

# DS-10

HIGH-END DAC - STREAMER - LINE PREAMP - HEADPHONES AMPLIFIER



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# PACKAGE CONTENT

DS-10

1 AC cable

1 Ethernet cable

1 Wi-Fi antenna

1 Bluetooth antenna

Remote control + battery

User manual

# INTRODUCTION AND FEATURES

## AUDIO STREAMING JUST BECAME BETTER

DS-10 is designed to cover the needs of the contemporary audiophile completing any audio system while offering almost all kind of internet and digital connectivity with the purity of the premium Gold Note High-End audio performance in a convenient elegant shape.

DS-10 is an innovative D/A Converter inspired by the acclaimed top model DS-1000 merging the extended features of IS-1000 all-in-one unit adding ; even something more: To make the DS-10 ever more interesting we have introduced a High-End headphones amplifier and Bluetooth 5.0 for the first time ever.

## DIGITAL AUDIO DAC AND FULL FUNCTION STREAMER

DS-10 is a new generation D/A Converter and UPnP, DLNA Streamer created to revolution any audio system being able to browse Web Streaming Players and Digital Sources.

DS-10 can be matched with traditional CD player, TV or Media Server as well as it is compatible with almost all Internet services including Roon, Tidal, Qobuz, Airplay, Spotify, Deezer, V-Tuner, from which it can play DSD, PCM and MQA formats all to enjoy real "High-End Audio" as a new refreshing experience, hassle and cable free.

## PREAMPLIFIER AND HEADPHONES AMP

DS-10 also features an On/Off switchable High-End audio analogue preamp stage.

All the different remote controls including a computer App make it easy to control DS-10 synchronizing the unit to all functions and letting even the web players play analogue volume when the preamp stage is activated, guaranteeing the best performance ever.

DS-10 also features a professional 6.3mm headphones output with a proprietary technology which allows selecting two sensitivity levels to drive almost any kind of headphones.



# INTRODUCTION AND FEATURES

## DIGITAL CHAMELEON DAC

DS-10 has a very unique feature that distinguishes it from every other DAC: the selection of three different profiles lets the listener change the sound character of the DAC similar to a chameleon, making the DS-10 the most versatile unit on the market.

For the first time ever, the set up functions that are part of the basic operation of any digital converter are accessible to the end user: the Low Pass filter, high-frequency De-emphasis and internal Power of the DAC. The user can adjust those parameters via the clear menu on the display, browsing with the rotary switch knob or with the remote control modifying and storing 3 presets as desired or use the DAC in standard set up. The adjustments to the electrical profiles of the DAC can be made in real time according to the music playing allowing to perfectly match the DS-10 to one's stereo system and above all to anyone's listening preferences, all of this without modifying directly the audio signal.

## QUICK TO INSTALL AND EASY TO USE

DS-10 is a true High-End Audio DAC capable of audiophile sound from digital files featuring Streamer and Network Player functions to help enjoying favorite music always with the greatest audio quality, fully controlled via App, remote and front knob to make it work super easily.

## NEW TOTAL CONTROL OVER YOUR SYSTEM

A nice looking 2,8" TFT monitor displays the main functions of the DS-10 in a clear menu that's easy to browse. Thanks to the exclusive SKC (Single Knob Control) on the front panel, the handset

remote control and the Gold Note App the unit becomes an extremely user-friendly source you can always easily control from any listening position. DS-10 features an easy set up Apple iOS and Android proprietary software for full control via iPhones and iPads as well as smart phones and tablets. The App makes it easy to control even the digital inputs displaying all meta data, cover and information registered on the track as well as real resolution format.

## DIGITAL AUDIO DAC AND PERFORMANT STREAMER

DS-10 offers multiple solutions to play your favourite music being connected to other devices via Wifi/LAN but also via Bluetooth 5.0 of the latest generation, thus guaranteeing the best sonic performances. DS-10 reproduces music from USB flash drives (FAT32/NTFS formatted) via USB-A, converts audio from digital to analog via inputs including S/PDIF coax, TOS optical, AES/EBU asynchronous, PCM 24bit/192kHz and through its USB-B host also permits converting DSD native 64/128 and PCM up to 32bit/384kHz audio files.

## DURABLE DESIGN 100% MADE IN ITALY

DS-10 features a great mechanical structure made of solid machined steel and thick aluminium panels to guarantee low frequency resonance, feedback vibrational control and low magnetic inertial field.

## GOLD NOTE MODULAR DESIGN

Thanks to the unique and innovative Gold Note modular design DS-10 will be able to optionally drive a special external inductive power supply (PSU-10 EVO) to effectively enhance the native performance of the unit.

# TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

## MAIN FEATURES

D/A Converter AKM AK4493 PCM up to 32bit/768kHz and DSD512 native  
Streamer Network Player PCM and DSD  
Frequency response: 20Hz-20kHz +/-0.1dB  
THD – Total Harmonic Distortion: 0.001% max  
Signal to Noise ratio: -125dB  
Dynamic range: 120dB  
Output impedance RCA/XRL: 50Ω  
Preamp Stage Volume Control: enabled/disabled

## DIGITAL INPUTS

- 1 Ethernet LAN and Wi-Fi DSD64 (DoP) Resolution: PCM up to 24bit/192kHz
- 1x RCA S/PDIF coaxial PCM asynchronous up to 24bit/192kHz
- 2x TOS-optical PCM asynchronous up to 24bit/192kHz
- 1 COAX asynchronous up to 24bit/192kHz
- 1x AES/EBU balanced PCM asynchronous up to 24bit/192kHz
- 1x USB-A port to feed USB flash memories, FAT32/NTFS formatted playing DSD64 and PCM up to 24bit/192kHz
- 1 x USB-B asynchronous up to DSD512 and PCM up to 32bit/384kHz

## AUDIO OUTPUTS

DAC: Stereo RCA @ 1Volt and balanced XLR @ 2Volt  
PREAMP: stereo RCA, balanced XLR; 1 headphone 6,3mm Jack on the front panel double gain

