications

As Headphone Amplifier:



Use the Drachenfels as a headphone amp by linking it via an RCA cable to the line out of your player. Plug in your headphone at the front of the device and let yourself get carried away by a whole new music experience.

As Preamp:



The Drachenfels also cuts a fine figure as a compact preamp: simply connect your active speakers to the pre-out on the rear side of the device. Never before have you heard your favourite music in such a way.

Awards



SMART Award Winner
category headphone amplifiers
FIDELITY/2018



Winner category headphone amplifiers
The Rocky Mountain International
HiFi Press Awards 2017



OUTSTANDING – amongst the best
HI-FI WORLD/2017