ZEN Stream 3 User Manual_Ver1.0

User Manual

Thank you for purchasing the ZEN Stream 3 from the ZEN series. The ZEN Stream 3 is a hi-res Network Audio Streamer.

The **ZEN Stream 3** connects your system to the world of hi-res streaming, adding audiophile-grade Wi-Fi and Ethernet playback to any setup. With seamless support for Spotify, Tidal, Qobuz, and more, you can browse, queue, and control your music wirelessly from your phone or tablet – all with uncompromised sound quality.

Designed as the perfect partner for the ZEN DAC 3, its refreshed exterior echoes the third-generation ZEN aesthetic. Beneath the surface, upgraded hardware, smarter software, and K2 Technology work in harmony to deliver a more refined music streaming experience: smoother operation, richer detail, and effortless control.

FEATURES:

• High-resolution Wi-Fi/Ethernet streaming for any audio system – simply connect to a DAC

• Stream from Qobuz Connect, Tidal Connect, Spotify Connect, Roon, AirPlay, DLNA/UPnP, NAS drives, and more

• Native 32Bit/384kHz PCM and DSD256 support over Wi-Fi, LAN, and USB

• JVCKENWOOD's K2 Technology restores natural harmonics for richer sound

• Upgraded custom software architecture with new plugin support

• All-new app pairs over Bluetooth for quick and easy Wi-Fi setup

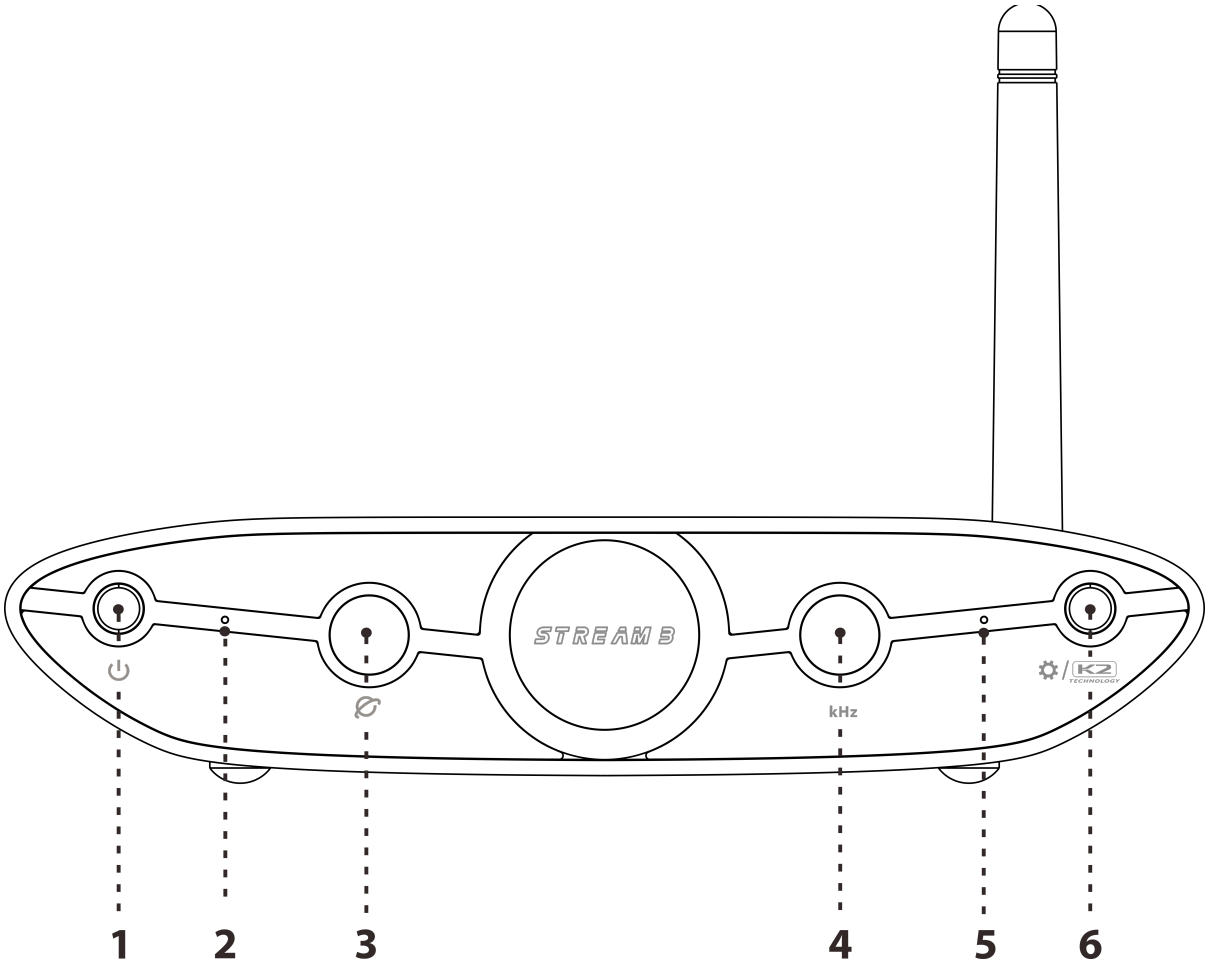
• Upgraded polymer capacitors for cleaner power with high ripple tolerance

