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r/headphones • 2 yr. ago

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Fiio UTWS 5 „review“

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Hello my friends!

So recently I bought a Fiio UTWS5, because I wanted to make my Xenns Top wireless. To combine the sound quality of wired IEMs with the comfort and handiness of tws just sounded like a dream.

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The UTWS 5 has a nice build quality. The case in which they are stored doesn't feel cheap and the adapters themselves are build well too:

New comfort wise they are ... not for everyone I guess. The yoga tape I used with them are the most comfortable

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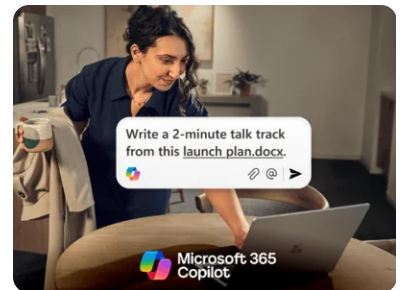
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I actually tested this recently with the Xenns Top specifically as I knew it boosts the bass with impedance, and testing with some multi-driver IEMs was feeling the new KZ AZ20 BT hooks might not have low impedance, and sure enough, they didn't- the KZ AZ20 is almost exactly equivalent to using the Hiby IA02 20Ω impedance adapter. This means it boosts the bass, but only on IEMs with an impedance curve peaking in the bass. IEMs with flat impedance curves (like the Letshuoer S12, or most single driver IEMs) it does nothing.

<https://imgur.com/a/0aLWCeF>

The Fiio UTWS5 is very low impedance and doesn't change the frequency response compared to a low impedance wired source. In general, this is a positive, but if your normal source is high impedance, (like most phones, PCs, etc) you would see a cut in the bass with the UTWS5. possible that the UTWS5 is giving you the real FR, and the other source is boosting the bass.

Agree with you the fit is quite bad, they are bulky and sort of twist the IEM.

If you want more bass though, either the KZ AZ20 or the older (and cheaper) KZ AZ09 Pro will give you more bass with the Xenns Top, because of this high impedance. They are also *substantially* more comfortable. You can either cut the QDC ends, or use adapters, to fit them to regular 2 pin, they will fit reasonably well with flush 2 pin like the Top.



[deleted] OP • 2y ago

Okay bro, duck me sideways and call me Mike...

I'll have to edit my post.

Your measurement made me think about it and I'm super duper dumb.

As I normally use my ark with my 800 I still had the bass shelf applied for them, boosting the bass by quite a bit. This made my brain shake. So I went back to my Setup and plugged in the IEMs again, disabled the EQ and tried it again. And guess what: me, a certified idiot forgot that I use an impedance plug. 200 ohm to be exact, because I always have white noise when plugging them into my amp or pc. So I A/B the tops with and without the plug and you're completely right, the bass is boosted. This might be the reason I thought they sounded a bit lean since I always use them with the plug...

Went back and connected them to my dongle and the UTWS and they pretty much sound the same. Tho I imagine to have heard a bit more details with the dongle which might be completely placebo.

So yeah, soundwise I have to correct myself, comfort wise it's still shit lol



4 more replies



[deleted] OP • 2y ago • Edited 2y ago

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comfort or better the lack of is unbearable for me.

I like the xenns top as they are I don't want to change my IEMs but thanks for the recommendation.

Edit: I looked it up: the apple dongle has >1 ohm and the mayflower ark II has 0.096 ohm.

2 more replies



[deleted] **OP** • 2y ago

DISCLAIMER:

I made a mistake with comparing the sound. The problem was EQ applied to the cables source as well as an impedance plug I use to get rid of white noise. The sound is the same as plugged in with an apple dongle or a comparable source.

The rest (comfort, app issues and lag) still applies tho.

2 more replies



toadstreet • 2y ago

i feel like a UTWS7 is probably definitely being made right now. Hoping those will solve all the problems the 3/5 have



hyperpimp • 2y ago

They are making a side upgrade called the 15s. Supposedly out this year.

1 more reply



Heavy_Connection_997 • 2y ago

For comfort, what worked for me is buying the mmcx version of the utws5, and purchasing a mmcx to 2 pin adaptor. That adds another \$10 to \$30 depending on what adaptor you pick, but it gives the iems the ability to swivel, and takes all the pressure off your ears. Huge difference in comfort. As for the app, the really do need to step up and work on it, but with every Fiio I've owned, if I had trouble connecting to the app initially I would just uninstall and reinstall the app, and that fixed it every time for me. I would only have to do that once, and after that the app worked flawlessly. I've only used two Fiio products that used an app, and that fix worked for both. As for lag, I never used them for gaming, but didn't they add a low latency mode in the app?



on

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installing new didn't work. I tried different methods at once and then it somehow worked, which one it was is unclear to me tho.

Yes they added the feature but only for Smartphone. As I connected them to my PC this didn't work, or at least I didn't find out or noticed it (if it was enabled)

**hyperpimp** • 2y ago

What firmware are they and codec are you running? With my PC I am using LDAC with a BTA30Pro and these UTWS5's I don't have any lag or sync issues. Sounds great too. And before I got the BTA30Pro I was using an Avantree DG60P dongle running aptX Adaptive codec. Still no latency issues with that either.

[+](#) 2 more replies**[deleted]** • 1y ago

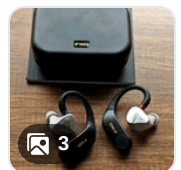
I wanted to ask something, when you connect the earphones, is there the cheap chinese lady voice?

if not what sound does it make when u connect?

[+](#) 1 more reply**r/headphones** • 8 mo. ago

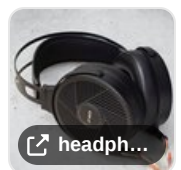
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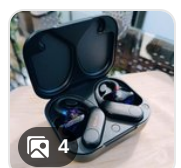
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What to choose : \$100 IEM + Fiio UTWS (3/5) or sony wh-1000xm4

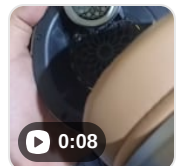
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