

FiiO KA15

FiiO KA15 Portable DAC and Headphone Amplifier User Manual

Model: KA15

Brand: FiiO

1. INTRODUCTION

The FiiO KA15 is a portable Digital-to-Analog Converter (DAC) and Headphone Amplifier designed to enhance your audio experience. It combines advanced audio technology with a compact, user-friendly design, offering high-resolution audio playback and powerful headphone driving capabilities for various devices.



Figure 1.1: Front view of the FiiO KA15, showcasing its compact design and display screen.

2. PACKAGE CONTENTS

Please check the contents of your FiiO KA15 package to ensure all items are present:

- FiiO KA15 Unit x1
- Type-C to Type-C Cable x1
- Leatherette Case x1
- Quick Start Guide x1
- Warranty Card x1

Parts list

- ① -----KA15*1 ④ -----Quick start guide*1
② -----Type-C to Type-C cable*1 ⑤ -----Warranty card*1
③ -----Leatherette case*1



Figure 2.1: Illustration of the FiiO KA15 package contents.

3. DEVICE LAYOUT AND CONTROLS

Familiarize yourself with the physical layout and controls of your FiiO KA15:



Figure 3.1: Side view of the FiiO KA15, highlighting its control buttons.

- **Power/Desktop Mode Switch:** Used to turn the device On/Off and activate Desktop Mode.
- **Volume Buttons (+/-):** Adjusts the output volume.
- **Mode Button (M):** Cycles through various settings and modes on the display.
- **0.96-inch IPS True Color LCD Screen:** Displays current settings, playback status, and menu options.
- **3.5mm Headphone Jack:** Standard audio output, also supports microphones (CTIA standard) and acts as a SPDIF output.
- **USB Type-C Port:** For data connection and power.



Figure 3.2: Ergonomic design and button functionalities for volume and track control.

The KA15 offers dual modes for volume control: 60-step quick adjustment or 120-step fine adjustment. Button modes can be configured for short press volume +/- or short press previous/next track, with long press for continuous volume adjustment.

4. SETUP AND CONNECTION

The FiiO KA15 is designed for plug-and-play compatibility with a wide range of devices.

4.1 Connecting to Source Devices

Use the provided Type-C to Type-C cable to connect the FiiO KA15 to your smartphone, tablet, laptop, or desktop computer. The KA15 is compatible with Android, iOS, iPadOS, Windows, and macOS devices.

4.2 Connecting Headphones

Plug your headphones into the 3.5mm headphone jack on the FiiO KA15.

4.3 COAX Output

The 3.5mm jack also functions as a SPDIF output. This allows you to connect the KA15 to an external decoder or other audio equipment for alternative listening setups.

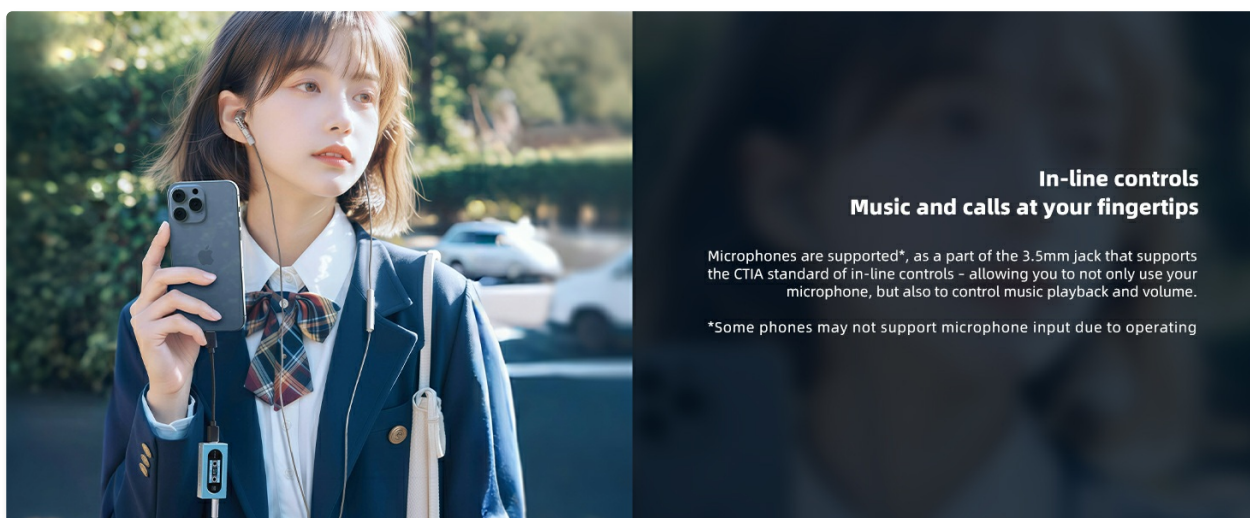


Figure 4.1: FiiO KA15 utilizing its COAX output feature.

