

A3 CD Player



[Print This Page](#)

OVERVIEW

In designing the A3 CD, Musical Fidelity set itself the task of making one of the best CD players in the world, regardless of price with excellent technical performance and structural integrity. Not content with merely improving technical standards, the design team also ensured that the A3 CD delivers outstanding sound quality and neutrality. It was designed to deliver tight, fast, extended bass; neutral mids and highs, and extraordinary coherence.

Using the Nu-Vista as a benchmark for high-frequency performance, the A3 CD delivers similar levels of clarity, coupled with a complete absence of harshness or grain. The A3 CD performs consistently from disc to disc, due to an unprecedented low level of jitter. Performance also benefits from an advanced clock re-timing circuit newly developed by Musical Fidelity, along with the rare Burr Brown 24-bit DAC. It also performs consistently from amplifier to amplifier, due to the new, five-pole filter developed by Musical Fidelity, which significantly reduces high frequency spurious, and gives ultra-low noise and distortion.

The sonic performance of the A3 CD is easily comparable to expensive reference models and would be considered exceptional at any price.

Musical Fidelity have also investigated the impact that build quality has upon sound quality. The result is our non-resonant chassis, case and front panel assembly.

The A3 CD matches the A3 and A300, and has the same no-compromise finish. It is an ideal partner for either of them. Although the A3 CD can be attached to an external DAC, they are unlikely to perform better than the one inside the A3 CD.

Finally, the A3 CD has extremely low output impedance, below 50 Ohms, and lacks ultrasonic spurious, so it will match any amplifier, and will never cause upsets or strife within the h-fi system.

FEATURES & BENEFITS

Five pole hybrid analogue filtering. Our sophisticated post D-to-A filtering removes digital aliasing and breakthrough artefacts present in other designs, which are often responsible for mixed performance with different amplifiers.

Extremely low jitter. The A3 CD uses data and clock re-timing circuitry, along with a stable master crystal

oscillator, to achieve excellent jitter performance. This improves sound quality whilst also providing consistent performance from disc to disc.

Excellent low level linearity.	Gives unprecedented detail retrieval and resolution of the tiny audio 'clues' which give truly lifelike reproduction.
Optical and co-axial digital outputs.	Very low jitter digital outputs allow digital recording or connection of an external DAC.
Latest 24 bit DAC architecture.	The A3 CD uses the very latest 24 bit Burr-Brown DACs, interpolating the CD disc's original 16 bits to 24 bits, prior to conversion, for performance near the theoretical limit for 16 bit.

SPECIFICATIONS

DAC architecture	24 bit Delta-Sigma (Bitstream) 8x oversampling
Frequency response	10Hz - 20kHz \pm 0.2dB
S/N ratio	>96dB unweighted >105dB 'A' weighted
THD	<0.003% 10Hz - 20kHz unweighted <0.001% 10Hz - 20kHz 'A' weighted
Total correlated jitter	<150pS
De-emphasis error	< \pm 0.1dB
Linearity	< \pm 0.2dB to -100dB
Wow and flutter	Unmeasurable
Power requirements	100/115/230V AC 50/60Hz (Factory preset)
Power consumption	15 watts
Dimensions (mm)	440 x 92 x 400 (W x H x D) Height and width include feet. Depth includes terminals.
Standard accessories	Remote control handset. Four batteries (SUM-4, AAA, LR03)
