

AudioQuest DragonFly Red | USB DAC | £170

“An immediate musical boost”

FOR Sophisticated and solid sound; smartphone compatible | **AGAINST** That shiny red finish is too easily chipped | ★★★★★

The first thing you notice is the Red's extra authority. This is partly in the form of overall bass extension, but what's more impressive is the extra body given to each and every note. There's a solidity and texture to every sound that makes the Black seem a little two-dimensional by comparison (though accomplished in its own right and price-point).

As well as being fuller-bodied, each note also contains a good deal more detail, and that, combined with excellent low-level dynamics, means everything has a natural, subtle and expressive sound.

Then there's the way the Red organises a soundstage. Feed both DACs the 24-bit version of Radiohead's *Burn The Witch* and, while the Black allows the organised chaos to become a muddle as the track reaches its crescendo, the Red maintains full control, allowing you to admire every thread of the gloriously complicated arrangement.



WHAT HI-FI? says

Rating ★★★★★

SOUND	★★★★★
FEATURES	★★★★☆
BUILD	★★★★★

VERDICT The DragonFly Red is a near-flawless option for anyone looking to give their computer music a hi-fi boost

WHAT HI-FI?
SOUND AND VISION