5. OPERATING MODES

The FiiO KA15 offers specialized operating modes to optimize performance for different use cases.

5.1 Normal Mode

In Normal Mode, the KA15 operates as a high-fidelity DAC and headphone amplifier, suitable for everyday portable use with smartphones and laptops.

5.2 Patented Desktop Mode

Activate Desktop Mode for increased power output, specifically designed to drive high-impedance headphones. In this mode, the balanced output power is significantly boosted to 560mW+560mW, providing ample headroom for demanding headphones.

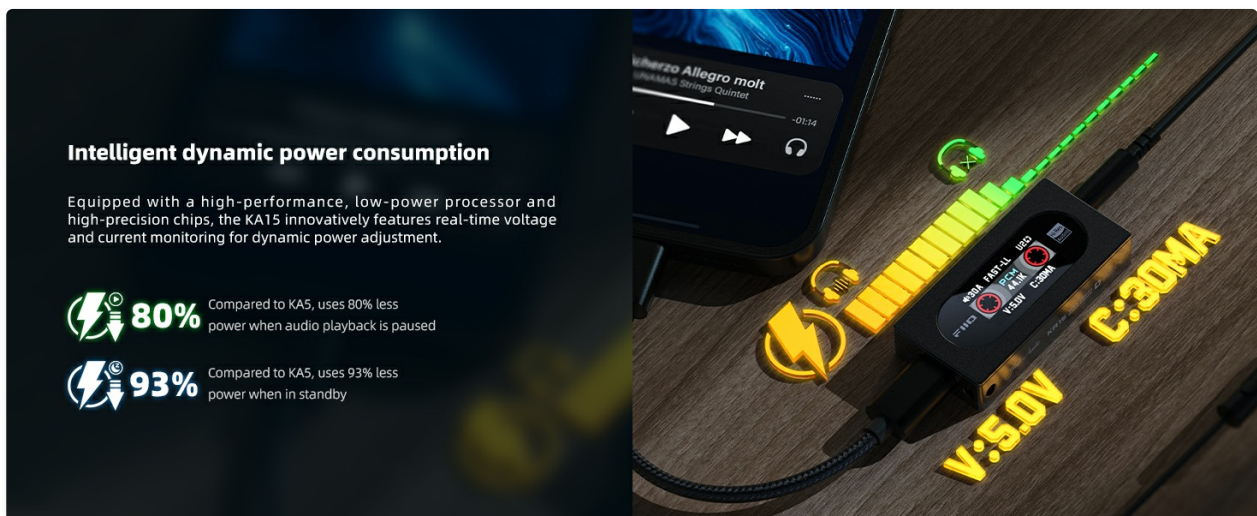


Figure 5.1: Desktop Mode provides a significant power boost for demanding headphones.

5.3 UAC1.0 Mode (Plug and Play)

Select UAC1.0 mode to connect the KA15 to gaming consoles such as Nintendo Switch, PS5, and other devices that require UAC1.0 compatibility. This mode ensures plug-and-play functionality for an immersive gaming audio experience.



Figure 5.2: Connecting the FiiO KA15 to a gaming console using UAC1.0 mode.

6. FiiO CONTROL APP

The FiiO KA15 can be fully controlled and customized using the FiiO Control app (Android version only). This app allows you to adjust various settings and access advanced features.

6.1 App Features

- **PEQ (Parametric Equalizer):** A ten-band high-precision lossless PEQ allows for detailed frequency response curve adjustments. You can simulate, correct, export, import, share, and save EQ curves.
- **Channel Balance:** Adjust the balance between left and right audio channels.
- **UAC Mode:** Switch between UAC modes.
- **Volume:** Fine-tune the volume.
- **Button Mode:** Customize the functionality of the physical buttons.
- **Screen Brightness:** Adjust the brightness of the IPS display.
- **Screen Sleep Time:** Set the duration before the screen enters sleep mode.
- **Theme:** Change the display theme.

