9000A

Integrated Amplifier

audiolab

available in BLACK and SILVER finishes

Interactive GUI	ESS Sabre32 DAC	12v Trigger	Optical Input	Coax Input	PC USB	XLR	Phono

roon TESTED MQA Bluetooth® aptX csr
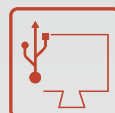
Recommended Retail Price: £ 1,999

Availability	
Order:	August 2022
Shipping:	September 2022

OVERVIEW

Following on from the original 8000 series, the award-winning 8200, 8300 series and more recent 6000 series, **audiolab** returns to the more premium price and performance categories with the new **audiolab** 9000 Series.

*Above: from left to right, **audiolab** 6000A Play wireless audio streaming player, 6000A integrated amplifier, 6000N Play wireless audio streaming player and 6000CDT Cd transport.*

As ever, the **9000A** is the centre of the **audiolab** focus in being the beating heart of any high-performance audio system. It's more powerful, capable and feature-packed than any of the preceding models - the most advanced **audiolab** integrated amplifier yet.

Versatility is key to **audiolab**'s integrated amplifier appeal, and the **9000A** offers to cater for audiophiles of all creeds. Loaded with digital and analogue source connection, wireless connectivity for portable devices, an all-new phono stage to cater for vinyl playback and the usual, class-leading amplification for loudspeakers and headphones.

Integrated Amplifier   Pre-amplifier   Headphone Amplifier

HOME AUDIO FOR THE CONNOISSEUR

Matching the modern hi-fi enthusiast's requirements, the **9000A** features a full-colour IPS LCD screen, offering clear and informative playback, source and file information. Not to mention a host of menu options for optimum performance and user-defined settings. Various display options are provided, which also include two VU meter options, allowing the **9000A** to be visually informative or, in the case of 'display off' settings, a discreet centrepiece of any audio system.

Differentiating itself from rivals within its category, the **audiolab 9000A** blends digital capability with an analogue pedigree. Premium level D/A conversion, as one would always expect from **audiolab**, allows a range of digital sources (over four digital inputs) to be connected directly to this high-power integrated unit. Yet, based on over 40 years of amplifier design pedigree, not to mention a recent history of multi-award-winning audio solutions, the **9000A** also caters for analogue device integrations (via three AUX, balanced XLR and a dedicated phono input).

The world of modern audio enjoyment is not limited to wired playback devices though, hence the **9000A** also supports wireless connectivity via Bluetooth and digital audio via a PC USB connection.

The **9000A** is the brainchild of lead designer, Jan Ertner. Famed for a plethora of class-leading and award-winning audio electronic models, Jan has pushed the **9000A** to the highest levels of performance by evolving and redeveloping the principles that created the 8300A and uber-successful 6000A, to deliver the most exceptional performance ever seen in an **audiolab** integrated amplifier.

The **9000A** features the latest ESS 9038PRO flagship 32-bit DAC chip. Using the critically acclaimed patented HyperStream® II architecture and Time Domain Jitter Eliminator, the ES9038PRO delivers an unprecedented performance level that will satisfy the needs of the most demanding audio applications - fitting an amplifier of the **9000A**'s calibre.

Years of experience and countless ESS-equipped models mean that **audiolab** is more than familiar with making the most of this technically excellent, but challenging, DAC technology. Great attention has been paid in developing a system that allows **audiolab** electronics and ESS DAC technology to offer the best in audiophile performance.

The amp's four S/PDIF digital inputs – two coaxial and two optical – handle hi-res PCM data up to 24-bit/192kHz and benefit from a host of user-selectable digital filters that allow the user to optimise the response to suit the source file and bandwidth of the partnering equipment.

PCM audio is supported to 32-bit/768kHz, alongside DSD to 22.5MHz (DSD512). Every significant hi-res and lossless audio format is catered for, including FLAC, ALAC, AIFF and WAV, as well as compressed legacy formats.

