Pro-Ject
AUDIO SYSTEMS

EISA AWARD **Best Product** 2017-2018
DAC/HEADPHONE AMPLIFIER
Pro-Ject Pre Box S2 Digital

Hi·Res AUDIO

32 bit | 768 kHz

DSD Direct Stream Digital

MQA

roon tested

EDITION **23**

Pre Box S2 Digital

Improved 2023 edition of a Modern Pro-Ject Classic

MSRP 449 € (incl. VAT)

Color options: ● ○

- **NEW** powerful output stage for headphones
- **NEW** analogue output stage - higher Class A current
- **NEW** redesigned discrete audio master clock
- **NEW** internal power supply design
- **NEW** less energy consumption - more power, higher efficiency - saves battery life for mobile devices
- Dual mono high end ESS Sabre ESS9038 dual DAC
- Organic polymer capacitors
- Thin film mini MELF resistors
- MQA hardware decoding for USB input
- DSD64 / 128 / 256 / 512
- Up to 24bit/192kHz for optical & coax inputs
- 7 selectable digital filter characteristics
- 1 proprietary optimum transient digital filter
- Synchronization of all internal oscillators
- Jitter even lower than 100 Femtoseconds!
- Gold plated four layer PCB
- Full aluminium enclosure in silver or black
- Made in Europe

3 digital inputs: 1x coax (S/PDIF), 1x optical (TOSlink®), USB B

D/A-converter: 2x ESS9038Q2M 32-bit PCM 768kHz / DSD512

Headphone amplifier chip: ESS9603Q

Sampling rates: 32/44,1/48/88,2/96/176,2/192/352,8/384/768 kHz

DSD support (USB input only): up to DSD256 (DoP) and 512 (native)

MQA support (USB input only): full MQA unfolding by hardware

Filter settings: 8 different selectable on front

Frequency response: 20Hz - 20kHz

Analogue out: 6.3mm Headphone Out (front), 1x Variable Out (RCA)

Output voltage: 2,05 Veff

Headphone output power: 100mW (32Ohms)

THD: 0,0003%

Dynamic Range: 124dBA

Power consumption: 5V, micro USB

Dimensions: 103 x 37 x 122 mm (including knob and connectors)

Weight: 366g without power supply

PRO-JECT AUDIO SYSTEMS
www.project-audio.com

Technical data and price changes reserved.
Page 1/4

Pre Box S2 Digital - Edition 23

The Pre Box S2 Digital - since its release back in 2017 - has quickly ascended to an **exceptional status in the DAC market** and gained a **reputation among digital and PC-audio enthusiasts** for its remarkable ability to **compete way above its price point**.

An audiophile bargain

Working with one of the **best digital designers** in the industry, **John Westlake,** the original Pre Box S2 Digital has become an **audiophile bargain,** able to compete with products way above its price. The reason is John Westlake's **outstanding PCB** and **proprietary clock circuitry** design. Digital audio is the art of time, with our new proprietary clock design we have managed **jitter rates of unrivalled 100 Femtoseconds**, this easily outperforms many renowned and respected audiophile clock generators!

Digital design at its best

The Pre Box S2 Digital might not have had the greatest options of inputs, outputs or other convenience features, but it **excelled in one crucial aspect - its audio performance** - which stood on par with DACs of price tags **several thousand euros higher**. This achievement can be attributed to a combination of factors, including a **custom and proprietary clock design**, **meticulous PCB layout** featuring **separate power supplies**, **dual differential ESS DACs**, and an **exclusive proprietary digital filter** designed to deliver pristine and transparent transient response. The Pre Box S2 Digital may seem small, but it is really the ultimate design.

It only gets better - new Edition 23 improvements

The chip crisis of 20/21 has hit the Pre Box S2 Digital particularly hard, given its enduring demand. But during the downtime, we and **John Westlake** seized the opportunity to **implement key improvements** and **refine the design**, thus rejuvenating the product almost exactly 5 years after its original introduction.