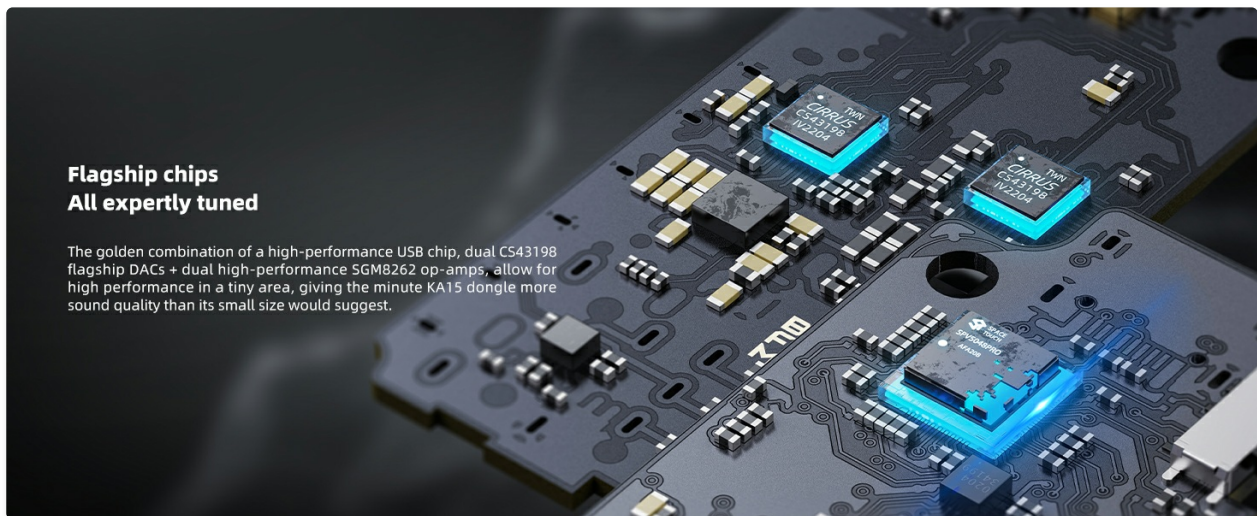


Figure 6.1: The FiiO Control app provides comprehensive control over the KA15 settings.

Future firmware updates may add more functionality to the app.

7. AUDIO TECHNOLOGIES AND FEATURES

The FiiO KA15 incorporates advanced components and features for superior audio performance.

7.1 Dual CS43198 DACs

Equipped with dual CS43198 flagship DACs and dual high-performance SGM8262 op-amps, the KA15 delivers high-fidelity sound in a compact form factor.



Figure 7.1: Internal view showcasing the flagship DAC chips.

7.2 High-Resolution Audio Support

The KA15 supports sampling rates up to 768kHz/32bit and DSD256, allowing it to handle various lossless audio formats. It is Hi-Res Audio certified, ensuring excellent sound quality.

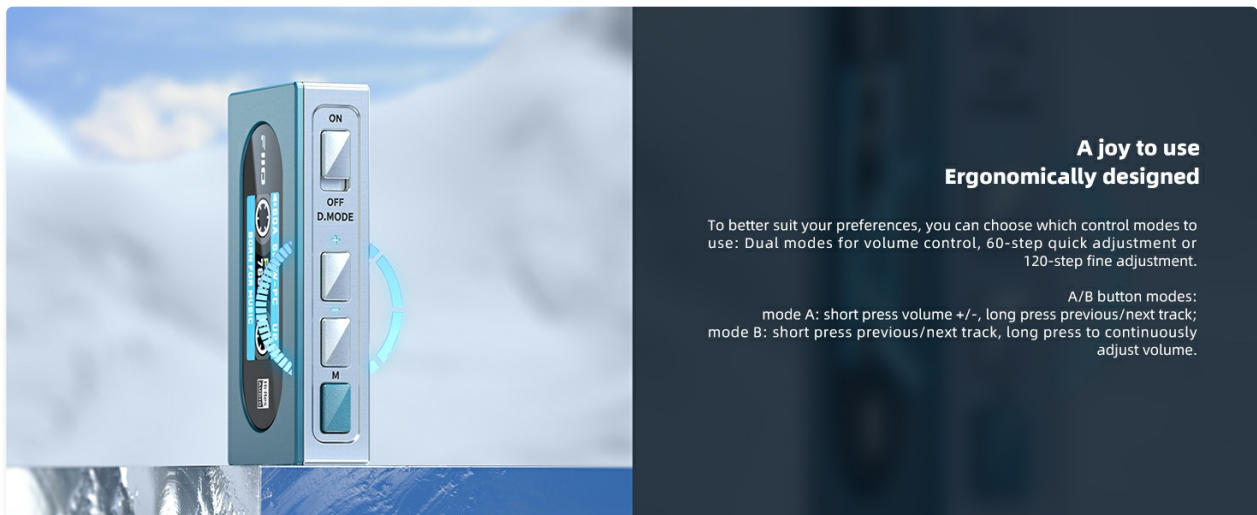


Figure 7.2: The KA15 supports high-resolution audio formats.