The **9000A** also delivers full decoding of MQA, the hi-res streaming technology from a custom engineered MQA certified DAC solution. This means that the complete 'three unfold' decoding process is performed internally, as opposed to just the final unfold in the manner of an MQA 'renderer', which makes the **9000A** an excellent system choice for subscribers to Tidal's 'HiFi Plus' tier where Tidal Masters (MQA) content can be found.

As expected for modern audio playback convenience, Bluetooth connectivity is featured as standard with the **9000A** stepping up to the aptX HD protocol for sonically superior and easy wireless streaming from smartphones, tablets, laptops and more. Bluetooth-paired devices also benefit from the quality of the amp's DAC section and filter options.

The **9000A**'s discrete Class AB power amp stage delivers 100W per channel into 8 ohms (160W per channel into 4 ohms!). Unlike over specified competitor models, the genuine 100W per channel will put the **9000A** up against the best in its class. Referring to the standards set with the **audiolab** 6000A (rated at 50W per channel), the **9000A**'s 100W per channel will undoubtedly satisfy the most demanding of loudspeakers and their power hungry masters.

A key to the **audiolab** performance is the world-famous CFB (Complementary Feedback) topology, which ensures superior linearity and excellent thermal stability, as the idle current is kept independent of the temperature of the output transistors. An all-new and custom specified 320VA toroidal transformer, followed by 4 x 15,000uF reservoir capacity (60,000uF in total), helps the amp to maintain firm control of the music whilst enabling excellent dynamic range.

In an effort to maintain consistent signal purity, with line input signals passing to a precision analogue volume stage, the preamp section is kept as simple as possible. As with all of Jan Ertner's designs, the circuity is a work of art in more than layout and architecture. The very design protects the sensitive preamp section from noise interference and colouration - a key cornerstone of the **audiolab** philosophy.

With every iteration of integrated amplifier design, **audiolab** works to improve on the bench-mark, built-in phono stage section. The **9000A** is no different; pushing the boundaries of performance of an onboard phono pre-amp section. The all-new phono pre-amp for **9000A** offers compatibility for moving magnet - a precise RIAA equalisation offers the best of both worlds for the turntable using **audiolab** fans.

Similarly, for the headphone output stage employing current-feedback circuitry with wide bandwidth and high slew rate; the **9000A** ensures a dynamic, detailed and engaging performance with all manner of headphone types, with that extra added **audiolab** sparkle from the consistent signal integrity from all inputs.

The **audiolab 9000A** continues with the theme of flexibility in audio system integration. As is a staple to the **audiolab** integrated amplifier design, the **9000A** offers three variations of operating mode, making it a versatile and essential component in any system.

*Above: **audiolab 9000A** integrated amplifier (top), pairing with **audiolab** 9000CDT Cd transport in silver finishes.*

CONFIDENTIAL. SHARED UNDER NDA. NOT FOR PUBLIC DOMAIN.

The primary mode is 'Integrated' – this combines the pre and power amp stages, for the connection of digital and analogue sources to the amp's inputs and a pair of speakers to its binding posts.

'Pre-Power Mode' disconnects the pre and power amp stages. The allows the **9000A** to be used solely as a power amp – for example, connected to an AV processor in a home cinema system. It also enables additional signal processing to be added, by connecting the **9000A**'s 'preamp out' socket to an external processor, then returning the processor's output to the amp's 'power amp in' socket, making the most of its gargantuan 100W per channel performance and critical performance characteristic of the **9000A**'s pre-section, regardless of what magic the users wants to implement in between!

Finally, 'Pre Mode' disables the power amp stage, turning the **9000A** into a still glorious standalone preamp. This enables external power amplification to be added, thus providing a possible upgrade path.

Never before has **audiolab** visited this price and performance category; new standards are set.

*Above: **audiolab 9000A** integrated amplifier (top), pairing with **audiolab** 9000CDT Cd transport in black finishes.*

CONFIDENTIAL. SHARED UNDER NDA. NOT FOR PUBLIC DOMAIN.

