

Trends Audio's UD-10.1 Lite USB Audio Converter, Hi End with laptop !

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I want to tell you about my experiment with hi-fi sound from a laptop. Have a lot of music in lossless and the question arose as to listen to it all without having to record every time a CD-discs.

The experiment proved successful. Small box provided great sound.

Welcome to a cat.

I want to tell you about my experiment with hi fi sound from a laptop (if this combination does not cause you smile).

Have a lot of music in a format lossless - thank you and good network of people who are with us, as we know, more than the bad. Although record companies thanks to the network will not say, and these people do not deem too good (and they can understand).

Frankly, I zadbalsya record every time the music on CD-discs to listen to her, without undue modesty, I say, hi-end equipment. Therefore, the issue arose besshpindel'nogo digital transport. Since these days everyone has laptops (and computers do not have all :-)), it as a source of sound I expected to take a laptop. Naturally, on the audio output from a laptop can be no question, then, even my neighbor next door in a drunken stupor listening to the music of uncertain genre, knows that audio sounds, to put it mildly, hrenovato.

Therefore, the question arose about the qualitative conclusions from the laptop digital stream.

Long overcame their own skepticism and objections uncompromising audiophile, and finally decided to experiment.

We can not say that the choice of external sound cards very diverse. If we consider that the music I compose, not mixed, the DJ did not worked, do not play in a karaoke, movies with sound 7.1 does not look at home, in restaurants do not sing, accompanying himself on guitar and laptop, that is, pay for all these extra services for me not going, then the choice is almost gone.

And found on the net [trendsaudio.com / index.php](http://trendsaudio.com/index.php)? O. .. Sound card Trends UD-10.1 of the Hong Kong firm Trends Audio. Not for nothing, apparently, Hong Kong was a British colony, the guys there, anyway, they know words such as Hi End, transportation, and have not forgotten items such as capacitors, resistors.

Although the devices are called converters DAC, in fact, is a digital transport, because the audio minijack for an exit, of course, is not considered (for which he fought, one wonders?).

There are 2 versions of this device: full version (with 4 digital outputs and improved clock

generator) and the lite version - with only coaxial and optical digital outputs. In essence, lite used me as a USB / SPDIF converter.

In Moscow, this device is only one place (or rather, was), in one instance and only lite version. If desired, you can order in Petersburg representation TrendsAudio delivery. Kevin Hunt [E-mail](#) | [Recent columns](#)

The UD-10.1 Lite (\$99), a tiny silver box that links to a computer or laptop with a USB cable, extracts the music files in their original digital form, bypassing the sound card. What happens next with that digital signal is up to you.



review tnt-audio.com/sorgenti/tren ... it was written that if you use the device as a digital transport, the difference in sound between the main and there is no lite version. Since no one in St. Petersburg and Moscow does not know exactly whether there is a difference in the sound, and compare myself, I can not, we had to stay on until the lite version.

Connecting to a laptop via USB cable. Further coupled to the coaxial output from the DAC Audio Alchemy (acquired 15 years ago and 12 years of lying in the back with no action) with the cable Audio Note ANC (copper, too, lay with the experiments with sound, just not cheap :-). ANC - interconnect cable, universal (75 ohms), that can be used as digital or analog, I used, of course, only one wire of the two.

I wanted to experiment with digital cable, but Basil (an old friend of esoteric) has said that I still replay all available in the market, better only silver cables Audio Note (silver ANV I also have, I use it as an interconnect). Further cable ANV to a tube amp Audio Note. Column, you guessed it, too, Audio Note, as well as speaker wire. In general, see the picture.



Version of an optical digital cable was not considered, well, firstly, because it I do not :-), and, if necessary, secondly, the experiments with the optical cable I graduated 13 years ago, when convinced that for the same price of optical cable strongly loses "the wire".

By the way, the length of the digital coaxial cable. It is believed that the shorter cable (not only digital but also analog), the better - information they say, is not distorted, and so on. This view is, as usual, deeply mistaken. Condo (of blessed memory) considered that the cable must not be less than a meter (or something like that). Of course, if you remember at what price he sold his cable, and multiply them to meters and centimeters, then there is a clear conflict of interest! Still, Kondo was, as always, right. I had noticed it, though he did not lodge and bought a shorter, out of greed. Perhaps better sound is an artifact, but it is a fact for sure.