7.3 Integrated Display

The 0.96-inch IPS true color LCD screen provides an intuitive user interface with a retro dynamic UI, including a simulating spinning tape visual. It supports both Chinese and English language display.



Figure 7.3: The KA15's outstanding IPS display with retro UI.

7.4 Microphone Support

The 3.5mm jack supports the CTIA standard for in-line controls, allowing you to use microphones for calls and control music playback and volume directly from your headphones.

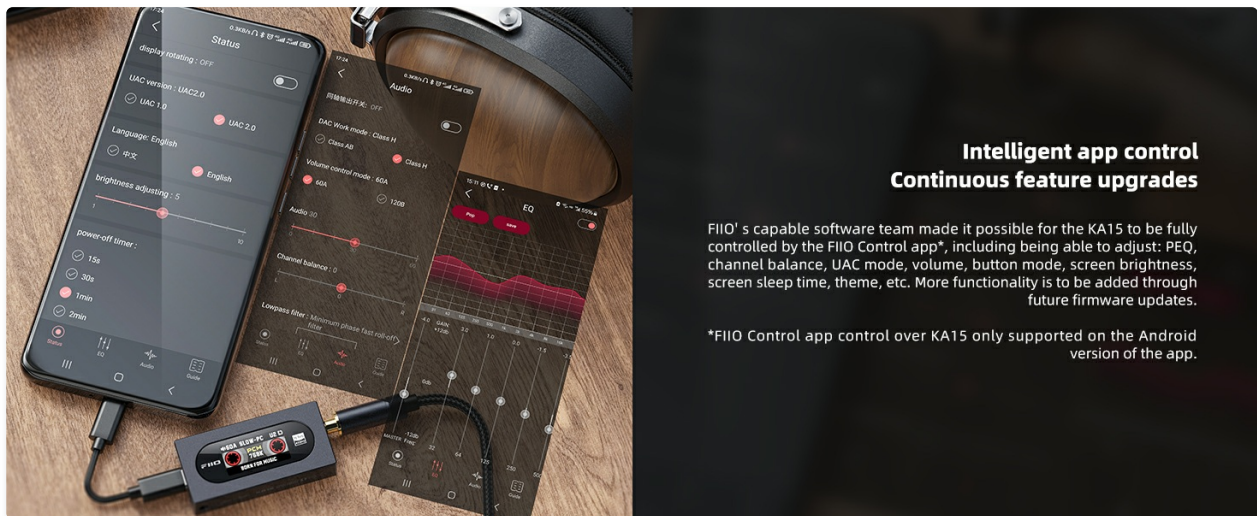


Figure 7.4: Microphone and in-line control support.

8. POWER MANAGEMENT

The KA15 features intelligent dynamic power consumption for efficient operation and battery preservation of connected devices.

Equipped with a high-performance, low-power processor and high-precision chips, the KA15 innovatively features real-time voltage and current monitoring for dynamic power adjustment. By recognizing the device's playback status, it intelligently adjusts the overall power consumption.

When you set a timer for music playback during the night, once the timer ends, the KA15 will enter an ultra-low power sleep mode, reducing power consumption from your phone.

