

PLAYER	RATINGS (1=POOR, HARD, WAKE, S=EXCELLENT, EASY, STRONG) [N/A=not done]										SUMMARY VALUES				SETUP TIME	DSD?	BIT PERF?	NOTES AND COMMENTS		
	D/Install	Config	Lib Mgt	Webstr m	System Reqs	Avntrio	Uti	Flxy	Unque	SQ	Aug	Sdv	# of Ss	# of Is						
Audacious	Win32	5	5	5	1	3	4	2	4	3	4	4	3.64	1.29	3	1	03:10	yes	yes	Very light (~20M RAM), fast & easy; basic player w/ many plugins, effects (e.g. 10 band EQ), LADSPA, echo, speedup/shr, resampling/downmixing; GUI based on XMMS2 can be redesigned; great for managing multiple playlists; loads tracks fast; does DTS & some AAC.
	Linux	5	5	5	1	3	4	2	4	3	4	3	3.55	1.29	3	1	01:20	no	To 24	
Colibri	D/Install	Config	Lib Mgt	Webstr m	System Reqs	Avntrio	Uti	Flxy	Unque	SQ	Aug	Sdv	# of Ss	# of Is						
	MacOS ONLY	4	4	3	3	4	5	3	3	4	3	4	3.64	0.67	1	0	100 long	yes	yes	The DAC/DSO test download (which I used) is free & has a GUI in it. The full package costs \$5 & may be worth it to some. I found the player to be a little weird; SQ's quite good but not top.
Cantata	Win32	5	5	5	4	5	4	4	4	5	4	4	4.27	0.90	5	0	02:30	yes	yes	A very nice "player" (actually an MPD front end) w/ great art & info from artist; great styling; better library & web functions; LAME (OEM RAA), best, clear GUI. No longer KDE, only Qt. Will play & rip CDs, but only on Linux. SQ is that of MPD; it's really an excellent open source player for audiophiles willing to configure MPD; SQ is up there with the best.
	Linux	5	5	5	4	5	4	4	4	5	4	5	4.55	0.52	6	0	02:10	yes	yes	
Daphnie	D/Install	Config	Lib Mgt	Webstr m	System Reqs	Avntrio	Uti	Flxy	Unque	SQ	Aug	Sdv	# of Ss	# of Is						
	MacOS ONLY	5	4	3	3	3	4	3	3	3	3	3	3.55	0.82	2	0	06:10	yes	yes	Five player (based on Squeecher) has many features; only needs USB DACs - no other options; web streaming seems limited to named sources; I suspect that a key player by RFP, from Frank Brunser controlled; headless; flexible config has more steps than many, installed on both AMD Ryzen and Intel Core boxes with identical results.
DaVinci	Win32	5	5	5	3	1	4	3	2	2	2	4	3.27	1.42	3	1	03:55	no	yes	Very fine - on Linux! Lightweight, flexible, nice GUI, great SQ, multiple playlists, looks like almost as good as it sounds - on Linux! Windows version is weak in comparison & won't do native DSD. There are many better alternatives for Win.
	Linux	5	5	5	4	1	5	4	4	4	4	5	4.18	1.17	5	1	02:35	yes	yes	
Dopamine	D/Install	Config	Lib Mgt	Webstr m	System Reqs	Avntrio	Uti	Flxy	Unque	SQ	Aug	Sdv	# of Ss	# of Is						
	Windows ONLY	4	4	4	3	1	3	4	4	3	3	4	3.36	0.92	0	1	04:50	no	yes	Limited file support but great looking GUI; heavy memory use; does static playlist but requires great tagging (which it does not do for you!)
Emmedia	D/Install	Config	Lib Mgt	Webstr m	System Reqs	Avntrio	Uti	Flxy	Unque	SQ	Aug	Sdv	# of Ss	# of Is						
	MacOS ONLY	4	4	4	2	1	3	3	4	2	2	4	3.00	1.10	0	1	endless	no	7	Emmedia suggests QuickTime on steroids to me; here version is fine for most audio use; "Pro" version has better library & web functions but costs \$30; install GUI with the usual bits and bobs, but no more than that; it does play FLACs and sounds good. But unless you want its video capabilities, I think there are many better choices for an audio player.
