

## iFi xDSD Gryphon (Model 310005)

# iFi xDSD Gryphon Portable DAC & Headphone Amplifier User Manual

Model: xDSD Gryphon (310005)

Brand: iFi

## 1. INTRODUCTION

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The iFi xDSD Gryphon is a high-performance portable Digital-to-Analog Converter (DAC) and headphone amplifier designed to deliver exceptional audio quality. It supports a wide range of high-resolution audio formats and offers versatile connectivity options for various devices and headphones.

Key features include:

- Full MQA decoding and native DSD (up to DSD512) via a powerful 16-core XMOS processor.
- Ultra-resolution PCM support up to 32-bit/768kHz via USB and 192kHz via optical/coaxial.
- Advanced Bluetooth 5.1 with QCC5100 chipset, supporting HD formats like aptX HD, aptX Adaptive, LDAC, and HWA/LHDC.
- Multiple input and output connections: Balanced (4.4mm Pentaconn) and S-Balanced (3.5mm) analog outputs, USB-C, S/PDIF, and analog inputs.
- Integrated iEMatch and auto-gain technology for optimal headphone/IEM sensitivity matching.
- XBass and xSpace settings for sound customization.
- PureWave balanced circuit design with OptimaLoop multi-path feedback for clean audio.
- Robust military-grade aluminum chassis with a SilentLine OLED display.



Figure 1: Top view of the iFi xDSD Gryphon, highlighting its sleek design and OLED display.

## 2. SETUP

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### 2.1. Charging the Device

Before initial use, fully charge the xDSD Gryphon using the provided USB-C charging cable. Connect the cable to the dedicated USB-C charging port (marked '5V') on the rear of the device and to a compatible USB power adapter (not included). The battery indicator on the OLED display will show charging status.

### 2.2. Connecting Audio Sources

The xDSD Gryphon supports various digital and analog input sources:

- **USB-C Input:** Connect your computer, smartphone, or other digital audio player using a USB-C cable to the USB-C data input port (marked 'SS'). This port supports high-resolution PCM and DSD audio.
- **S/PDIF Input:** For optical or coaxial digital sources, use the S/PDIF input. Note: A TOSLINK Mini-Plug to TOSLINK Adapter is not included.
- **Bluetooth 5.1:** For wireless audio, pair your device via Bluetooth. Refer to Section 3.3 for detailed pairing instructions.
- **Analog Inputs:** Connect analog sources using either the 4.4mm Balanced or 3.5mm Single-Ended analog input jacks.



Figure 2: Rear panel connections of the xDSD Gryphon.

## 2.3. Connecting Headphones

Connect your headphones to the front panel outputs:

- **4.4mm Balanced Output:** For headphones with a 4.4mm balanced connector.
- **3.5mm S-Balanced Output:** For headphones with a 3.5mm single-ended connector. This output also benefits from iFi's S-Balanced technology.



Figure 3: Front panel outputs and controls.

## 2.4. iEMatch Switch

The iEMatch switch, located on the bottom of the device, adjusts the output to match headphone/IEM

sensitivity. This helps reduce background noise and optimize dynamic range, especially with highly sensitive in-ear monitors. Select '3.5' for 3.5mm headphones, '4.4' for 4.4mm headphones, or 'Off' if not needed.



Figure 4: iEMatch switch on the bottom of the device.

## 3. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

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### 3.1. Power On/Off and Volume Control

The large rotary knob on the front panel controls both power and volume. Press and hold to power on/off. Rotate to adjust the volume. The OLED display will show the current volume level.

### 3.2. Input Selection

Press the 'Input' button (next to the volume knob) to cycle through available input sources: USB, S/PDIF, Bluetooth, 4.4mm Analog, 3.5mm Analog. The selected input will be displayed on the OLED screen.