## POWER

100-240V, 50/60Hz  
Multiple Transformer proprietary power supply  
Power consumption: 30W

## EXTERNAL POWER SUPPLY

PSU-10 EVO: external inductive multi transformer power supply (optional)

## NETWORK CONNECTIVITY

LAN/WLAN (WiFi): 802.11b/g via RJ45 10/100Mbps socket  
Bluetooth: High Definition 5.0

## HIGH QUALITY STREAMING

Streamer: Roon Ready, MQA, Airplay, vTuner, Tidal, Qobuz, Deezer, Spotify

## SUPPORTED AUDIO FORMATS (NETWORK)

AIFF (.aif, .aiff, .aifc)  
ALAC  
WAV (.wav) packed/unpacked  
FLAC  
MP3  
DSF, DFF  
Apple Lossless  
OGG  
Monkey's  
(IMPORTANT: UPnP server must support DSD streaming in order to stream DSD files).

## SUPPORTED MEDIA SERVERS

All UPnP / DLNA / Roon

## DIMENSIONS AND WEIGHT

200mm W 80mm H 260mm D  
Weight: Kg. 4 net - Kg. 5 boxed

## FINISHES

Brushed Aluminium available in Black, Silver or Gold

## REMOTE CONTROL

Multifunctional remote control

## APP

Mconnect control

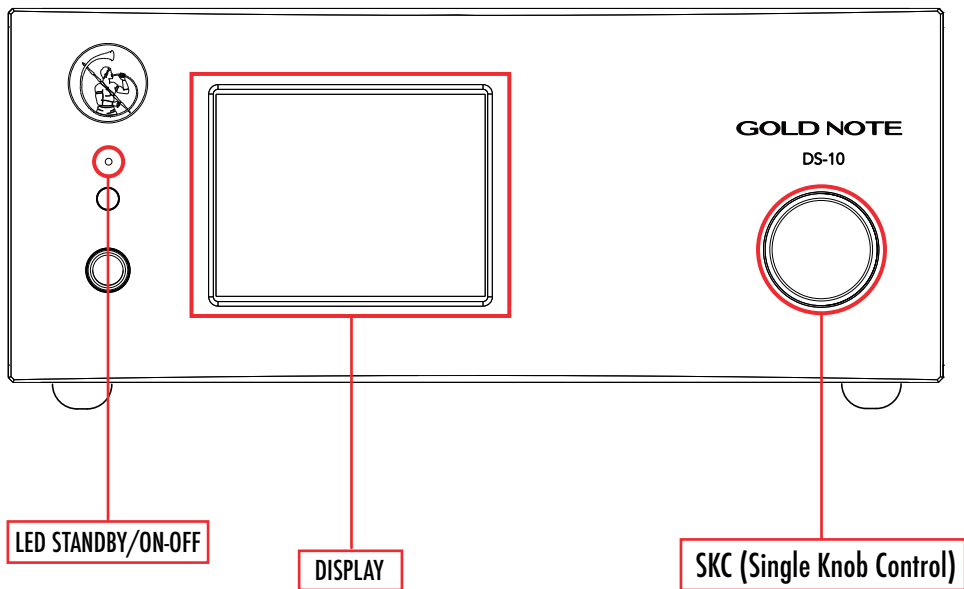
# FRONT PANEL

## FRONT PANEL OVERVIEW

DS-10 is an innovative D/A Converter, Streamer with a High-End headphone amplifier and Bluetooth 5.0.

Everything has been designed to provide the best experience and thanks to the exclusive SKC (Single Knob Control) the unit becomes a friendly plug-and-play source that can be fully controlled even without the remote.

All the information and features are easy to read and access on the display at any time, so you will also have complete control over the system.



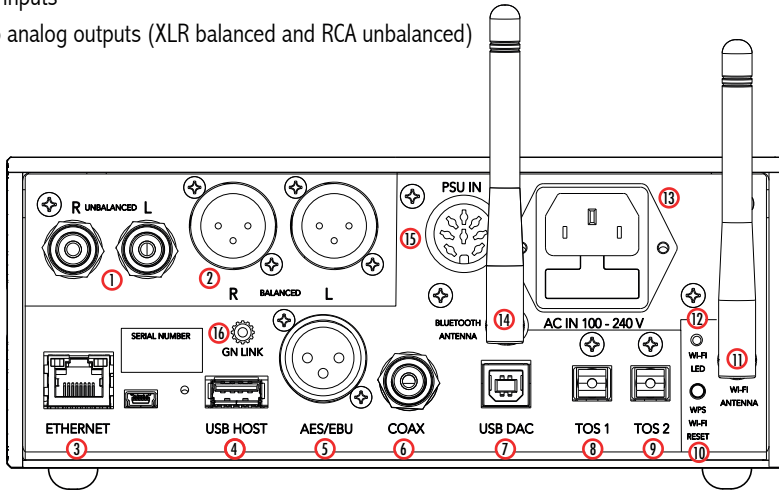


# REAR PANEL

## REAR PANEL OVERVIEW

DS-10 features a wide selection of connections to offer the best versatility and become the core of a real High-End system that will deliver audio in true audiophile quality:

- 7 digital inputs
- 2 stereo analog outputs (XLR balanced and RCA unbalanced)



### ANALOG LINE OUTPUT

- ① RCA unbalanced
- ② XLR balanced

### DIGITAL INPUT

- ③ Ethernet
- ④ USB HOST (A type)
- ⑤ AES/EBU balanced
- ⑥ RCA S/PDIF COAX
- ⑦ USB DAC (B type)
- ⑧ TOS 1
- ⑨ TOS 2