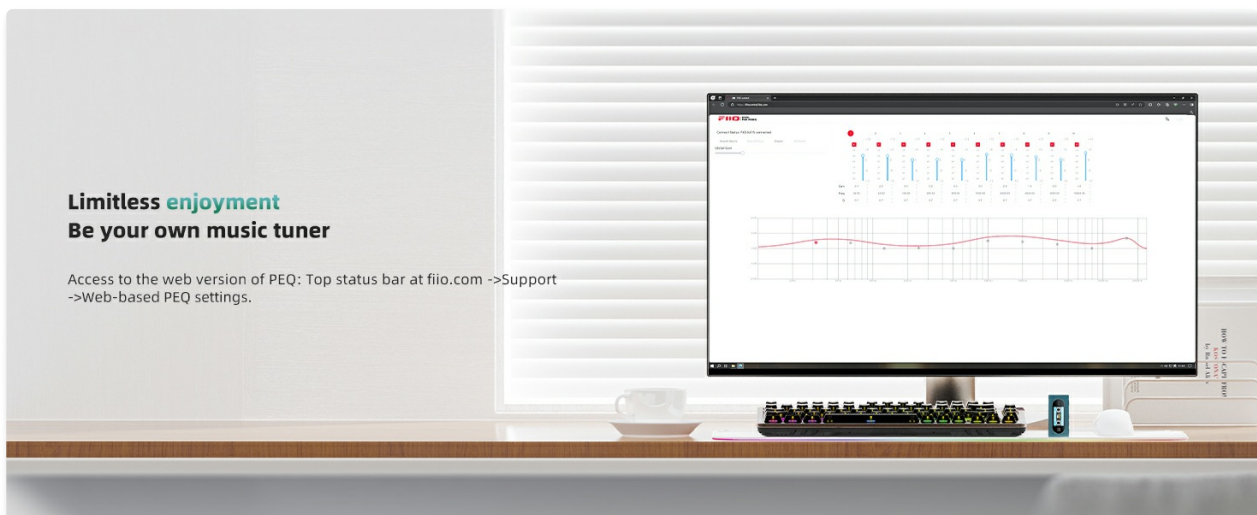


Figure 8.1: Intelligent dynamic power consumption of the FiiO KA15.

9. MAINTENANCE AND CARE

To ensure the longevity and optimal performance of your FiiO KA15, follow these general maintenance guidelines:

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to clean the exterior of the device. Avoid using harsh chemicals,

solvents, or abrasive materials.

- **Storage:** Store the KA15 in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight, extreme temperatures, and high humidity. Use the provided leatherette case for protection when not in use.
- **Handling:** Handle the device with care. Avoid dropping it or subjecting it to strong impacts.
- **Connections:** Always insert and remove cables gently to prevent damage to the ports.
- **Water Exposure:** The KA15 is not water-resistant. Avoid exposure to liquids.

10. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter any issues with your FiiO KA15, please refer to the following common troubleshooting tips:

- **No Sound:**
 - Ensure the KA15 is properly connected to both the source device and headphones.
 - Check the volume levels on both the KA15 and your source device.
 - Verify that the correct audio output is selected on your source device (e.g., USB audio output).
 - Try a different cable or headphones to rule out faulty accessories.
- **Distorted Sound:**
 - Reduce the volume to see if distortion persists.
 - Ensure your audio files are not corrupted or of low quality.
 - Check if Desktop Mode is appropriate for your headphones; some sensitive headphones might be overdriven.
- **Device Not Recognized:**
 - Reconnect the USB cable.
 - Try a different USB port on your computer.
 - Restart your source device.
 - For gaming consoles, ensure UAC1.0 mode is enabled on the KA15.
 - On Windows, check Device Manager for driver issues (though KA15 is generally driver-free).
- **FiiO Control App Issues:**
 - Ensure you are using the Android version of the app, as iOS is not supported for KA15 control.
 - Update the app to the latest version.
 - Check if the KA15 firmware is up to date.

For further assistance, please visit the official FiiO support website or contact their customer service.

11. TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Below are the detailed technical specifications for the FiiO KA15 Portable DAC and Headphone Amplifier:

Feature	Specification
Model Name	KA15

Feature	Specification
Dimensions	2.05 x 0.98 x 0.43 inches (52 x 25 x 11 mm)
Item Weight	3.59 ounces (102 g)
DAC Chip	Dual CS43198
Op-Amps	Dual SGM8262
Max Sampling Rate	768kHz/32bit
DSD Support	DSD256
Headphones Jack	3.5 mm Jack (supports CTIA microphone, SPDIF output)
Connectivity Technology	Wired (USB Type-C)
Output Power (Balanced)	560mW+560mW (Desktop Mode)
Frequency Range	20Hz - 20,000Hz
Control Type	Volume Control, Remote
Display	0.96-inch IPS True Color LCD
Material	Plastic
Compatible Devices	Cellphones, Tablets, Laptops, Desktops, Gaming Consoles (UAC1.0)
Water Resistance Level	Not Water Resistant

12. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For detailed warranty information, please refer to the warranty card included in your product packaging or visit the official FiiO website. FiiO provides customer support for product inquiries, technical assistance, and warranty claims.

FiiO Official Website: www.fiiio.com

Please retain your proof of purchase for warranty purposes.