



Computer Audio Design USB Filter

**HIGHLY COMMENDED
NETWORK AUDIO DEVICE**

When Computer Audio Design launched its USB II-R cable (and to critical acclaim, we should add), it also released a USB Filter as an upgrade for users of other brands of USB cables. Simply connect CAD's USB Filter between your cable's USB-B plug and your audio system's USB-Type B receiver socket, and be prepared to become a believer.

While the exact nature of its filtration remains a secret, this tiny device is designed to reduce high-frequency noise on the four conductors within any USB cable: the two signal, ground and the particularly problematic power rail. Indeed, as the process of USB sending the necessary 5V to power connected devices is inherently noisy, the USB Filter introduces an additional buffer between that noise source and your USB receiver.

One filter for all

Most high-performance USB cables claim to reduce noise between conductors and the outside world, but the CAD filter will help anything from a giveaway USB cable on up. Alan Sircom tested it with many USB cables, and found it functioned effectively on all of them.

"Already quick-sounding USB cables acquire a slightly 'crisper' and 'livelier' quality, expansive cables gain additional dynamic range and scale, and those cables that excel in enhancing a soundstage suddenly uncover even more potential," he says, also adding that its focus "lies in leading-edge extraction, enhancing rhythmic drive and dynamic range". Use USB cables? CAD's filter will undoubtedly bring out the best in them.

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