



MyMac

We write about Apple stuff, usually. Since 1995!

[About](#)[Stoplight Network](#)[Videos](#)[Reviews](#)[Contact Us!](#)[← FaceFilter3 Pro for the Mac - Review](#)[MyMac Podcast #505: Red vs Blue \(or Black or Green\) →](#)

Audioengine's D1 Saved My Marriage – Nemo Memo

On May 19, 2014, in Adapter, AppleTV, Audio, Earphones, Features, Headphones, iOS, iPad, iPhone, iPod Touch, iTunes, Macintosh, Music, Nemo Memo, Opinion, Review, Speakers, by John Nemerovski

Audioengine's D1 Saved My Marriage

Audioengine D1 Premium 24-bit DAC (digital-to-analog converter)

Price: \$169



Support MyMac



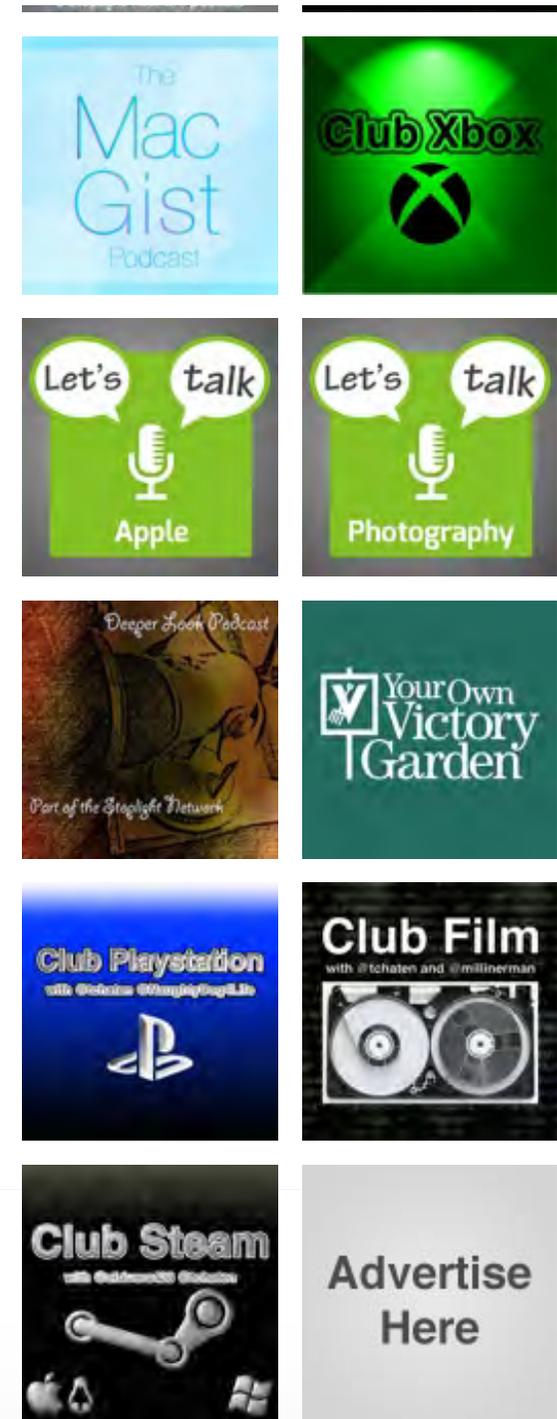
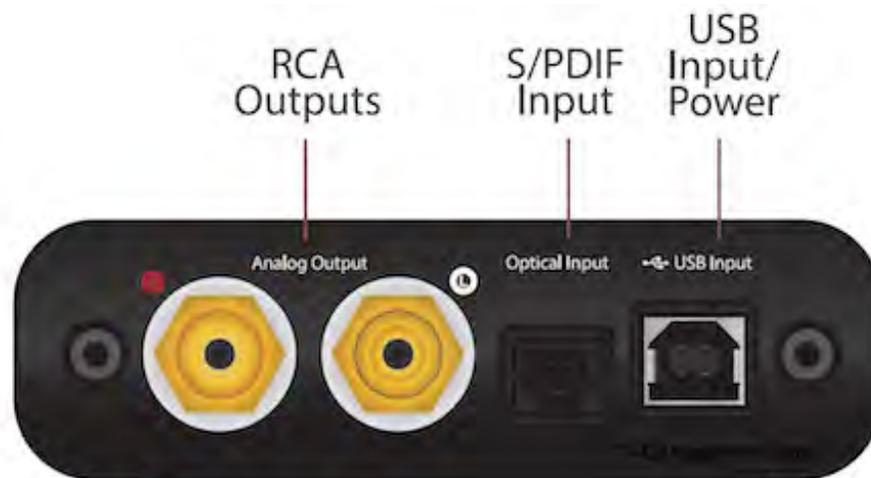
My Panasonic digital television does not have a headphone port. Why have TV manufacturers removed headphone ports from our equipment? How are people supposed to use headphones now? Why are we suddenly not interested in using them?

When I stream audio/video content from Netflix, Amazon, Hulu, or the iPad/iPhone, using an AppleTV or Roku box, there needs to be a straightforward way to listen with headphones without disturbing my wife reading in the living room. **Audioengine's D1** digital-to-analog converter is the solution and marriage saver.

This little USB-powered gem connects via a digital audio optical cable (not included) from a port on the rear of my TV to an identical port on the rear of the D1. I use my iPad's USB/AC charging plug to power the D1 from its included USB cable, because my television lacks a USB port.



There is a white LED on/off switch and power indicator. A volume knob on the front of the unit adjusts the audio output to analog headphones. Listening with my lightweight Skullcandy Aviator, affordable premium over-ear headphones, the digital audio output is world class. A pair of RCA speaker outputs is also on the rear of the D1, adjacent to the Optical Input.



