



Innuos

Zen Mini III music server + LPSU power supply

Reviewed in Issue **177**

The ZENmini Mk 3 is the most flexible Innuos product to date, as might be used in a networked system with one user, into an older DAC with only coaxial S/PDIF connections, into a music system that only has a Toslink optical input, or to replace a CD player in a system with an amplifier that only has line-level RCA inputs. The flexibility continues at the power end. As standard, the ZENmini Mk 3 comes supplied with a perfectly servicable laptop-style switch-mode power supply 'brick', but there is an option to upgrade that with the LPSU (linear power supply unit), to bring the ZENmini Mk 3 closer to ZEN Mk 3 performance.

In our test, we found the ZENmini Mk 3 to be a flexible performer. Alan Sircom found that, "Sonically, the ZENmini Mk3 varies according to output. It's routinely excellent through USB and Ethernet, very good through optical and coaxial S/PDIF connections, and pretty decent through its phono outputs. If you are looking for a direct replacement to a good CD player, I'd wager that the built-in DAC is more of a stepping stone than a destination in its own right." The performance improved considerably with the addition of the LPSU, and he concluded that, "This is a cogent, powerful server that is both upgradable and very good in its own right. What's not to like?" +



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