



Kalender

The 9-inch monitor can be attached and removed with a single click



In the fall of 2024, ESX launched the VMX700DAB, an affordable moniceiver that impressed our testers with cutting-edge technology and a comprehensive range of features (see CAR&HIFI 6/24). The 7-inch device also won over specialist dealers and customers, quickly becoming a bestseller in Audio Design's lineup, the company behind ESX.

### Detachable monitor

The new VMX900DAB is now also based on the proven technology of VMX700DAB. While the 700 is a device in standard 2-DIN format, the 900 features a modular concept. The case is in 1-DIN format and can be universally installed in various vehicles. The screen, which has touch control along with a control dial, boasts an impressive 9-inch diagonal (approximately 23 cm). Once the casing

has been wired and installed, the monitor simply plugs in from the front and clicks into place. This click bracket is extremely sturdy, and the angle of the display can be adjusted as needed.



Quick access to Car Play and Android Auto



Access to many apps from your iPhone or Android cell phone



The display can be removed as quickly as it is mounted. To do this, simply press two buttons located behind the display, and you can easily pull it off. This straightforward assembly and disassembly process offers several advantages. The display can be brought into the apartment during extended periods of inactivity, and the device left in the vehicle becomes worthless to thieves. Additionally, Audio Design plans to offer displays in 10 and even 12 inches for the ESX soon, which can then be easily plugged into the same housing. Finally, in the unlikely event that

the monitor is ever defective, the customer can easily remove the display and send it to the Audio Design Service. This eliminates the more labor-intensive process of removing and installing the entire device and reduces costs.

## Car Play and Android Auto

As mentioned earlier, the VMX-900DAB is fundamentally based on the VMX700DAB. This indicates it also provides the same extensive range of features. It supports both Apple CarPlay and Android Auto, offering the best way to legally and

safely use many smartphone apps while driving via the car radio. In addition to music players, telephony, and messaging services, the respective navigation solutions and voice controls can also be accessed in the vehicle. The built-in microphone or an external one (included) can be used for this purpose. The ESX also comes equipped with its own GPS antenna for determining location when using CarPlay or Android Auto wirelessly. Additionally, the active antenna for receiving digital radio is included.



Includes microphone, DAB,  
and GPS antenna



## Connectors and audio

When it comes to connectivity, the 9000 matches the 700 with 2 USB ports, camera inputs, three pairs of preamp outputs, AV-in, and connections for WiFi and Bluetooth devices. You can connect and program analog steering wheel remote controls.

The moniceiver features a ten-band graphic equalizer to adjust the frequency response. Users can easily program it or choose from five presets tailored for various music genres. The balance, fader, and loudness settings are switchable. A low-pass filter, which can be set between 50 and 160 Hz, allows for subwoofer separation, and its level is also controllable.

## Operation and measurements

The VMX900DAB features the same user interface as the VMX700DAB. We appreciated the clear structure and large buttons on that device. The large 9-inch monitor enhances operation, and the volume control is an added benefit.

The reasonably priced ESX VMX-700DAB impressed us with near-perfect measurement values that seemed straight out of a textbook, featuring a powerful 4.5V pre-amplifier output. Built on this technology, the VMX900DAB performs equally well on the test bench.

## Conclusion

With the ESX VMX900DAB, Audio Design introduces a 9-inch monitor

Back of the 1-DIN body

Specifications	
Amplifier power	15
Output voltage/V	4.5
<b>USB</b>	
THD+N (%)	0.007
SNR (A)	91
<b>Tuner</b>	
THD+N (%)	0.028
SNR (A)	61
Crosstalk (dB)	45
Monitor size (cm)	22.8
Touchscreen	•
Dual Zone	–
Dolby Digital / Pro Logic decoder	–
Parametric/graph. EQ bands	– / 10
Crossovers	TP
Delay correction	–
Pre-outs	6
AV-in / AV-out	• / –
Digital output	–
Connection camera / navigation	2 / –
USB front / rear	– / 2
iPod control	•
Bluetooth HFP/A2DP	• / •
Other	CarPlay / Android Auto

### The ESX VMX900DAB is a good fit

In vehicles with a DIN slot, installation adapters can be found at specialist retailers for many other cars. Precautions should be taken to ensure that the monitor does not block any critical vehicle controls (e.g., hazard warning lights).

radio featuring a well-designed and practical click system. It also impresses with modern wireless smartphone connectivity and clean technical engineering at a pleasantly affordable price.

*Dipl.-Phys. Guido Randerath*

### ESX VMX900DAB

Price	450 Euro
Distributor	Audio Design, Kronau
Internet	www.esxnavi.de

### Rating

► Sound	20 %	★★★★★
Bass	4 %	★★★★★
Neutrality	4 %	★★★★★
Transparency	4 %	★★★★★
Three-dimensionality	4 %	★★★★★
Dynamics	4 %	★★★★★
► Image	20 %	★★★★★
Sharpness	3,3 %	★★★★★
Brightness	3,3 %	★★★★★
Contrast	3,3 %	★★★★★
Color reproduction	3,3 %	★★★★★
Viewing angle	3,3 %	★★★★★
Reflection	3,3 %	★★★★★
► Lab	15 %	★★★★★
• USB	7,5 %	★★★★★
Distortion	3,75 %	★★★★★
Signal to noise ratio	3,75 %	★★★★★
• Tuner	7,5 %	★★★★★
Frequency response	1,88 %	★★★★★
Crosstalk	1,88 %	★★★★★
Distortion	1,88 %	★★★★★
Signal to noise ratio	1,88 %	★★★★★
► Practice	45 %	★★★★★
Handling	10 %	★★★★★
Features	20 %	★★★★★
Reception test	10 %	★★★★★
Processing	5 %	★★★★★

**Upper class**



**CAR & HiFi**  
INTERNATIONAL Germany 1/25

**Price/performance: excellent**

„Large screen with practical click-on mount“