• New ELNA Silmic II capacitors smooth treble and enrich bass depth

• USB and S/PDIF interfaces regulated by femto-precision clock to eliminate jitter

• Active Noise Cancellation and iPurifier technologies remove distortion

• Perfect streaming partner for ZEN DAC 3 with matching aesthetics


STREAM 3
kHz
1
2
3
4
5
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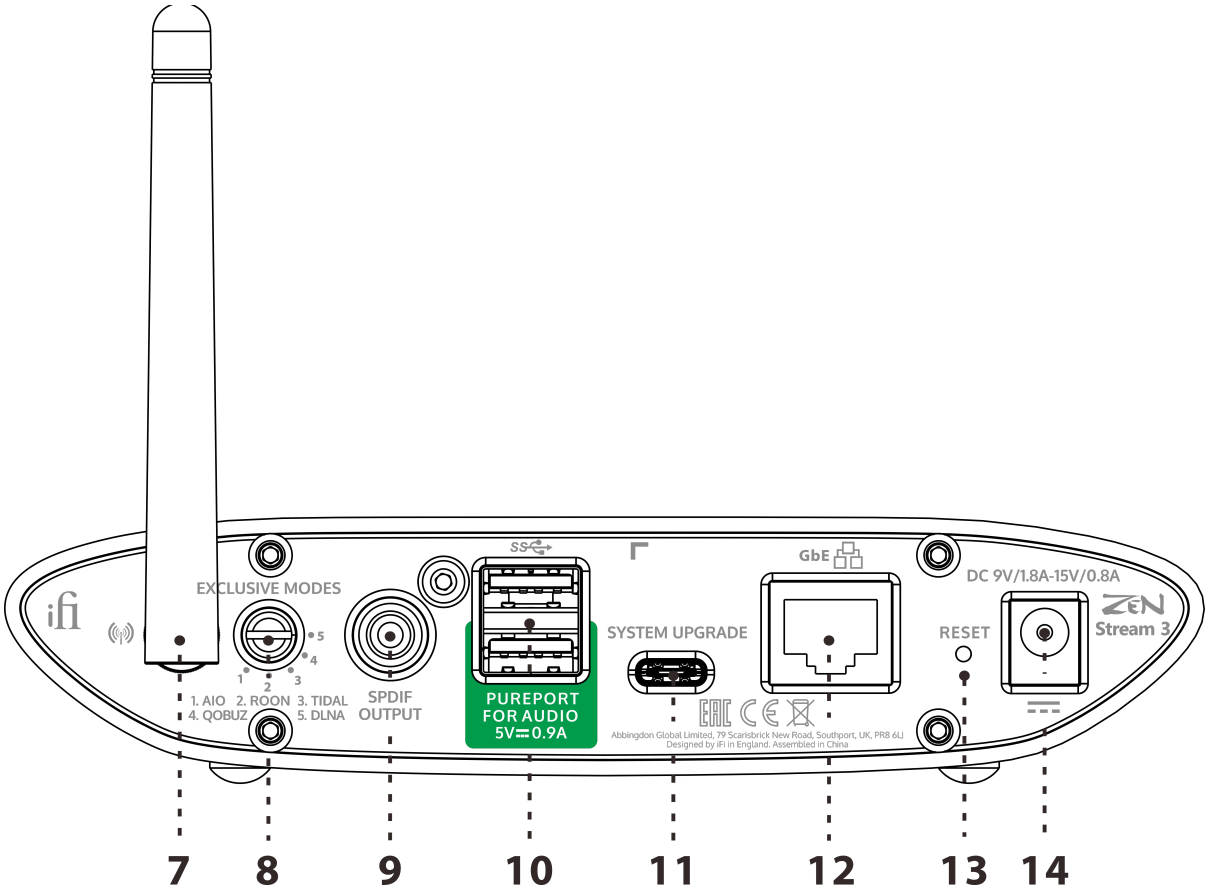

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Set up and control your ZEN Stream 3 using our iFi Nexis App

