### Specifications

#### Analog Audio Outputs
- **Connectors:** XLR connector (2ch) ×1; RCA connector (2ch) ×1
- **Maximum output level** (1kHz, full-scale, into 10kΩ): XLR: 4.8Vrms; RCA: 2.4Vrms
- **Frequency response:** 5Hz to 40kHz (-3dB)
- **S/N ratio:** K-01X: 117dB; K-03X: 116dB
- **Total harmonic distortion:** K-01X: 0.0006% (1kHz); K-03X: 0.001% (1kHz)

#### Digital Audio Output
- **XLR connector ×1:** 3 Vp-p (into 110Ω)
- **RCA connector ×1:** 0.5 Vp-p (into 75Ω)

#### Digital Audio Input
- **RCA connector ×1:** 0.5 Vp-p
- **Optical digital connector ×1:** -24.0 to -14.5dBm peak
- **USB-B connector:** USB 2.0 standard

#### Clock Sync Input Format
- **Connector:** BNC
- **Supported input frequencies:** ±5ppm: 44.1, 48, 88.2, 96, 176.4, 192kHz, 10, 22.5792, 24.576MHz
- **Input impedance:** 75Ω
- **Input level:** Rectangle wave: equivalent to TTL levels; Sine wave: 0.5 to 1.0 Vrms (50 to 75Ω)

#### General
- **Power supply:** AC 230V, 50Hz; AC 120V, 60Hz; AC 220V, 60Hz
- **Power consumption:** K-01X: 27W; K-03X: 25W
- **External dimensions:** 445 × 162 × 438mm (17 1/4 × 6 3/8 × 13 1/4 in)
- **Weight:** K-01X: 31kg (68 3/8 lbs); K-03X: 28kg (61 3/4 lbs)

#### Included accessories
- Power cord set ×1; Remote control (K-01X: RC-1315; K-03X: RC-1301) ×1; Batteries for remote control (AAA) ×2; Felt pads ×3; Owner’s manual ×1; Warranty card ×1

---

Please note that these products are available in three different power supply variations shown in the chart above. Make sure that the voltage shown on the rear panel matches the AC line voltage in your area. The shape of the AC inlet and plug of the supplied power cord depends on the voltage setting and destination country.
Taking Sound to the X Dimension

X is the unknown. "X" in a model name symbolizes the ultimate advancements of technology, craftsmanship and creative commitment.

The K-01 and K-03 have won high acclaim as leaders of Esoteric’s line of all-in-one Super Audio CD players, and their extraordinary ability to reproduce the essential qualities of a musical performance continues to enthrall listeners to this day.

Now, a new "X" inherits that solid pedigree and further refines these qualities in the new K-01X and K-03X Super Audio CD players. Concentrated beauty in an all-in-one form is a hallmark of Esoteric’s flagship Grandioso models. The philosophy and technologies found in these high-end digital players reveal a new dimension of sound appreciation unlike anything you have ever experienced before.
K-01X
A New Pinnacle of Sound Quality

Four years after the release of the K-01—the world’s leading all-in-one digital player—the new K-01X debuts as a more compact version of Esoteric’s flagship Grandioso model. Utilizing the same type of highly rigid chassis construction as the Grandioso and a similar four-transformer power supply, it integrates the Grandioso P1’s high-precision VRDS-NEO “VMK-3.5-20S” turntable with two independent monaural DAC units derived from the Grandioso D1 design, each configured with a parallel array of 8 individual converters, which are summed to optimize linearity and minimize noise.

Electronic circuitry has also been further improved with the latest technologies, including a new AK4495SS DAC IC, an advanced 35-bit D/A processing algorithm, an HCLD buffer amp, a DSD-compatible USB interface, and a large, low phase noise clock, all ensuring the K-01X achieves the absolute pinnacle of sound quality.

Grandioso D1 Lineage Dual Mono D/A Converters with Separate Left and Right Channel Power Supplies.

The D/A converter uses the same design philosophy as our Grandioso D1. Incorporating Asahi Kasei Microdevices Corporation’s 32-bit AK4495SS DAC IC and MUSES Q2 operational amplifier,* this exceptional DAC uses 8 parallel/differential circuits with 16 outputs driving each channel to achieve outstanding linearity and low distortion.

VS-DD® Spindle Servo Driver and Proprietary Toroidal Power Supply.

At the heart of the VRDS-NEO drive is a spindle driven by Esoteric’s proprietary VS-DD servo driver circuit. This uses a discrete three-channel amplifier to optimize the motor drive current, minimize vibration and provide ultra-smooth spindle operation and high-accuracy servo control. The K-01X is also equipped with a proprietary toroidal power supply that greatly enhances noise isolation.