Redesigned master audio clocks

We have redesigned and **improved the discrete audio master clocks** – this **lowers the phase noise** and further enhances the already **cutting-edge jitter** performance.
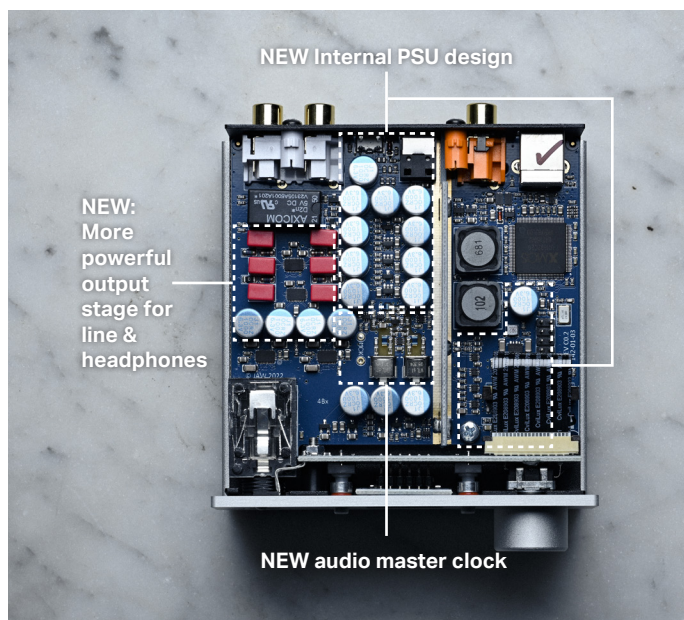

PRO-JECT AUDIO SYSTEMS
www.project-audio.com

Technical data and price changes reserved.
Page 2/4

New internal power supply design

The **power supply units** (PSUs) of clock, DACs, and analog output stages have undergone enhancements to offer **increased isolation from PC USB power noise** and achieve a **wider/flatter output impedance** across the entire audio bandwidth.

New output stage with higher Class-A current

The **new analogue output stage,** based around the **SABRE9603Q**, has **higher Class A operating current,** for **improved performance** with **low impedance headphones** and **long cable runs**.

NEW Internal PSU design

NEW:
More powerful output stage for line & headphones

NEW audio master clock

New headphone amplifier

The entire design is now **more energy efficient** – a **12% reduction in PSU current**, while also offering **higher Class A analogue stage operating current** resulting in **lower distortion** when used with low impedance headphones. Users with mobile devices or laptops on-the-go will also appreciate the **lower power draw**, and **simultaneously enjoy more power** for the energy that is being drawn. And for anyone finding themselves using **low-impedance headphones or in-ears** – whether in a mobile, home, or work environment: they will experience a **noteable boost in sound quality** too.

Unbeatable value - handmade in Europe

Normally **up to 70%** of Hi-Fi production cost **goes into the cabinet**. By **reducing the cabinet size** and **using the same casework** for entire product-lines Pro-Ject can shift the cost-relation to the **benefit of technology involved**. This allows us to invest in a **higher quality PCB design**. The Pre Box S2 Digital Edition 2023 is carefully **designed and handmade in Europe**. We aim to develop a **technically flawless device** in a housing that is only **as big as necessary** to save raw materials. Due to the **timeless design & rigid aluminium casework**, the Pre Box S2 Digital Edition 2023 is built for eternity.

PRO-JECT AUDIO SYSTEMS
www.project-audio.com

Technical data and price changes reserved.
Page 3/4

Off the grid

It is a known fact that one of the best ways to eliminate noise in a Hi-Fi system is to supply the electricity with batteries. The **Accu Box S2** can supply clean power for the **Pre Box S2 Digital and the Stream Box S2 Ultra simultaneously** and shares the same quaint footprint and case as its brethren.

Partner in crime

The **ideal streaming partner** is the **Stream Box S2 Ultra** for seamless compatibility. The Stream Box S2 Ultra is also a brainchild of **John Westlake**. This duo has impressed many reviewers over the years and both are destined to become **Pro-Ject classics**. You can use supplied remote control of the Pre Box S2 Digital to control the Stream Box functions as well.

PRO-JECT AUDIO SYSTEMS
www.project-audio.com

Technical data and price changes reserved.
Page 4/4