

# HEGEL USB QUESTIONS



## Things you were afraid to ask about USB sound cards

Below are a few questions and answers, that you might not dare to ask in a shop. And if you did, the sales person might not be able to answer you anyway.

### USB CAN PLAY ALL FILE TYPES

**FACT:** An external USB DAC will play any audio signal that your computer has codec or drivers for.

### I RISK MY HEGEL USB DAC TO ACQUIRE UPDATE

**WRONG:** When the USB DAC installs itself on your computer, the operating system will automatically know what it can handle. The computer will decode the sound accordingly.

### THE SOUND FROM A COMPUTER IS BETTER THAN CD

**WRONG:** Technically it is, but at this time we would rather say that it is comparable to CD, at its best. When more high resolution, and at least full resolution music, becomes available for online shopping, this could change.

### HEGEL USB DAC's PLAYS 24BIT/96KHZ SIGNALS

**FACT:** Your Hegel USB soundcard can play any file the computer can play. And it does it with remarkable sound quality.

### FLAC AND WMA-LOSSLESS FORMATS ARE AS GOOD AS CD

**WRONG:** Unfortunately as it is, it does not sound as good. The only file format that is equal to CD is WAV. The two mentioned above are technically just as good, but they are degraded when unpacked by your computer's operating system.

### I SHOULD KEEP WINDOWS SYSTEM VOLUME BELOW 80%

**FACT:** When Windows system volume control exceeds 80% of its maximum, the level of distortion increases a lot. Keeping it lower will give you the best sound. Why, we do not know. But it is easily measurable.

### I NEED TO INSTALL DRIVERS ON MY COMPUTER

**WRONG:** Your Hegel USB soundcard will install automatically as a "generic soundcard". When turned off or disconnected, your computer will return to normal operation.