Fidella	D/Install	Config	Lib Mgt	Webstr m	System Reqs	Avntrio	Uti	Flxy	Unque	SQ	Aug	Sdv	# of Ss	# of Is						
	MacOS ONLY - & iOS versions	3	3	3	3	3	4	3	3	2	2	3	2.91	0.54	0	0	05:20	yes	no	Seems like an iTunes substitute, sounds OK but only goes to RedBook spec in my virtual machine tests. Seems to perform up to RedBook when set up right, but I don't think most audiophiles would like it as much as many others would like a bit better on a native Mac platform than it is on VMware and VirtualBox; not great with playlists.
Foobar2000	D/Install	Config	Lib Mgt	Webstr m	System Reqs	Avntrio	Uti	Flxy	Unque	SQ	Aug	Sdv	# of Ss	# of Is						
	Win32	4	5	3	3	4	4	3	4	5	5	5	4.09	0.83	4	0	04:45	yes	yes	The grand old man is a bit more complex than many, it's do almost anything I do well - stream from & over the web; play CDs, edit tags, rip perfect to MP3, etc. SQ is excellent when set up right, but the options to use many plugins are outdated - but over 100 are great. Need plugins for DSD & many other file formats, but they are available & work well.
GmusicBrowser	D/Install	Config	Lib Mgt	Webstr m	System Reqs	Avntrio	Uti	Flxy	Unque	SQ	Aug	Sdv	# of Ss	# of Is						
	Linux ONLY	4	4	4	3	1	2	4	4	4	4	4	3.45	1.04	0	1	01:00	no	yes	not great for most audiophiles; self-described as "a customizable open source jukebox for larger music collections"; fast & easy; displays & tags big collections well; but keyboard navigation leaves CPU; no many options we don't want or need; "you have to love it to use it. But it sure was fast to load, install, and set up!
GogglesMM	D/Install	Config	Lib Mgt	Webstr m	System Reqs	Avntrio	Uti	Flxy	Unque	SQ	Aug	Sdv	# of Ss	# of Is						
	Linux ONLY	5	5	4	3	1	5	3	3	2	2	4	3.36	1.36	3	1	04:00	no	yes	simple, light, basic player with modest but pleasant library and capabilities; the player's "volume control" appears to control the ALSA volume setting directly.
Guyavere	D/Install	Config	Lib Mgt	Webstr m	System Reqs	Avntrio	Uti	Flxy	Unque	SQ	Aug	Sdv	# of Ss	# of Is						
	Linux ONLY	5	5	5	4	4	5	4	4	3	3	4	4.18	0.75	4	0	02:40	no	yes	Guyavere is a resource hungry, popular, tried & true Linux-only player that under active development; huge library and no problem - it makes a great "juke box" player for unattended background and general listening; many capabilities will want more than it does.
Jakub	D/Install	Config	Lib Mgt	Webstr m	System Reqs	Avntrio	Uti	Flxy	Unque	SQ	Aug	Sdv	# of Ss	# of Is						
	Win32	5	5	5	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4.18	0.60	3	0	03:25	no (?)	yes	Fast to load, install & configure - a very nice & flexible player. Provides great info like artists, disc, etc. on Wikipedia and other sites; good web radio / stream playing; Runs on Win, Mac, Linux; Linux instances require .NET rather than .NET runtime environment - not so good being on a Linux platform; probably worth the effort only if you want the info displays.
Kodi	D/Install	Config	Lib Mgt	Webstr m	System Reqs	Avntrio	Uti	Flxy	Unque	SQ	Aug	Sdv	# of Ss	# of Is						
	MacOS ONLY	5	5	5	2	5	4	3	2	4	4	5	4.00	1.18	5	0	03:50	no	yes	A media player out of Xbox with .NET that does auto-well - most standard formats + PCM to 24/384 & AAC; it's really for HT / video more than audio, but you don't have to use the rest; most flexible auto-well through HDMI into DAC, choice, FLAC via USB from Rtp sources; excellent; I don't think most instances appear though - you have to download and reinstall most Linux & Mac.
Lollypop	D/Install	Config	Lib Mgt	Webstr m	System Reqs	Avntrio	Uti	Flxy	Unque	SQ	Aug	Sdv	# of Ss	# of Is						
	Linux ONLY	5	5	3	2	5	4	4	3	3	4	3.82	0.98	3	0	07:10	no	to RB	Latest version has attractive, flexible, intuitive GNOME GUI (now also with responsive formatting); better response when you use it; friendly, and easy to download & install, but fast & easy to use once set up; according to my CPU, it's not encrypting above 4.4 in the resolution but is bit perfect up to it using ALSA & Jack.	