### POWER AND OTHERS

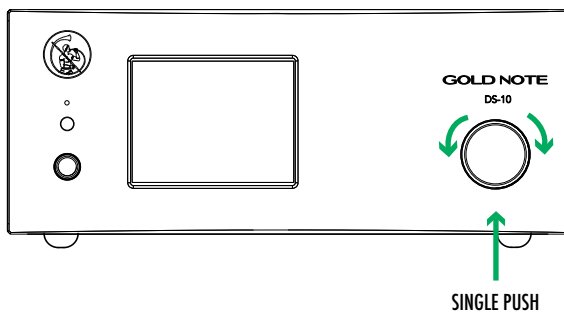
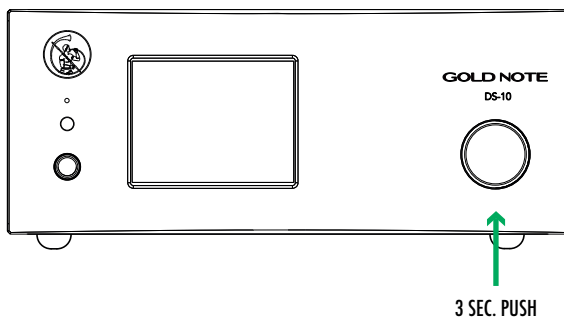
- ⑩ WPS WI-FI reset
- ⑪ WI-FI Antenna\*
- ⑫ WI-FI led
- ⑬ AC plug IEC standard
- ⑭ Bluetooth Antenna\*
- ⑮ PSU IN
- ⑯ GN Link connector

\***PLEASE NOTE:** the antennas must be mounted.

# SELECT FUNCTIONS

## TURNING ON/OFF DS-10

To turn on/off the unit, press and hold the knob for 3 seconds.



## HOW TO SELECT THE FUNCTIONS

1. press the knob once to activate the SELECTION FRAME
2. turn the knob left or right until the desired function is highlighted by in white then press the knob to select it
3. the frame will turn red: now you can turn the knob to change the function
4. press the knob again when the desired value is set to confirm and exit the selection

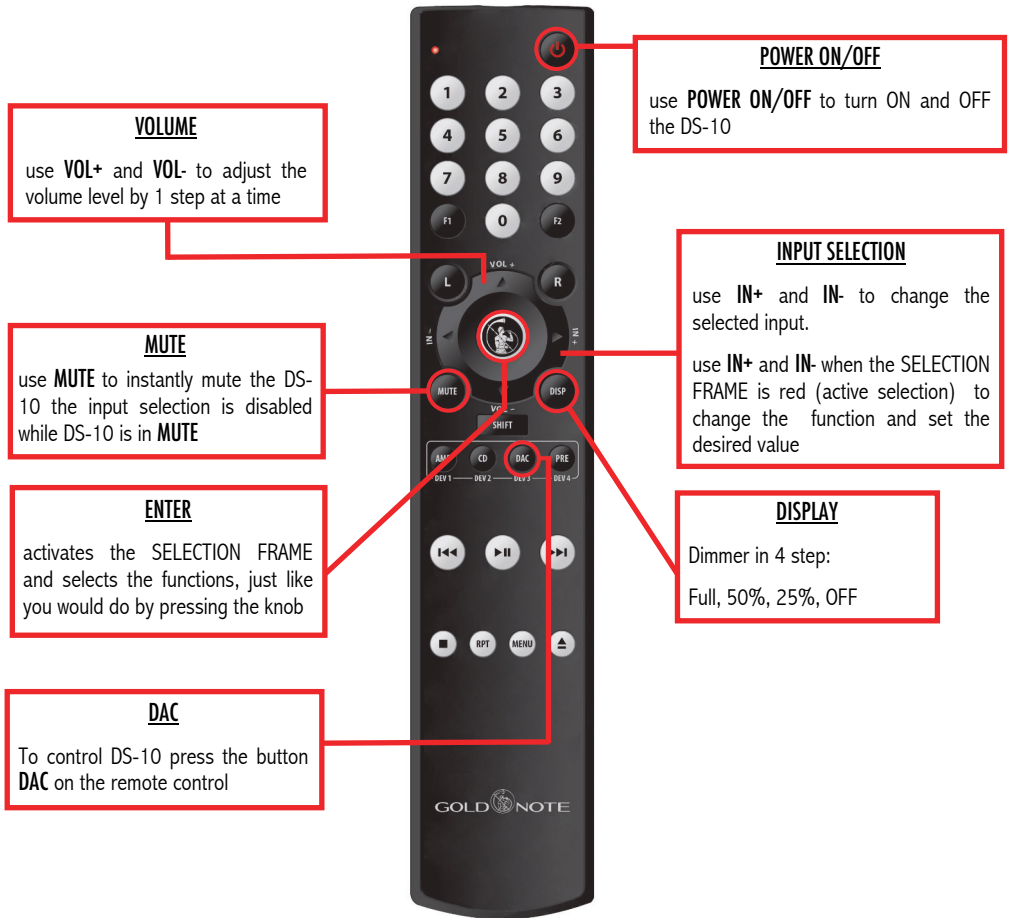
# REMOTE CONTROL

## USING THE REMOTE CONTROL

DS-10 is supplied with a Gold Note remote control to help you conveniently operate the DAC without even touching the knob located on the frontal panel.

With the remote control you can fully access every function just like you would when using the knob.

