

SOUND & VISION

Extended lab results on the Yamaha DVD-S1500 universal DVD/SACD player, tested for the December 2004 S&V. © 2004 by Hachette Filipacchi Media, U.S., Inc. All rights reserved.

in the lab for Web

DVD-VIDEO PERFORMANCE

Measured through composite-video output.

Maximum-white level error 0 IRE

Setup level +7.5 IRE

Horizontal luminance response (re level at 1 MHz, sharpness at -6)
3/4/5/6/6.75 MHz $\pm 0/\pm 0/\pm 0/-1.9/-2.3$ dB

Onscreen horizontal resolution 540 lines

In-player letterboxing good

AUDIO PERFORMANCE

DVD-Audio measured using 96-kHz sampling rate. Results for left front channel, typical for all channels.

Frequency response

Dolby Digital.... 20 Hz to 20 kHz +0.006, -0.26 dB
DVD-Audio..... 20 Hz to 44.2 kHz +0.005, -3 dB
SACD..... 20 Hz to 43.6 kHz +0.006, -3 dB
CD 20 Hz to 20 kHz +0.006, -0.27 dB

Video performance of the Yamaha DVD-S1500 was right up to snuff, with a flat luminance response (set sharpness to -6) and no obvious faults in progressive-scan playback. Audio performance was actually better than that, with noise results for all media, but especially DVD-

Noise level

(re output level with -20-dBFS input)

Dolby Digital (16-bit signal) -76.0 dB
DVD Audio -87.1 dB
SACD -86.6 dB
CD (stereo operation) -75.8 dB

BASS MANAGEMENT

Main-channel high-pass filter response

Dolby Digital.... 12-dB/octave rolloff below 100 Hz
DVD-Audio..... no filter
SACD as set by user
CD (stereo mode) no filter

Subwoofer output low-pass filter response

Dolby Digital.... 18-dB/octave rolloff above 100 Hz
DVD-Audio..... no filter
SACD as set by user
CD (stereo mode) no filter

Subwoofer maximum output level

1.6 volts, 0.019% THD+N

Audio and SACD, better than on all but the best (and most expensive) universal players. As with nearly all the universal players we have tested, the weakest point was the inconsistent and incomplete bass-management/distance-compensation system. — D.R.