MediaMonkey	D/Install	Config	Lib Mgt	Webstr m	System Reqs	Avntrio	Uti	Flxy	Unque	SQ	Aug	Sdv	# of Ss	# of Is						
	Windows ONLY	5	5	5	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4.27	0.47	3	0	04:05	no	no	Win only MM has some nice features, including a slightly different GUI that some may prefer; it's not really an audiophile player though - limited formats (no DSD); handles large libraries well & is an impressive tagger; GUI is quite flexible for content, if you appearance; another player with more video than audio capabilities, but fine for mp3 & AAC.
Moode	D/Install	Config	Lib Mgt	Webstr m	System Reqs	Avntrio	Uti	Flxy	Unque	SQ	Aug	Sdv	# of Ss	# of Is						
	R Pi 3B+ image includes OS	5	5	4	3	5	3	3	3	4	5	4.00	0.89	4	0	07:35	yes	yes	GUI is slow and difficult with big file collections; sounds great like other top quality Pi players; web interface looks & works great; excellent web radio streamer; uses MPD as back end, so SQ can be excellent if set up properly (which is a bit tedious, but not that hard and worth the effort).	
MPD	D/Install	Config	Lib Mgt	Webstr m	System Reqs	Avntrio	Uti	Flxy	Unque	SQ	Aug	Sdv	# of Ss	# of Is						
	Win32	WIN 10 BLOCKED MULTIPLE ATTEMPTS TO INSTALL - REPORTEDLY WORKS LIKE LINUX VERSION BUT I DID NOT PERSIST																		
Musique	D/Install	Config	Lib Mgt	Webstr m	System Reqs	Avntrio	Uti	Flxy	Unque	SQ	Aug	Sdv	# of Ss	# of Is						
	Win32	5	5	4	4	4	3	5	5	4	4	5	4.36	0.67	5	0	02:50	yes	yes	Great GUI, art & info whiffled with sources; SQ very fine; easy to set; robust tagging capability; MAC is 5.1. Wine is more flexible than it should be, i.e. you can get it right & well (although far from most) Win apps on a Linux box (can use ALSA & Jack), I'm not bother unless it's an app I really can't live without. I really like Musique on Win10.
Musique	D/Install	Config	Lib Mgt	Webstr m	System Reqs	Avntrio	Uti	Flxy	Unque	SQ	Aug	Sdv	# of Ss	# of Is						
	Win32	5	5	5	2	1	4	4	4	4	4	3.36	1.43	3	1	02:05	yes	yes	Very nice GUI, cross-platform player looks & works very well; suggests a few options to use a 1.8k track library (did not try on Mac); installation was taking too much time & web reviews are consistent with my findings on Win and Linux; another great player that's probably not going to delight most audiophiles.	
Pine	D/Install	Config	Lib Mgt	Webstr m	System Reqs	Avntrio	Uti	Flxy	Unque	SQ	Aug	Sdv	# of Ss	# of Is						
	MacOS ONLY - & iOS versions	5	5	5	4	3	4	3	3	3	4	5	4.00	0.89	4	0	forever	yes	yes	Simple Mac audio player does 32/384, SACD, DSD; simple but very usable GUI; great sound through well chosen audio system; getting up and running on my native Mac was a little challenging, but not because of the player - I suspect it's excellent on a real Mac - I may have to buy one just to try some of these!
Qamp	D/Install	Config	Lib Mgt	Webstr m	System Reqs	Avntrio	Uti	Flxy	Unque	SQ	Aug	Sdv	# of Ss	# of Is						
	Linux	5	5	5	2	5	2	2	3	2	2	3	3.27	1.42	4	0	02:31	no	?	Light Minimalist Qt player; small & simple GUI; many skins & PUs out there; quick & easy from start to play; good streaming w/ PL; EQ toggles (not) but gain control always active; so may be bit perfect at 256k gain; but "slider" has no scale & stops short of one; so just can't tell without intensive, time consuming tests that would have made this comparison take 3 more months.
Quodlibet	D/Install	Config	Lib Mgt	Webstr m	System Reqs	Avntrio	Uti	Flxy	Unque	SQ	Aug	Sdv	# of Ss	# of Is						
	Win32	5	5	4	4	4	3	2	2	3	4	4	3.64	1.03	2	0	02:00	yes	?	Easy to use but fairly basic; album art but no added info; Linux install is OK, which makes installing a bit; handles large libraries well but without much sophistication in display options; Bit perfect if set up for it; WARSAP, ALSA, optional gain controls; etc; great tagging; audio config a bit more complex than others in Linux; I think it's downscaling DSD but can't tell for sure.