Frankly, I'm pleasantly surprised by its sound "notebook tract. It is very good, we can say excellent! Quite a bit less sound from the CD-transport (from the player Audio Note), but a comparison, I think, not very correct, because the CD-transport company, I was listening to CDs, and through the device Trends UD-10.1 Lite - their images, which did on a laptop and most likely, if they lose in quality.

On the forums there are allegations that the images should sound better (??), with what I seem, for a long time do not agree, because quality CD-ripov heavily dependent on transport, which removed the digital stream. There is a suspicion that such transport is not laptops, most top-end :-). Doubters a thing of the audiosalony, let them listen to music with expensive CD-transports, and feel the difference.

Listened to a player foobar2000, version 1.0 Rus Pack 1.03. Asio4all set and plug-ins (also set Kernel Streaming, but with this card, he has not earned).

In my opinion Asio sounds slightly better, although the Direct Sound (device DS: USB audio DAC) is good, but the Asio not yet heard the sounds of Windows when playing, only to pause, and adjust the volume, Windows will not affect the sound, so they You can even turn off. Volume in the player foobar exposed to the maximum, as advised in the forums.

On his experiments with other versions of Foobar2000 and how to configure the software for good sound, tell the following posts.

If we compare with the sound of my Audio Note player without an external DAC, I like the player more (it sounds softer and the scene away), but here it TsAPe in the player itself, and the output stage tube (or maybe it's only a lamp). By the way, recently a specialist repair equipment that had worked for Kvortrupa, was surprised that my CD-player Audio Note still functioning. The rest of them have already died, "he said (do not jinx it would be).

One drawback - you can not use the remote control while playing with the laptop. But this, like, solved. Good people (and their recall, more) was advised to buy console for Windows, which you can configure virtually any software.

There are still subject to an external power supply for the Trends UD. Is it worth it to connect or not, do not know yet. Invited to a special external power supply unit from the same firm. In the above-mentioned review, argues that with an external power supply sounds better (though I did not understand, I mean the power supply of the same company, or other). There is another version with external power supply for battery-powered, but in the same review, we caution that with such a unit, he sounds worse than just from the USB; and best of all - with the network power supply).

The cost of an external AC adapter is almost 2 times higher than the cost of the converter, and then quietly creeping toad, which is known to be pressing.

I think the future (and near) for such audio section. Sound source will be laptops (or other processors), connection to a digital transport, or players to flash memory. Information carrier will be in flash memory (SSD), the carrier of sound - audio.

CD-transport will soon die. Of course, sympathize with those who are lecturing on several kilobaksov for these devices, it would be a shame that digital transport for demokratichekoy price will provide the same quality of sound.

The main thing now is the quality of the music media, ie music files. Record companies will overwrite all the music in lossless formats from the master tapes and will sell the files. Just how they will protect them from piracy, I do not know. Well, about this and let them think they are rich, why should I suggest to them? In the end, there are people (vysokosoznatelnye), which for the money to download ringtones!

Generally, all that is spinning (CD-Rom, DVD-Rom, Blue-ray drive, HDD, all of these spindles), soon to die. Which of them will be meaningful, but harm? Why do they spin up, literally and figuratively, in this age of energy conservation? All information, including music and movies will be stored on flash memory. And a quick access, and copying the content is not distorted.

Compact discs, DVD, Blue Ray and other discs, too, will disappear. Sorry, of course, money spent on the collection of CDs, I'd spend it on the upgrade of its equipment, or anything useful for the home, for family. Although the disks themselves are not very sorry they did so much dust sits.

What will not disappear, it's vinyl. First, it sounds better than the figure, and secondly, covers a large and beautiful (remember how all inserts and posters was "Dark Side Of The Moon"). Another possible renaissance tapes.

Incidentally, the same Basil argues that if record from vinyl to CD-discs, the sound quality will be significantly better than similar brand-name CDs. I have not listened, but Vasili readily believe. Although, the record companies have made progress in 10 years in the recording of digital audio, in any case, the word Remastered not so frightening as before.

Only that in his "Notebook tract" listen AALY Trio (with Ken Wandermark and Mats Gustafsson) "Double Or Nothing" and Albert Ayler "The Copenhagen Tapes". What a great! Saxophone sounds either fucking, or awesome ...

Contact:

<http://www.TrendsAudio.com>

Email: sales@trendsaudio.com