KEY FEATURES

Power to the people

The **9000A**'s all-new Class AB power amplifier offers 100w per channel into 8 ohms! (160W into 4 ohms).

Flexible and capable

The **9000A** offers versatility in operation as a fully-fledged integrated amplifier. It offers three operational models – Integrated, Pre-Power and Pre mode.

Digital face with an Analogue heart

On the face of it, the **9000A** is digitally enabled. However, the analogue circuity uses CFB (Complementary Feedback) topology, ensuring superior linearity and excellent thermal stability, as the idle current is kept independent of the temperature of the output transistors.

Flagship DAC

The **9000A** DAC is built around the ESS 9038PRO flagship 32-bit DAC chip, using the critically acclaimed patented HyperStream® II architecture and Time Domain Jitter Eliminator for the highest level of DAC performance.

MQA all the way

The **9000A** is a full MQA decoder This means that the complete 'three unfold' decoding process is performed internally, as opposed to just the final unfold in the manner of an MQA 'renderer', which makes the **9000A** an excellent system choice for subscribers to Tidal's 'HiFi Plus' tier where Tidal Masters (MQA) content can be found.

aptX HD

Bluetooth connectivity means that your smartphone, tablet or laptop can benefit from the quality of the amp's DAC section via the acclaimed aptX HD protocol.

High-performance Phono stage

A precise RIAA equalisation offers exceptional performance for turntable users.

Critical display

A 4.3" IPS LCD offers an interactive and graphic general user interface experience with VU meter options and instant access to menu settings.

SPECIFICATIONS

| Model	9000A
General Description	Integrated Amplifier
Design Philosophy And Core Technology	2 x 100W (8 ohms) / 2 x 160W (4 ohms) Class AB ES9038Pro 32-bit DAC 4.3" (800 x 480mm) Large Size Full View IPS LCD Built-in Certified Hardware MQA Full Decoder (PC USB, Coax/Optical) Support Bluetooth 5.0 (aptX/aptX HD/AAC/LDAC) Streaming Dedicated High Performance Low Noise MM Phono Stage Dedicated Current-feedback Headphone AMP Integrated / PRE-POWER / PRE Only Modes Support USB Upgrade
Inputs	3 x Analogue, 1 x XLR, 1 x Phono (MM) , 1 x Power Amplifier, 2 x SPDIF (Coax), 2 x SPDIF (Optical), 1 x PC USB (USB B), 1 x Bluetooth (aptX/aptX HD), 1 x 12V Trigger
Outputs	1 x PRE Amplifier, 1 x Stereo Speaker, 1 x Headphone, 1 x 12V Trigger
Sampling Frequency	Optical/Coaxial: 44.1kHz-192kHz; PC USB: 44.1kHz-768kHz (PCM) / DSD64, DSD128, DSD256, DSD512
Preamplifier Section	
Gain	+8dB (Line & XLR), +55dB (Phono MM)
Input Sensitivity	1Vrms (Line, Volume = 0dB); 2Vrms (XLR, Volume = 0dB), 4.4mV (Phono MM, Volume=0dB)
Input Impedance	10K (Line & XLR); 47K // 100pF (Phono MM)
Total Harmonic Distortion (THD)	< 0.0004% (1kHz @ 2V, Volume = 0dB)
Frequency Response	20Hz-20kHz (+/-0.1dB)
Output Voltage	2.3V max. (Volume = 0dB)
Output Impedance	120 ohms
Signal-to-Noise Ratio	> 112dB (Line & XLR, A-weighted)
DAC	
D to A Converter	ES9038Pro
Total Harmonic Distortion (THD)	< 0.001% (1kHz @ 0dBFS)
Output Level (0dBFS, 1kHz)	2.1Vrms
Max. Sampling Frequency	Optical, Coaxial: 192kHz; PC USB: PCM768kHz, DSD512
Signal-to-Noise Ratio (S/N)	> 117dB (A-weighted)
Power Amplifier Section	
Gain	+29dB
Rated Power Output	2 x 100W (8 ohms, THD<1%); 2 x160W (4 ohms, THD<1%)
Frequency Response	20Hz-20kHz (+/-0.3dB)
Total Harmonic Distortion (THD)	< 0.003% (1kHz @ 50W/8 ohms)
Input Sensitivity	1Vrms
Signal-to-Noise Ratio (S/N)	> 115dB (A-weighted)
Max. Output Current	15A
Headphone Amplifier	
Total Harmonic Distortion (THD)	< 0.01% (1kHz, 50mW)
Output Impedance	2.35 ohms
Load Impedance	20-600 ohms
General	
Standby Power Consumption	< 0.5W
Net Weight	8.4kg
Gross Weight	10.2kg
Dimensions (mm) (W x H x D)	444 x 342 x 89
Carton Size (mm) (W x H x D)	514 x 470 x 161
Finish	Black / Silver
Power Requirements (depending on region)	220-240V ~ 50/ 60Hz; 100-120V ~ 50/ 60Hz
Standard Accessories	Power Cord, Remote Control, User Manual, Antennas, etc.

