



Pro-Ject DAC Box DS

Hi-Fi Choice

OUR VERDICT

SOUND QUALITY ★★★★★ **LIKE:** Refined, smooth, civilised sound; great build; price

VALUE FOR MONEY ★★★★★ **DISLIKE:** Cluttered display

BUILD QUALITY ★★★★★ **WESAY:** Strong sounding, well made, value for money DAC

FEATURES ★★★★★

OVERALL ★★★★★

This Austrian brand is mostly famous for its turntables and it still makes a wide range of competitive designs. As far back as the mid nineties, the company made integrated amplifiers, but it's only recently that the electronics range has really taken off in the UK. The 'Box' series is now vast and confusing – there seems to be one for every possible pocket and intended use, and more! This DAC sits in the middle of Pro-Ject's range and is designed and built in the EU.

Tonally the Pro-Ject is very smooth, creamy even. It is as though all the rough edges have been expertly rounded off – indeed one panelist suggests it's: "A touch veiled", as it doesn't quite get down and dirty with the music, so to speak. Rhythmically it is pretty good, if not spectacular; the Kraftwerk track bounces along well and proves an enjoyable listen.

Make/model	Pro-Ject DAC Box DS
Price	£350
Sound	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Build	★★★★★
Features	★★★★★
Overall	★★★★★

The DAC Box DS has a smooth, endearing sound in a good value package

Key features	
Coaxial in	Yes
Optical in	Yes
24/192 USB	Yes
iPod	No
XLR out	No