Rhythmbox	D/Install	Config	Lib Mgt	Webstr m	System Reqs	Avntrio	Uti	Flxy	Unque	SQ	Aug	Sdv	# of Ss	# of Is						
	Linux	5	5	5	3	4	4	2	3	2	2	4	3.55	1.21	3	0	02:28	no	no	Pretty bland overall - simple to set up but not a high end audio machine; I had no functional problems, but there are many online reports of crashes with large libraries; Sound quality is limited by its capabilities, although equal to most others for lower quality source files; Very good for podcasts & internet radio but, again, only low res (rip & RedBook OK); Linux distros - easy install.
RuneAudio	D/Install	Config	Lib Mgt	Webstr m	System Reqs	Avntrio	Uti	Flxy	Unque	SQ	Aug	Sdv	# of Ss	# of Is						
	MacOS ONLY - image includes OS	5	5	5	3	3	4	3	4	3	3	5	3.51	0.84	4	0	03:45	yes	yes	A very nice player with .NET; uses MPD backend & can be set up for bit perfect play and DSD (MUST disable volume control); Beaglebone Black is a bit light in the processing department for high res, big library maintenance etc.
Sayonara	D/Install	Config	Lib Mgt	Webstr m	System Reqs	Avntrio	Uti	Flxy	Unque	SQ	Aug	Sdv	# of Ss	# of Is						
	Linux only	5	5	3	3	5	5	3	4	3	4	4	4.00	0.89	4	0	04:12	no	maybe	Very nice GUI on an average player; lots of DSP built in, some of which is very useful for a music player; good control; it does not seem to do bit perfect playback though; ? because of all the built in weakly very very internet radio, search & display.
Tomahawk	D/Install	Config	Lib Mgt	Webstr m	System Reqs	Avntrio	Uti	Flxy	Unque	SQ	Aug	Sdv	# of Ss	# of Is						
	MacOS ONLY	4	4	2	3	5	4	4	3	4	3	3	3.73	0.90	2	0	08:45	no	*	Tomahawk is a truly unique but abandoned player - it occurs much from your files, other! Thank you to the web & via search APIs; download from GitHub; user manual page HTML; the Tomahawk website; these security flags in every browser / use & it is apparently no longer supported or updated; most are based search; SQ very fine w/ source - "99% on 4.1, local files w/ALSA.
VLK	D/Install	Config	Lib Mgt	Webstr m	System Reqs	Avntrio	Uti	Flxy	Unque	SQ	Aug	Sdv	# of Ss	# of Is						
	Win32	5	5	5	3	4	4	2	3	3	3	4	3.73	1.01	3	0	02:50	yes	no	VLK is a very nice basic player with a nice, simple, easy GUI & quick; regarding, my versions still won't do native DSD or DDP; has a nice video function that's not relevant to this review.
Voluum	D/Install	Config	Lib Mgt	Webstr m	System Reqs	Avntrio	Uti	Flxy	Unque	SQ	Aug	Sdv	# of Ss	# of Is						
	Linux ONLY - image includes OS	3	5	5	4	4	2	3	4	3	5	3.89	1.05	3	0	23:15	yes	yes	News on SRCB - very light System runs entirely in RAM; does DSD + DDP; Tidal & Qobuz integrated well; download / burn / install more flexible than most; the .NET makes one more device a dedicated Voluum player; recent PC releases works same way on ARM platform; Can use small PC with no fan; another great player, but I wouldn't use a bit PC on it.	
Vox	D/Install	Config	Lib Mgt	Webstr m	System Reqs	Avntrio	Uti	Flxy	Unque	SQ	Aug	Sdv	# of Ss	# of Is						
	MacOS ONLY - & iOS for Cloud (S)	5	5	5	4	5	4	4	4	4	5	4.45	0.52	5	0	endless	yes	yes	Vox is a seriously nice player for Mac; versatile; great SQ at 100% gain w/ DSP; free version is excellent & paid adds great web function + preferred cloud for music; optional OS app (S) to stream remotely; DLNA "coming soon" for LAN streaming.	
WinMediaPlayer	D/Install	Config	Lib Mgt	Webstr m	System Reqs	Avntrio	Uti	Flxy	Unque	SQ	Aug	Sdv	# of Ss	# of Is						
	Windows ONLY	5	5	3	2	3	3	2	2	3	3	3	3.00	1.10	2	0	00:00	yes	no	WMP is nobody's friend - but with ASIO & WASAPI set to exclusive access plus good hardware,