INTERACTIVE GUI

COAX Playback Display
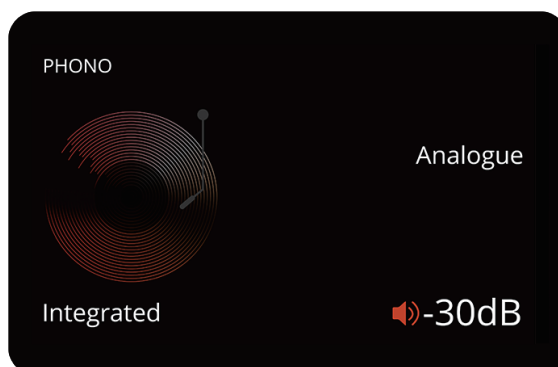
Phono Playback Display
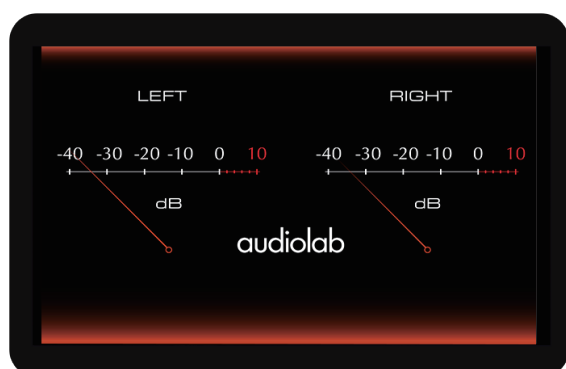
Analogue VU
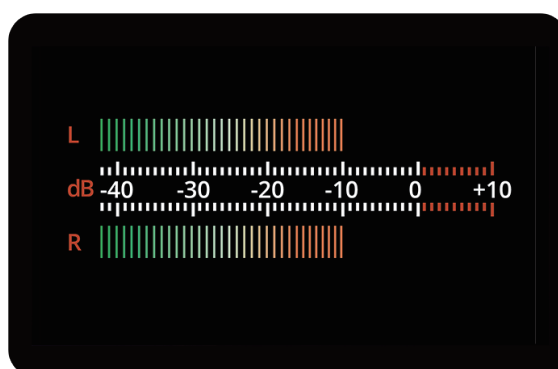
Digital VU

Audiolab

Volume Control

CONFIDENTIAL. SHARED UNDER NDA. NOT FOR PUBLIC DOMAIN.

audiolab

www.audiolab.co.uk   audiolabiag   audiolabhifi
Audiolab Official   audiolabhifi
IAG House, 13/14 Glebe Road, Huntingdon,
Cambridgeshire, PE29 7DL, UK

audiolab