

KARIK

Following on from the introduction of the Karik CD transport and the Numerik D-A Converter Linn has developed the single-box Karik CD Player, a development made possible by substantial investment in 'surface-mount' circuit board technology. To achieve the performance that the Karik/Numerik offers in stages the combination can now be split for stand-alone operation of the transport by incorporating an internal DAC within every Karik player. Customers can purchase the Karik first and improve its performance at a later stage if desired by simply plugging in the Numerik Converter.

The methodology employed by Linn makes the Karik a genuinely upgradeable and serviceable CD transport. Featuring a four motor mechanism designed and manufactured by Linn, the Karik is designed to be extremely rugged, reliable and serviceable, as well as play music of the highest possible quality available in a single-box CD player. The diagnostic output, allowing retailers to monitor the performance and remaining life of the laser, is clear evidence of Linn's commitment to product serviceability and customer service. A Linn retailer will be able to handle a laser replacement in the field almost as easily and economically as a stylus replacement.

The internal D-A Converter uses delta-sigma conversion technology, which necessitates an extremely high-quality clock signal. A notable feature is that the master clock frequency for the DAC is gained from a dedicated, low phase-noise oscillator. In the conventional approach, the master clock is generated from an oscillator inside the CD-decoder chip and is inevitably corrupted by the circuitry involved in driving the mechanism. In the Karik the accuracy and quality of the clock signal (which in turn dictates the quality of the music signal) remains uncompromised

The DAC circuitry is mounted in a completely screened enclosure to avoid interference both to and from the circuitry and features on-board voltage regulation and local analogue muting. The master clock signal is transferred into the DAC through a screened coaxial lead to minimise noise radiation and pick-up.

Linn's philosophy of supporting customers and ensuring long-term upgradeability of products and systems is well represented by this development. The stand-alone Karik offers performance and value in line with Linn's reputation and our customers' expectations.

The benefit of adding a Numerik D-A converter connected by our Sync-Link to the Karik is substantial and is a clear indication of the strength of Linn's design and manufacturing expertise.

For more information please contact Linn Products Ltd
Customer Services on Freephone 0500 888 909

KARIK TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Dimensions

Width	-	320mm	Height	-	80mm
Depth	-	325mm	Weight	-	5.3kg

Transport

Linn Mekk 001

Focus System

Triple Beam Laser Pickup

Outputs

S/P DIF DIGITAL AUDIO ELECTRICAL OUTPUT (for connection to Numerik or other external audio processors with phono inputs).

Connector	-	75ohm BNC
Level	-	0.5V pp (75 ohms)

S/P DIF DIGITAL AUDIO OPTICAL OUTPUT (providing complete electrical isolation between the Karik and other digital processors processors using high speed fibre optic link). EIAJ (CP340) Fibre Optic Connector

2 x STEREO AUDIO OUTPUTS (for connection to preamplifier, and direct connection to another system such as multi-room application).

Phono - Phono leads provided.

DIAGNOSTIC OUTPUT (used by retailer to check for tracking errors, error rates and laser performance)

Interface to Linn Karik test equipment

Connector - 9-way D-type

Level - TTL

REMOTE OUTPUT (for use in distributed audio system enabling access by remote control to various Linn products throughout the home)

Current loop remote control output

Connector - RCA Phono

Level - 6mA output signal current

Inputs

CD SYNC INPUT

Master/Slave Input Connection for Numerik Converter

Connector - RCA Phono

Level - 0-10V DC

REMOTE INPUT (for distributed audio system)

Current loop remote control input

Maximum CD current source - 40mA (short circuit protected)

Sensitivity - 5mA differential signal current

Bias voltage - 10V (to power remote IR sensor)

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Since the Karik's introduction in 1991 we have made several improvements to the already outstanding engineering of the Karik, including advanced surface mount technology, ingenious circuitry and a new power supply the 'Brilliant', all of which allow the Karik to offer new levels of superior performance for CD.

The Linn development team have re-designed the main circuit board to exploit the key aspects of high quality automated surface mount technology such as ultra short signal paths, high component densities and dramatically reduced electromagnetic radiation.

These advantages optimise the potential of the Brilliant power supply, allow improved isolation of the Sync link, lower clock jitter and produce a cleaner audio output. (Please note that while the sync link has improved isolation and is now insensitive to cable types, the correct RF digital audio cable must still be used!)

Digital to Analogue conversion previously handled by the remote Kyle board is now part of the main circuit board. This improved layout also eliminates any potential hum loop with the preamplifier.

By placing the majority of parts on the top side of the circuit board, an improved, controlled and segmented ground plane on the underside gives better signal integrity and reduces electrical noise.

At the heart of the CD player, the servo processor now has much better tolerance to disc defects without comprising sound quality.

With such advanced miniaturisation surface mount technology, it is difficult to believe when you look inside the product, that there are now virtually as many parts on one main circuit board as were previously used on both the main and Kyle boards.

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