The culmination of Esoteric’s most advanced mechatronics know-how, the VRDS system radically improves the reading precision of Super Audio CD/CD discs by mechanically correcting for surface run-out. The K-01X’s VRDS-NEO VMK-3.5-20S drive also features two sets of specially selected ball bearings supporting a duralumin turntable constructed to micron-level accuracy, and a 20mm-thick steel turntable bridge. The combined mechanical structure weighs an impressive 5.2kg (12kg including the rigid base).

The drive employs proven Esoteric technologies, including a high-flux-density magnet-driven coreless three-phase brushless spindle motor, a thread feed control derived from the Grandioso P1’s high-precision thread feed control, and a shaft-sliding pickup that assures consistent perpendicular laser illumination.

The K-01X’s VRDS-NEO VMK-3.5-10 drive mechanism now incorporates Esoteric’s advanced VS-DD servo driver for even smoother spindle operation. Its dual mono DAC, also found in the K-01X, is configured with 4 individual converter circuits operating in parallel and summed to optimize linearity and minimize noise. It also employs Esoteric’s innovative 34-bit D/A processing algorithm.

With a pedigree extending directly back to the Grandioso D1, the K-03X is clear in its stunning sound quality, ease of use and wide functionality, including such recent developments as its DSD compatible USB interface.

VS-DD Spindle Servo Driver

The proprietary VS-DD spindle servo driver previously used only in Esoteric’s top-end models is now made available to the K-03X. Its discrete three-channel amplifier circuitry optimizes the waveform of the current supplied to the motor for quiter and smoother spindle operation and high-precision servo control.

Dual Mono D/A Converters Follow the Design Philosophy of the K-01X

Due to the exceptional performance of its D/A converters, the K-03X offers a level of sound quality on a par with the K-01X in terms of clarity and musical presence. Its multiple DAC design philosophy, carried over from the Grandioso D1, allows extremely accurate digital to analog conversion. This is exemplified by the outstanding linearity and low distortion achieved by the arrangement of 4 individual DAC circuits operated in parallel in each channel. The K-03X uses the same AK4495SS DAC chipset featured in both the Grandioso D1 and the K-01X. To minimize noise, two large toroidal transformers supply power independently to the digital and analog circuits in each channel. The excellent channel separation and stereo imaging of the K-03X’s converters provide listeners with a mesmerizing musical experience.
The X-Factor: Enabling Technology, Know-How, and Resources

High-Bit D/A Processing With Outstanding Powers of Musical Expression

Both the K-01X and K-03X combine multiple 32-bit DAC chipsets and utilize a high-bit D/A processing algorithm to convert the PCM signal to analog at a high resolution in excess of 32 bits. The K-01X supports 35-bit processing and the K-03X 34-bit processing. 35-bit processing achieves an astounding resolution that is fully 2,048 times that of 24-bit processing (34-bit processing being 1,024 times that of 24-bit processing). In the digital range, full advantage is taken of high-bit data gradation to minimize calculation errors and provide faithful conversion to analog, thereby attaining outstanding powers of expression with even extremely small music signals.

High-Precision VCXO Clock

Often considered the heart of a digital player, the clock circuit supplies a high-precision reference clock signal to the digital circuitry. Its voltage-controlled crystal oscillator (VCXO) was originally developed for the Grandioso P1/D1 in a joint effort with Nihon Densya Kogyo (NDK), a major manufacturer of crystal oscillators. As a high-precision custom clock worthy of the world’s leading equipment, this circuit ensures exceptional sound playback quality thanks to an exceptionally large crystal element with excellent center accuracy (±0.5 ppm) and extremely low levels of phase noise. (*At time of shipping)

Clock Sync Function for Synchronization with External Devices

Connecting the unit to a high-precision master clock generator (G-01, G-02) allows synchronization of the unit’s operation with an external clock signal, thereby enabling the sound quality of the system to be upgraded. Input frequencies are 44.1/48.2/176.4 kHz, as well as 10 MHz and 22 MHz direct master clock linkage.* Synchronization with external clocks is also supported when the USB input is used. When an external clock generator is connected, its signal is also used to clock the D/A converter, bypassing the internal PLL circuit and providing higher precision D/A conversion.

Support for Future System Upgrades

The K-01X/K-03X includes the exclusive X-Factor Architecture, which allows the addition of new features to the player. The YMD-N1 audio processor board and the internal circuitry are independently designed, enabling the addition of new functions and the like.

Chassis Construction and Parts Layout

The K-01X/K-03X employs four large-capacity toroidal transformers: one for each of the two built-in monaural D/A converters, one for the audio circuitry, and one for the USB-DAC spinindle servo driver. The K-03X is equipped with two large-capacity toroidal transformers: one for the analog circuitry and the other for the digital/mechanism drive circuitry. This design provides ideal power supply capability to all circuit blocks without interference.

Upgrade Services

Upgrade services are available for the K-01 or K-03 where specific new functions employed by X edition models can be added.