

Meridian's go-faster CD player

Meridian's G Series line of high-performance digital and analogue consumer audio components – launched on the UK market at the Hi-Fi Show & AV Expo – features a stylish cabinet design in traditional black or a sleek silver finish. The Meridian G08 is CD-optimised, and able to play virtually any CD, including those storing MP3 files (64–256kbit/s). The computer-style CD-ROM drive is capable of spinning discs much faster, allowing multiple high-speed re-reads to ensure accurate recovery of data from awkward discs and ten times the error correction of a

conventional CD player. On-board digital signal processing at up to 150 million instructions per second upsamples digital information from the 44.1kHz, 16-bit signal of conventional CD to 24 bits, and to a sample rate of 176.4kHz for digital-to-analogue conversion to drive the analogue outputs, and 88.2kHz for the digital outputs. A triple buffering system and a new design of high-stability clocking system reduce jitter and ensure a high level of detail is recovered from a disc, while multiple PSUs ensure that

digital and analogue circuitry are kept separate and can provide the required power when called upon. The G08 includes both balanced (on XLR connectors) and unbalanced (on phono connectors) two-channel analogue outputs. S/PDIF (Sony/Philips Digital Interface, IEC 60958) digital outputs are also provided and both optical (TosLink/EIAJ) and coaxial digital formats are included. The optical digital outputs can even support surround-encoded bitstreams.

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