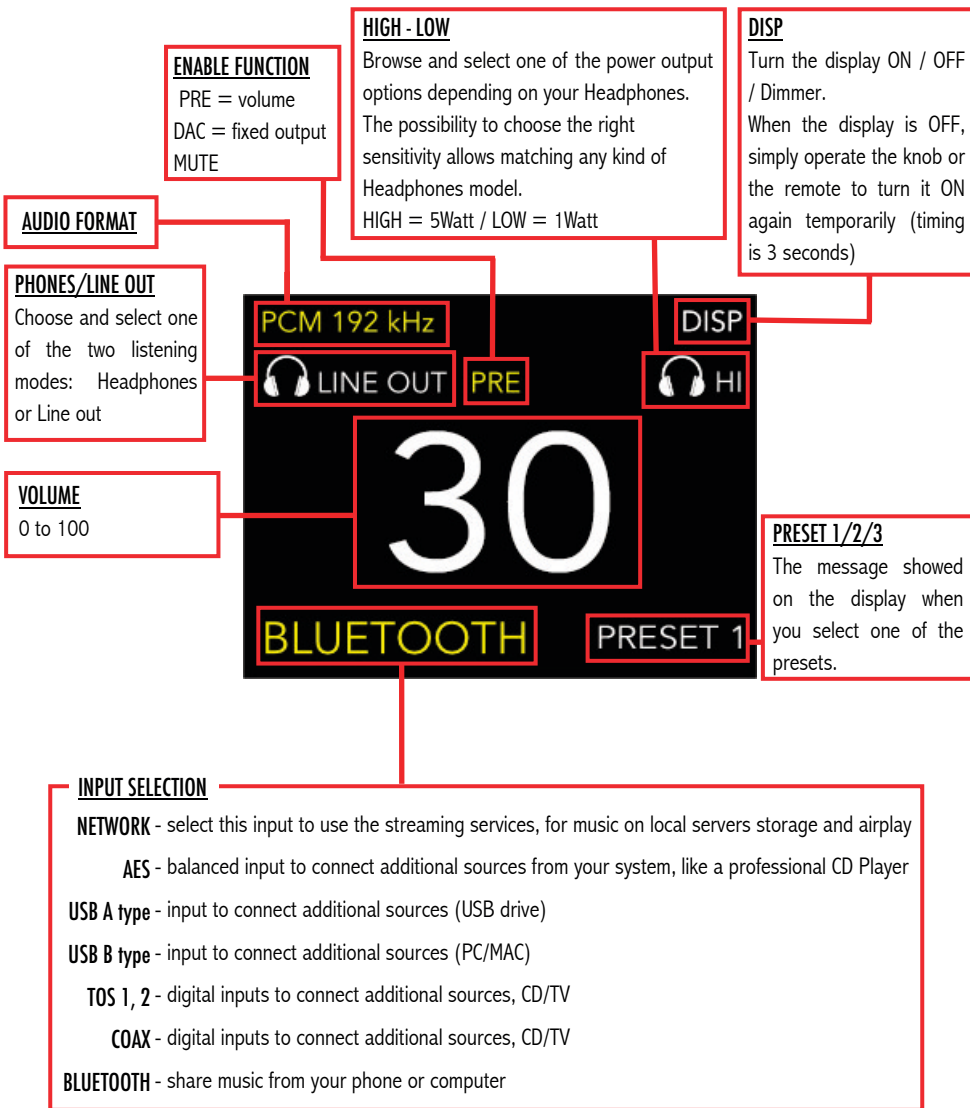
The GN remote control can be used to control more than one unit. To control each unit the correct mode must be selected on the remote.



# OVERVIEW DS-10 FEATURES

## FEATURES AND FUNCTIONS

DS-10 was developed using proprietary technologies and features designed to offer the best audiophile sound quality but also to achieve ease of use and versatility in order to always deliver a great performance with a large variety of loudspeakers.



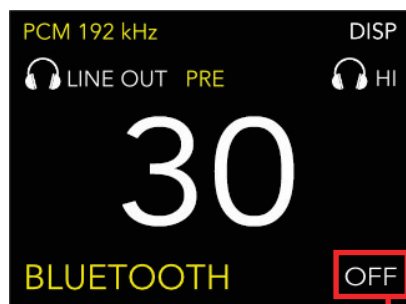
# SELECTABLE PARAMETERS

## THE CHAMELEON DAC

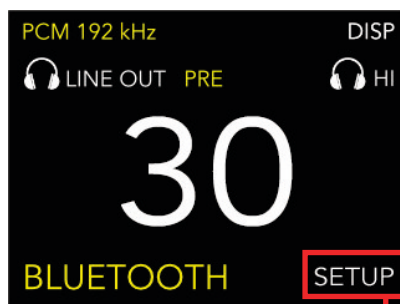
Thanks to its 192 different setup options, DS-10 has the ability to completely blend in with different music genres, giving the listener the opportunity to adapt the behaviour of the unit to the music playing, to one's stereo system and most of all to the listener's taste.

The combination of Equalisation Curve (low pass filter), De-emphasis curve and Power give each device its character and specific sonic profile as well as being the means by which a digital-analogue converter affects the sound.

Other than the DACs on the market, equipped with only one sonic profile, DS-10 allows modifying and storing these parameters in real time through 3 presets.



**OFF**  
DS-10 is in standard mode  
(factory setup)



**SETUP**  
Push the rotary knob on the front panel  
or the Enter key on the remote control  
to access the PRESET menu

## ACCESS THE PRESET MENU

To access the PRESET menu one can either use the remote control or the rotary knob on the front panel of the DS-10.

- **By remote control:** use the left and right arrow keys to browse the various functions visible on the display. Select the word SETUP and push the ENTER key (central key with GN logo) to confirm and access the PRESET menu.

- **By rotary knob:** turn the knob to browse the functions, select the word SETUP and push the knob to confirm and access the PRESET menu.

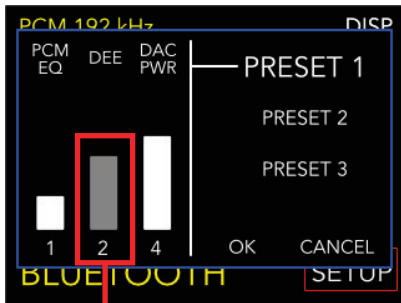
# SELECTABLE PARAMETERS

## CUSTOMISE YOUR LISTENING

It's really easy to select a PRESET and modify its parameters:

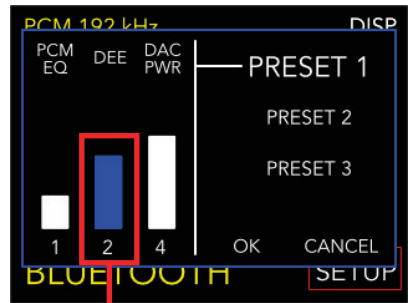
- **By remote control:** use the left and right arrow keys to browse the menu, push the ENTER key to select a parameter. When the selected parameter turns grey it can be changed: use the arrow keys to increase or decrease its value. Press the ENTER key to confirm the selected value. Repeat this operation for all parameters. Select the word OK and press ENTER to save the changes. Select the word CANCEL to undo the changes and return to the main screen.