The Panasonic TV's internal speakers need to be turned off using a series of actions on its remote control unit. The company's free phone tech support agent was extremely helpful with the initial setup of the D1 using my HDMI ports. Audioengine also provides toll-free USA phone and email support.



Log In

[Register](#)

[Log in](#)

[Entries RSS](#)

[Comments RSS](#)

[WordPress.org](#)

FaceBook



Audioengine's Setup Guide explains: *Optical sources must be set to PCM Stereo.* There was no such choice in the Panasonic's menu hierarchy. The guide continues: *The D1 optical input can accept optical streams from any optical (TOSLINK) source, such as TVs, Apple TV, DVD/BluRay players, CD players, etc. The D1 output can be connected to any gear with an analog audio input, such as powered speakers, a boom box, stereo system, etc.* I tested D1 using analog powered speakers, with success.

Reminder: Turn on your TV's internal speakers when you are not using D1, or else you will be in hot water with your other family members!

The company guarantees *your music will sound better*, and the results are remarkable. Audio is crisp, immersive, and full-spectrum, beyond any prior sonic experience MyMac has evaluated. Digital sound processing can introduce minor quirks that won't affect normal listening. A 30-day trial is available, with free shipping.

I have three warnings and one bonus. *The first is:* D1's headphone output is **extremely** powerful, so set it low and turn it up gradually until you achieve a comfortable listening level without causing ear or brain damage. *The second warning is:* Digital-to-analog-conversion brings to life the best and worst of the source audio, because you hear so much more. Good recordings sound great, and bad recordings don't. *Third warning is:* You will find more opportunities to use your headphones for video and audio streaming, allowing you to maintain a considerate relationship with your spouse or other housemates thanks to the splendid **Audioengine D1 Premium 24-bit DAC.**

Bonus: The digital sound source can connect to an AppleTV both with and without the television signal, meaning you can use the HDMI input to transmit digital audio from an iPhone or iPad via AirPlay for pure listening with the Music, Pandora, and RDIO apps, as examples.

[Skullcandy LINK](#)

Find us on Facebook



MyMac Podcast 516: SSD Lovelines



MyMac Podcast 516: SSD L

Guy is off this week and it's Gaz's turn to and lots of other craziness. This week the

[MYMAC.COM](#)

366 people like [MyMac.com](#).



Facebook social plugin

Sites We Like

[Daring Fireball](#)

[MyMac Podcast](#)



About the author

John Nemerovski

John "Nemo" Nemerovski is MyMac's Reviews Editor. He is a personal and group computer tutor in Tucson, Arizona, USA, with an emphasis on basic computing, digital photography, and Photoshop. Nemo is an accomplished music instructor on keyboard and guitar, and an expert artisan bread baker. If you are interested in writing reviews or requesting a product review on MyMac, contact him: nemo [a t] mymac [d o t] c o m.

[Visit Authors Website](#)

If you enjoyed this article, please consider sharing it!



Tagged with: **analog audio** • **Audioengine** • **Audioengine D1** • **digital audio** • **free shipping** • **RDIO** • **remote control** • **tech support** • **USB**

4 Responses to *Audioengine's D1 Saved My Marriage - Nemo Memo*



dalethorn says:

May 19, 2014 at 11:57 am

Awesome! The D1 isn't as small as the D3, but that volume control knob is a heavenly feature.

[Log in to Reply](#)



Donny Yankellow says:

May 19, 2014 at 6:53 pm

I ran into a similar issue with a TV we had with very poor sound. I wanted to attach speakers to what I thought was a headphone jack. Nothing worked, so I bought one of these: http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B00A6F31EQ/ref=oh_details_o02_s00_i00?ie=UTF8&psc=1 and turned it into a bluetooth capable TV and transmit the audio to a great sounding bluetooth speaker. I use an RCA to a headphone jack adapter and the results are fantastic.

[Log in to Reply](#)

myMac Podcast

Stoplight Network

TeacherCast

TechFan Podcast

Technologizer

The Apple Junkies

The Loop

Three Geeky Ladies

Top iPhone 5 Cases

Touch Arcade

Archives

Select Month



[RAVPower PORTABLE CHARGER Element 10...](#)

RAVPower

Best Price **\$25.00**
or Buy New **\$25.99**



[Privacy Information](#)



Owen Rubin says:

May 21, 2014 at 1:45 am

I have to agree John, the lack of an audio jack for headphones is a royal pain. But \$169 to solve the problem seems a bit extreme. If this is your only choice, then maybe that is worth it. But both my digital sets have left/right RCA audio outputs on them. Those plug into a my wireless headphones which costs about \$50. Since it is TV audio, I'm not so worried about quality, since I would not be using \$500 headphones anyway.

I also note that the analog audio out on both my TVs is on even when the internal speaker audio is "muted" by the TV, so it was easy to mute the TV when using the analog audio outputs for headphones, and luck for me, when the set is turned off and back on later, the mute is returned to normal.

[Log in to Reply](#)



John Nemerovski says:

May 21, 2014 at 8:33 pm

Thanks for your additions, Donny and Owen. This digital-analog-coverter is such high quality that I now choose to use it for audiophile-quality music listening! [Nemo]

[Log in to Reply](#)

Leave a Reply

You must be [logged in](#) to post a comment.

Categories

Select Category

Pages

Videos

Reviews

Staff

Podcast

Links

Wholesale iPhone accessories

Links

Visit Bigboxsave for iphone 4 cases.

MyMac Tags

.Mac Adobe Android
Apple][Apps Audio Bluetooth
book review Case David Pogue DVD