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# hi-fi+



December 2022

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# AWARDS

The best products of the year



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Plus! Tests of Allnic Audio, MBL, REL, and Synergistic Research



# Vermeer Audio Model THREE D

**WINNER**  
DAC

**V**ermeer Audio has a small, but intelligent, line of digital products. The first design from the brand – Model TWO – is a full-function digital hub in no small part inspired by the technology of the late, lamented Audio Aero LaFontaine. THREE D draws heavily from the Model TWO, delivering a fine Streaming DAC in the process.

Like the Model TWO, it supports 32bit, 384kHz PCM audio and DSD128 through its USB and LAN connections. The Vermeer Audio Model THREE D goes up to 24bit, 192kHz and DSD64 on S/PDIF and AES/EBU. But unlike the Model TWO it doesn't include an analogue preamplifier and doesn't weigh as much as a power amplifier. Having no analogue preamplifier allows the Model TWO to feature Leedh's innovative digital volume algorithm in place of the more commonplace 'bit-chopping'. This makes the volume control uniquely low noise but doesn't undermine digital performance at any volume level.

In our test, Alan Sircom found the Model THREE D shared much of the performance of its bigger brother, saying "the Model THREE D retains that 'drawing you in' property that pulls you closer to the music, virtually regardless of file type or musical genre. I found myself listening to a wide range of listening pleasures and enjoying and understanding them perfectly." He added that, "It accompanies your digital music, and makes a very fluid, engaging and attractive sound while so doing. This is a digital replay device that is on the full side rather than stark, with an effortless rhythm and plenty of detail."

He concluded the review by saying, "THREE D by name, THREE D by nature. The Vermeer Model THREE D produces an extremely holographic soundstage. If that was all, it would probably be enough, but as it follows closely in the footsteps trodden by its bigger brother, at a fraction of the cost and one third the weight it's a hard thing not to love."

Reviewed in Issue **212**

**Manufacturer • [vermeeraudio.com](http://vermeeraudio.com)**

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# VERMEER AUDIO

Haute Fidelite a la Française

[www.vermeeraudio.com](http://www.vermeeraudio.com)