- **By rotary knob:** turn the knob to browse the menu, push the knob to select a parameter. When the selected parameter turns grey it can be changed turning the knob to increase or decrease its value. Press the knob to confirm the selected value. Repeat this operation for all parameters. Select the word OK and press the knob to save the changes. Select the word CANCEL and press the knob to undo the changes and return to the main screen.



### GREY COLOR

The parameter is selected and ready to be modified.



### BLUE COLOR

The changes made are confirmed. You can select and modify a different parameter or save the changes made to the PRESET



### PRESET 1-2-3

The changes made to the PRESETS remain stored even if the DS-10 is turned OFF.

To use a PRESET previously modified simply select it on the display and push the knob or the ENTER key on the remote control to confirm the selection.

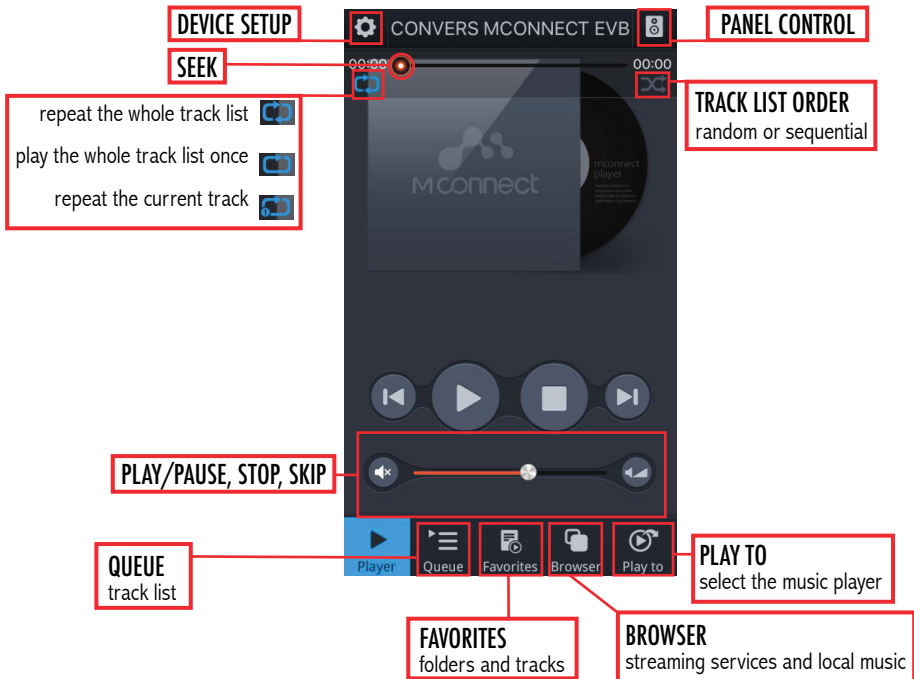
# CONTROL APP

## DOWNLOAD THE CONTROL APP

Scan the QR Code to download the iOS or Android DS-10 Remote Control App or search “Mconnect Control” on Apple App Store or Google PlayStore.

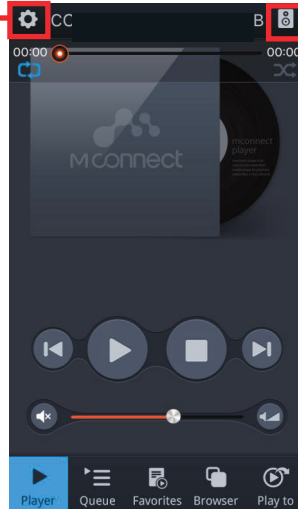
## IMPORTANT

To use Gold Note DS-10 Remote app, the phone/tablet must be connected to the same network of DS-10.



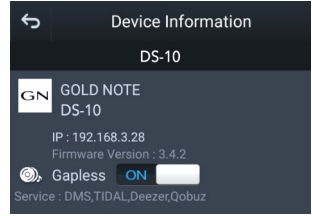
## DEVICE SETUP AND INFO

- Device Setup
- Cloud Setup
- Sort Tracks
- Rate on AppStore
- Contact Conversdigital
- App Info



## DEVICE INFO

Gapless playback is available here



## DEVICE SETUP

### WIFI NETWORK SELECTION

connect the device to a different Wi-Fi network

### DEVICE NAME CHANGE

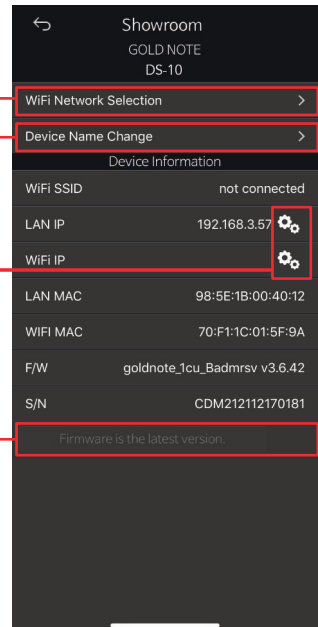
rename the device on the network

### LAN STATIC IP ADDRESS SETUP

### WIFI STATIC IP ADDRESS SETUP

### FIRMWARE UPDATE

if there is a new firmware update available, the app notifies it and lets you update the DS-10

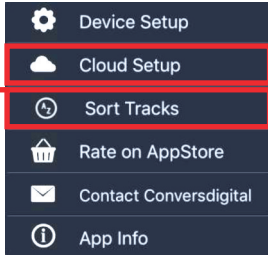




## CLOUD SETUP

In **CLOUD SETUP** you will be able to turn **ON/OFF** all the streaming services available on DS-10 as:

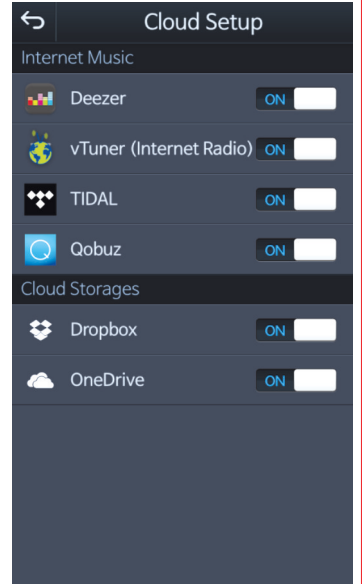
**TIDAL , QOBUZ, DEEZER, VTUNER, SPOTIFY, MQA, ROON.** You will also be able to turn **ON/OFF** the cloud storage services as: **DROPBOX** and **ONEDRIVE**.