### 3.3. Bluetooth Pairing

To pair a new Bluetooth device:

1. Ensure the xDSD Gryphon is powered on and Bluetooth input is selected.
2. Press and hold the Bluetooth pairing button (usually marked with a Bluetooth icon) until the Bluetooth indicator light flashes, indicating pairing mode.
3. On your source device (e.g., smartphone), search for available Bluetooth devices and select 'iFi xDSD Gryphon'.
4. Once connected, the Bluetooth indicator will remain solid.

### 3.4. XBass and XSpace Functions

The xDSD Gryphon features XBass and xSpace buttons to enhance your listening experience:

- **XBass:** Enhances low frequencies without muddying the mid-range. Press the XBass button to toggle it on/off.
- **XSpace:** Creates a more spacious soundstage, simulating a live listening environment. Press the

xSpace button to toggle it on/off.



Figure 5: XSpace and XBass II controls for sound customization.

### 3.5. Digital Filter Selection

The xDSD Gryphon offers various digital filters to tailor the sound to your preference. These filters can typically be accessed via a dedicated button or menu option, and their effect on soundstage and tonal balance can vary. Consult the full product manual for specific filter options and their characteristics.

### 3.6. Desktop Mode

For extended listening sessions, the xDSD Gryphon can operate in desktop mode. When connected to a USB power source, this mode allows the device to run directly from the power supply without charging the internal battery, preserving battery longevity.

Video 1: Overview of iFi xDSD Gryphon features, including supported audio formats and internal components.

Video 2: A rotational view of the iFi xDSD Gryphon, showcasing its design from all angles.

## 4. MAINTENANCE

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### 4.1. Cleaning

To clean the device, use a soft, dry, lint-free cloth. Avoid using abrasive cleaners, solvents, or chemical sprays, as these can damage the finish or internal components. Do not expose the device to excessive moisture.

### 4.2. Battery Care

The xDSD Gryphon uses a Lithium Polymer battery. To maximize battery life:

- Avoid fully discharging the battery frequently.
- Store the device in a cool, dry place when not in use for extended periods.
- If storing for a long time, charge the battery to approximately 50% before storage.

## 5. TROUBLESHOOTING

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### 5.1. No Sound Output

- Ensure the device is powered on and the volume is not at minimum.
- Verify that the correct input source is selected.
- Check headphone connections and ensure they are fully inserted.
- Test with different headphones or a different audio source to isolate the issue.

### 5.2. Bluetooth Connection Issues

- Ensure Bluetooth is enabled on both the xDSD Gryphon and your source device.
- Place devices within close proximity during pairing.
- Forget the device on your source and re-attempt pairing.

### 5.3. Hiss or Background Noise with IEMs

- Engage the iEMatch switch on the bottom of the device. Select the appropriate setting (3.5 or 4.4) for your headphones/IEMs.
- Ensure the volume level is appropriate for your sensitive headphones.

## 6. SPECIFICATIONS

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Feature	Detail
Model Number	310005
Dimensions (L x W x H)	4.84 x 2.95 x 0.75 inches (123 x 75 x 19 mm)
Item Weight	7.6 ounces (215 grams)
Voltage	5 Volts
Output Power	1000 Milliwatts
Number of Channels	2
Supported Audio Formats	MQA, Bluetooth 5.1 (aptX HD, aptX Adaptive, LDAC, HWA/LHDC), Native DSD (up to DSD512), PCM (up to 32-bit/768kHz via USB, 192kHz via optical/coaxial)
Battery Type	Lithium Polymer
Manufacturer	Abbingdon Music Research

### **Fantastic Beasts. Here's where you find them.**

Portable DAC/amps tend to be compromised because they focus on a great digital OR a great analogue section. But not both. The xDSD Gryphon is different. Just like its mythical namesake, it is two beasts in one.



Figure 6: Physical dimensions of the xDSD Gryphon.

## **7. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT**

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The iFi xDSD Gryphon comes with a manufacturer's warranty. For detailed warranty information, including terms, conditions, and registration, please refer to the warranty card included with your product or visit the official iFi website. For technical support, troubleshooting assistance beyond this manual, or service inquiries, please contact iFi customer support directly through their official channels.