



From **The Sunday Times**

January 11, 2009

## Test Bench: DARs

### **With 11,500 internet radio stations to choose from, digital audio receivers bring a world of sound to your home. David Price gives five a hearing**

A digital audio receiver (DAR) is a gadget that can play back music that has been stored on a nearby computer or hard drive, via either wi-fi or an ethernet cable. To do so, most DARs must be physically connected to a hi-fi.

If you have a broadband connection, all of the DARs featured here can also act as an internet radio, and two of them (the Logitech and the Oxx) even have their own built-in speaker.

Prices quoted are the best found online as we go to press

#### **BEST FOR STURDY CONSTRUCTION**

##### **OXX DIGITAL 600 £130**

This weighty, table-top design offers FM and DAB reception alongside internet radio and media streaming. The four-line display is bright, if a little small, and the front-mounted presets are easy to program — essential when you are getting to grips with such a wide choice of internet stations. This sturdy machine worked well with all sources, providing easy, fussless media access. The 5W speaker also went reasonably loud, and a headphone jack gives further audio-out options.

**Verdict:** Chunky but versatile hybrid radio.

**Four stars**

[www.oxxdigital.com](http://www.oxxdigital.com)



# THE SUNDAY TIMES