## CLOUD SETUP

enable and disable:

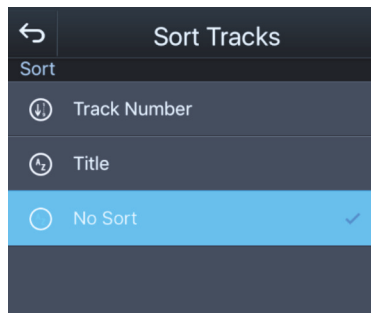
- STREAMING SERVICES
- CLOUD SERVICES



## SORT TRACKS

Music tracks in a folder can be sorted by track number and track name.

It can be applied even for each folder.



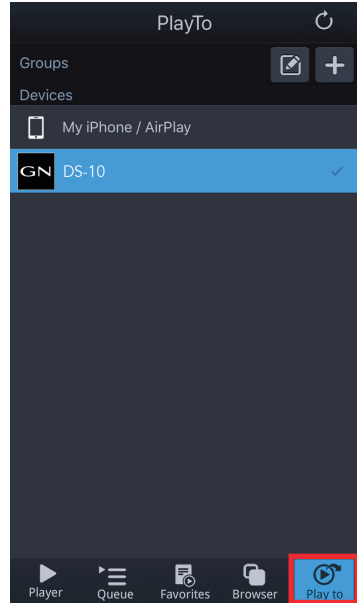
## PLAY TO AND BROWSER

### PLAY TO

Select the "Play To" tab and then select DS-10.

Please be sure that the DS-10 is connected to the same network the mobile device is using.

If the App doesn't show the DS-10 it is most likely due to the fact the mobile device is connected to a different network than the DS-10.



### BROWSER

In the "Browser" tab choose the source of the music:

#### STREAMING SERVICES

Deezer | TIDAL | MQA | Qobuz | Roon | Spotify | VTuner

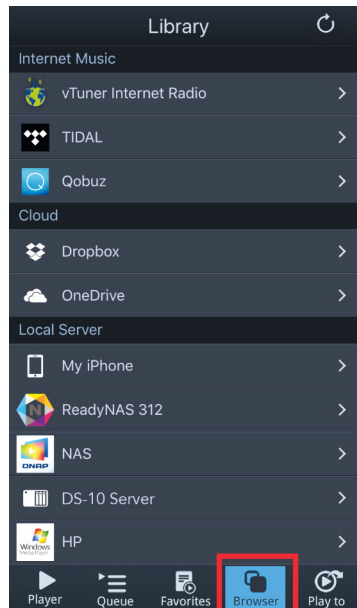
#### CLOUD STORAGE SERVICES

Dropbox | OneDrive

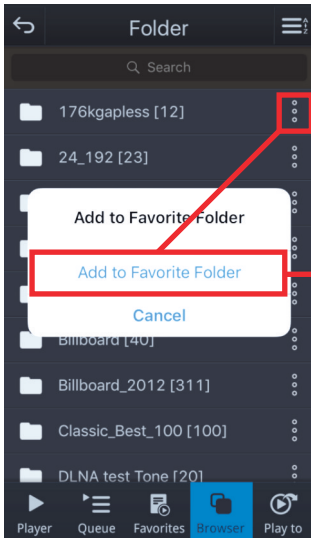
#### LOCAL SERVERS

Network NAS and UPnP/DLNA services

USB flash drives are listed as "DS-10 Server"



## CLOUD SETUP

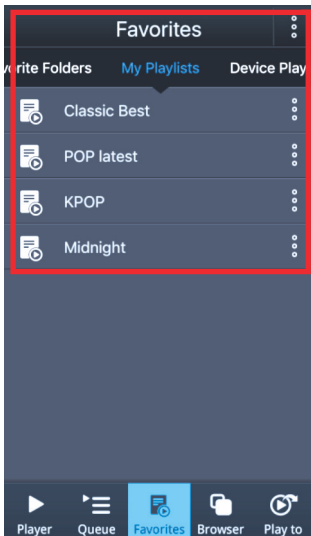
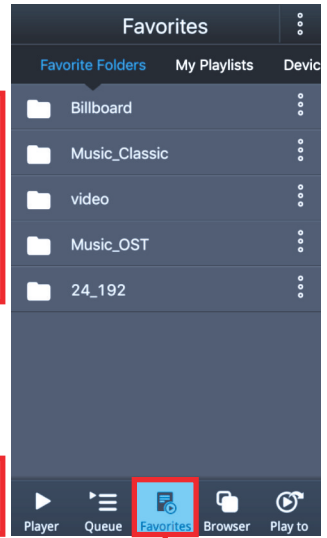


### FAVORITES

Use this button to add folders and tracks to your Favorites list.

The folder/tracks will be then listed in the Favorites tab.

You can find the Favorites tab in the bottom menu.

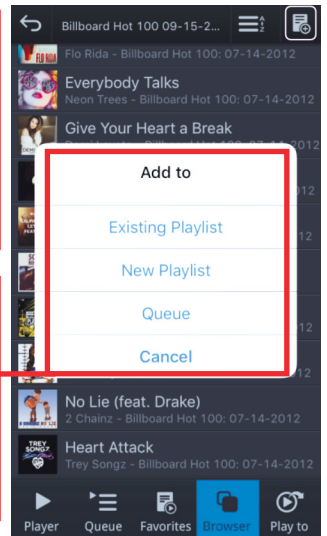


### MY PLAYLISTS

New playlists can be created using this button when you are in the My Playlist screen. Use this tab to manage your playlists, rename or delete them.

