



Aavik Acoustics D-580

HIGHLY COMMENDED
DAC

Aavik Acoustics main range is a clever use of common themes in industrial design, allowing amplifier, phono stage, streamer and DAC to share the same rounded casework, and – in a move far separated from the ‘bling’ associated with bigger and better products in a range, the differences between models are purely performance-led.

The D-580 is the top model in a range of three Aavik digital to analogue converters. The different levels of Aavik DAC are based around the same architecture but where the entry level D-180 has five dither circuits while the D-580 has 11. The D-580 also has 108 active Tesla coils and 248 active square Tesla coils. These coils are unique to Ansuz and Aavik and act as electromagnetic filters. Like all the Aavik designs, the D-580 has a resonant mode power supply design that’s principally driven by sine waves rather than the square waves of conventional SMPs. The D-580 also features an internal copper chassis.

In his test, Jason Kennedy felt that, “The Aavik D-580 is a supremely open, vital and revealing converter. It delivers immense depth of image and presents music with all its charms in full effect. I love the way it shows the reverb around acoustic instruments.” He also praised the DAC, for “the breadth of character that this DAC found in the music played; compression for instance is hugely different with some tracks sounding small and pinched yet still managing to project the key qualities that make it appealing.”

He concluded his review by saying, that “Aavik’s top DAC is an impressive piece of kit; build quality is first class and the attention to vibration control has paid off with extreme resolution that sounds far more musical than the oft over-polished results found in other high-end converters. I couldn’t pin down any particular characteristics to the D-580, it was much easier to just enjoy the music.”

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Manufacturer • aavik-acoustics.com

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