



## XTZ EARPHONE 12

XTZ is known for offering quality at prices that you would think are impossible. Earphone-12 is their first earphone, and the goal has been to create a "perfect" earphone that everyone can afford. It may sound overly ambitious, but in fact, with the price in mind, they've done a fantastic job.

It lacks hands-free and cord management volume, etc. Instead, they have focused on just one point - the sound. This is particularly noticeable in the housings, much larger than those of many other manufacturers. It shows that a lot of attention has been put into embodiment. The housing is a "real" cabinet in nice metal look and the two devices can be connected together during transportation, thanks to small neodym magnets in the housings. XTZ is not entirely alone with this idea, but it doesn't make it less clever.

The first thing you notice is that they sound correct, everything is where it should be and it sounds surprisingly good, especially considering the price. In the top range frequencies these earphones offer a resolution that no other earphone in this price range has. It sounds high-end!

XTZ and JAYS FOUR are two different headphones that both sound very good. There is no doubt that XTZ has a better treble range and a cleaner and more "honest" reproduction of the source signal. This can of course also cause problems. For those of you who use Spotify as a primary source, you should know that the XTZ's easily reveal the weakness of compressed representation, which may become tedious to listen to.

Compared with JAYS there is a little less "drag" in the music, XTZ is a bit more cautious in its reproduction. While this might be a negative point for who is used to a "heavy-bass" sound, it may be preferable for others.

### XTZ with Dirac

The difference? Actually not as big as we thought. Which says a lot about the quality Of these earphones. There is no doubt that using the Dirac app sound quality increases quite a bit. It leads to a "silence" that not appeared before. A violin never appeared to sound garish or strenuous in any way, the separation between voices and instrumentation is remarkable. Music becomes even more vivid, you just want to listen more.. When you find it difficult to put the earphone away so you know that it is good. Be aware these tiny little earphones quickly lead to "whole-night" listening sessions... And for those who prefer more bass, the app offers also some bass boost. Usually I don't like that, but in this case it works like a charm, without leading to blown-up bass or fuzziness.

LJUDKVALITET ★★★★★	LJUD & BILD ★★★★★
FUNKTIONALITET ★★★★☆	
ANVÄNDNING ★★★★★	
KVALITETSINTRYCK ★★★★☆	
+ High-end för småpengar	
- Stora kabinet	
Pris: 550 kr xtz.se	

### Conclusion

We can't but highly recommend Both, the earphone and also apps. Sound wise both earphones differ quite a bit, especially when not using the app. JAYS offers more pressure in sound while XTZ is more accurate and "neutral". Using the Dirac app this difference becomes less evident, although differences in sound philosophy remain still noticeable.

XTZ has managed to create a high-end earphone for a pittance. It shows that they've put a lot of energy trying to create the "as perfect as possible" earphone. A headphone built for reproducing music as it was intended from the very beginning. And they went very, very far with this first attempt. Very well done, XTZ!