You can create a new playlist also while browsing music on Streaming services and local servers.

If you don't want to create a new Playlist, simply add the tracks to the playback **Queue**.

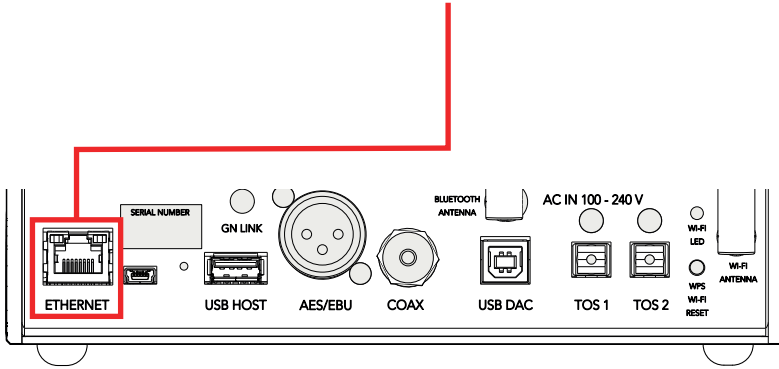


# NETWORK SETUP

## WLAN CONNECTION

DS-10 supports both Wired LAN and Wi-Fi connection.

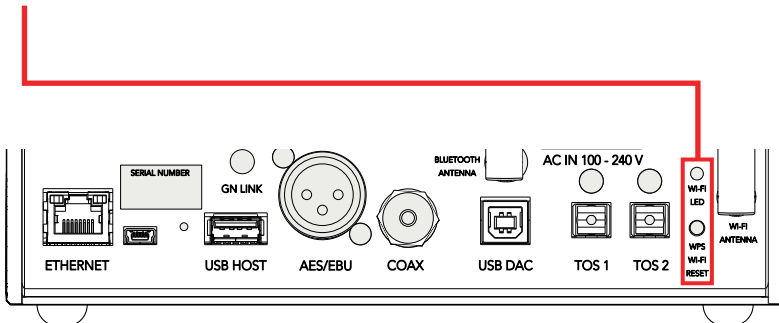
To use a Wired LAN connection simply plug the cable into the Ethernet port on the rear panel and you are ready to go.



## WI-FI CONNECTION VIA WPS

The easiest way to connect DS-10 to your network via Wi-Fi is to use the WPS (Wi-Fi Protected Setup) function available on DS-10 and your router:

- 1 - press and hold for about 10 seconds the Wi-Fi Reset button on the rear panel of DS-10 and release it when the blue led start flashing fast
- 2 - press the WPS button on your router (please refer to the instruction manual)
- 3 - wait until DS-10 automatically connect to your network
- 4 - the blue led will turn ON when the DS-10 is connected and ready

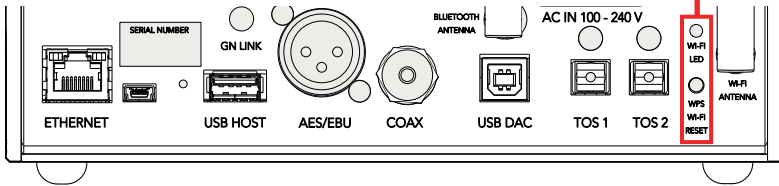


# NETWORK SETUP

## DS-10 WIFI AP MODE

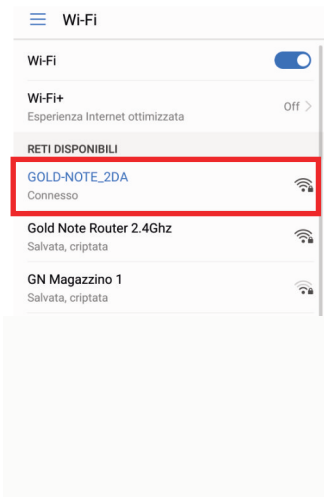
In case your router doesn't support the WPS function or you can't access it, use the Wi-Fi Access Point Mode:

- 1 - Press and hold for 5 seconds the WPS Wi-Fi Reset button on the rear panel of DS-10 and release it and wait when the blue led start flashing slow DS-10 will create its own wireless network.



- 2 - turn ON the Wi-Fi on your mobile device and scan the networks to find GOLD-NOTE\_XXX
- 3 - connect to GOLD-NOTE\_XXX using "password" as password
- 4 - open the App and go into DEVICE SETUP > Wi-Fi Network Selection
- 5 - here are listed the wireless connections available, select the one you want to use with DS-10
- 6 - DS-10 is now connected to the selected Wi-Fi network
- 7 - connect your mobile device to the same network used by DS-10

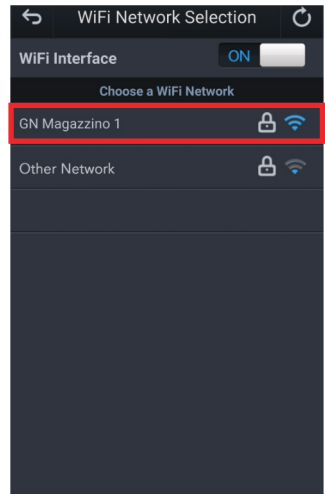
[mobile device screen]



[in App screen]



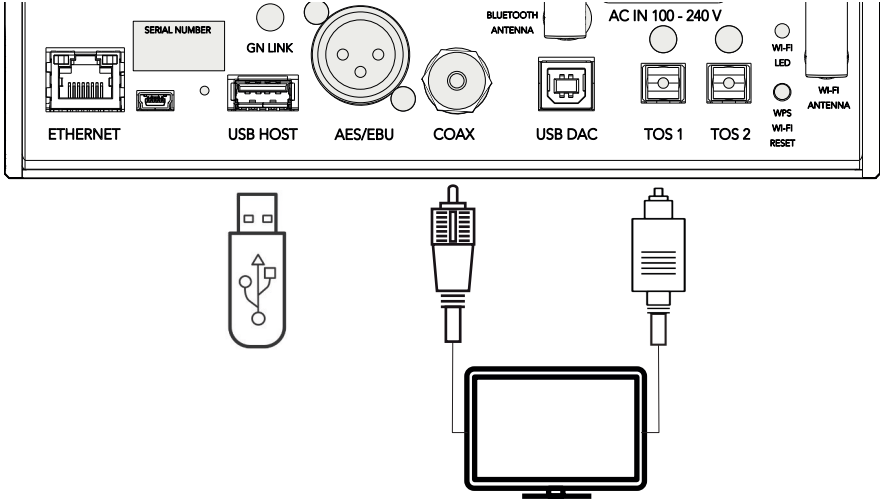
[in App screen]



# CONNECTING OTHER SOURCES

## CONNECTING SOURCES VIA DIGITAL INPUT

You can connect digital sources to DS-10 using the digital inputs located on the rear panel.



# WARRANTY AND SERVICE

## **WARRANTY**

To validate the warranty is necessary to register the unit on the Gold Note internet web site within 15 days from the purchase on the appropriate area of the web site: [www.goldnote.it/warranty](http://www.goldnote.it/warranty)

If the unit is not registered correctly or has been purchased from a different country of the purchaser home address the unit will not be covered by any warranty and the registration will be refused.

The warranty does not does not cover in any case: Tubes, Phono Cartridge Stylus and Batteries.

## **SERVICE**

Every GOLD NOTE® product is the result of meticulous technological research, and consequently their correct functioning is guaranteed. In spite of this it is possible that problems may emerge which non-specialist users cannot resolve.

In this case, contact your dealer to be advised on how the fault can be solved.

Do not return any object directly to the factory or to the distributor without being authorised to do so.

In such cases both GOLD NOTE® and the distribution agents decline responsibility of any kind.

For more information please visit [www.goldnote.it/service](http://www.goldnote.it/service)

## **PLEASE NOTE**

Descriptions and technical characteristics may vary at any time and without notice.

## TROUBLESHOOTING

PROBLEM	CAUSE	SOLUTION
The GN remote control doesn't control the DS-10	The GN remote control can be used to control more than one unit. To control each unit the correct mode must be selected on the remote.	Select DAC mode on the remote. The button "DAC" is located in the upper part of the remote. See page 10 for more information.
The App can't find the DS-10 in the network	The DS-10 is not connected to the network.	Make sure the DS-10 is connected to the WLAN or LAN either with the Ethernet cable or the Wi-Fi. See page 17 for more information.
		Make sure the RF antenna is correctly installed. It may be impossible to use the DS-10 with the Wi-Fi if the RF antenna is not installed.
		When using Wi-Fi, make sure the DS-10 is connected to the correct WLAN. Don't forget to put in the password to complete the connection if required by your network setup.

If you have any questions contact us at:

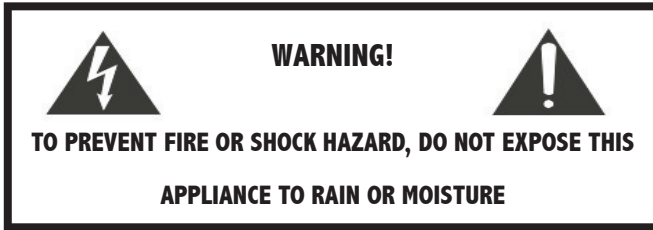
[service@goldnote.it](mailto:service@goldnote.it)

For spare parts visit the official **Gold Note** store at:

[www.akamaiaudio.it](http://www.akamaiaudio.it)



# IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION



## CAUTION!

TO REDUCE THE RISK OF ELECTRIC SHOCK, DO NOT REMOVE COVER (OR BACK).  
NO USER-SERVICEABLE PARTS INSIDE.  
REFER ONLY TO QUALIFIED GOLD NOTE SERVICE PERSONNEL FOR SERVICE

Do not disassemble any part of the product.

Do not use any part of the product for other purposes.

For service and problems of any kind, contact qualified Gold Note personnel.

Protect the product from rain and humidity and keep away from heat sources, electric and electronic motors etc.

The power Chord supplied must be used only on this unit.

Gold Note does not have responsibility for any improper use of this unit.

This appliance has a serial number located on the rear panel.

Please record the model and serial number and retain them for your records.

Serial Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Model: \_\_\_\_\_

# IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

1. Read these instructions and store them.
2. Heed all warnings.
3. Follow the instructions.
4. Do not use this apparatus near water.
5. Clean only with a dry cloth.
6. Do not block the ventilation openings and install in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
7. Do not install near heat sources such as radiators, heat registers, stoves or other apparatus (including amplifiers) that produce heat.
8. Do not defeat the safety purpose of the polarised or grounding-type plug: a polarised plug has two blades with one wider than the other.

A grounding type plug has two blades and a third grounding prong. The wide blade or the third prong are provided for your safety.

If the provided plug does not fit into your outlet, consult an electrician for replacement of the obsolete outlet.

9. Protect the power cord from being walked on or pinched particularly at plugs, convenience receptacles, and the point where they exit from the apparatus.
10. Only use attachments/accessories specified by the manufacturer.

11. Use only with the cart, stand, tripod, bracket, or table specified by the manufacturer, or sold with the apparatus.

When a cart is used, use caution when moving the cart/apparatus combination to avoid injury from tip-over.

12. Unplug this apparatus during lightning storms or when unused for long periods of time.
13. Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel only. Servicing is required when the apparatus has been damaged in any way (such as when the power cord or plug is damaged, liquid has been spilled or objects have fallen into the apparatus, the apparatus has been exposed to rain or moisture) and in any case when the apparatus does not operate normally or has been dropped.













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