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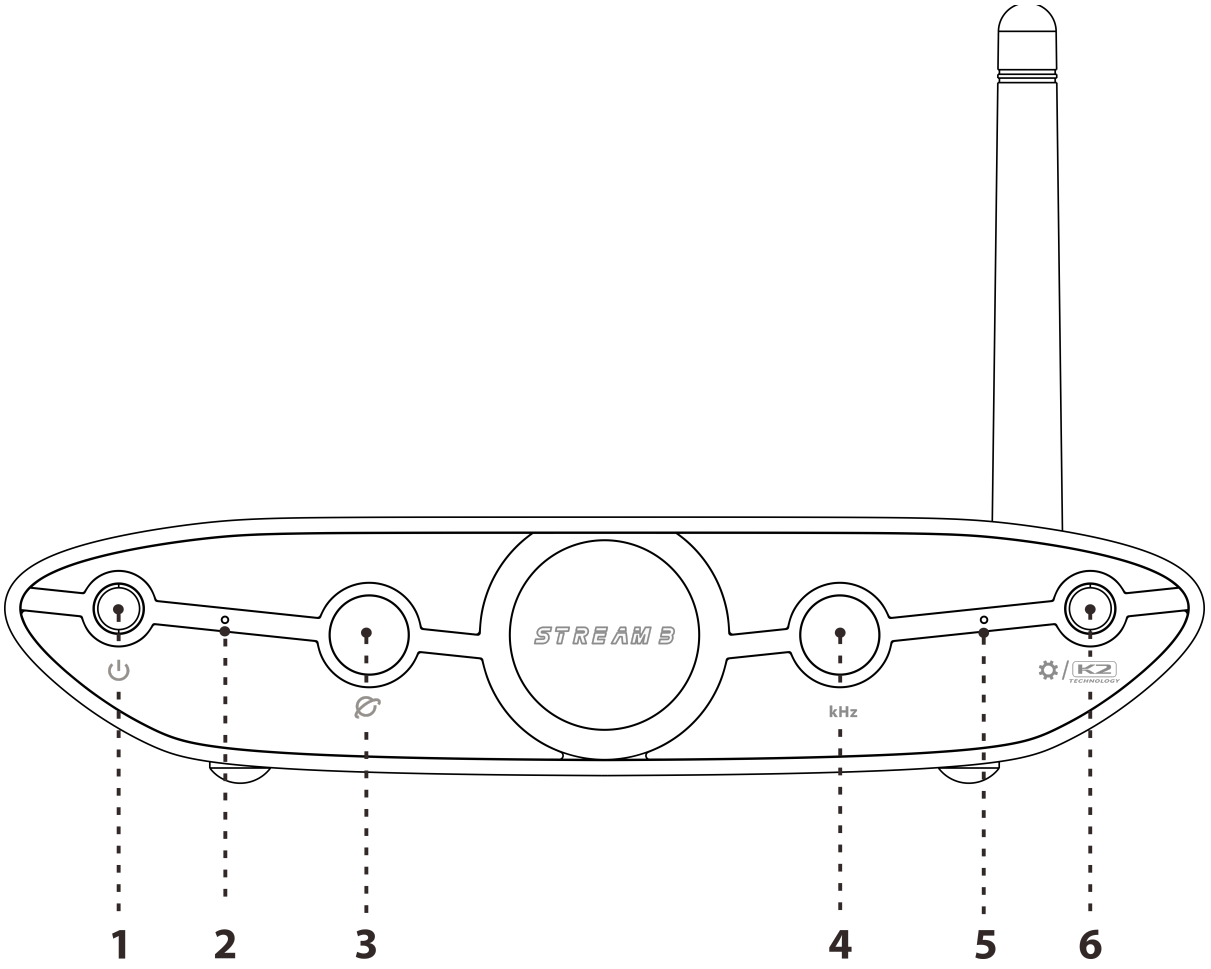
SPECIFICATIONS:



1. Power On/Off

Short press to switch the ZEN Stream 3 on; long press ≥2s to switch off.

2. Power LED

A solid white LED indicates the ZEN Stream 3 is powered on; the LED will turn off when the device is powered off.

3. Network Status LED

The LED colour indicates the ZEN Stream 3's network connection status and Wi-Fi signal strength.

	LED	Network Speed
Internet	White	Fast
Internet	Cyan	Slow
Local network (no Internet)	Green	Fast
Local network (no Internet)	Yellow	Slow
No connection	Red	-

4. Audio Format LED (kHz)

The LED colour scheme indicates the audio format and sampling frequency received by the ZEN Stream 3 from the music source:

LED	Mode
Yellow	PCM 44.1/48kHz
White	PCM 88.2/96/176.4/192/352.8/384kHz
Cyan	DSD 64/128
Red	DSD 256

5. K2 Technology Status LED

The ZEN Stream 3 incorporates JVCKENWOOD's K2 Technology*, designed to enhance sound quality by restoring altered or degraded digital audio. This LED indicates whether K2 Technology is enabled.

LED	Status
White	Enabled
Off	Disabled

**"K2 Technology" is a trademark or registered trademark of JVCKENWOOD Corporation.*

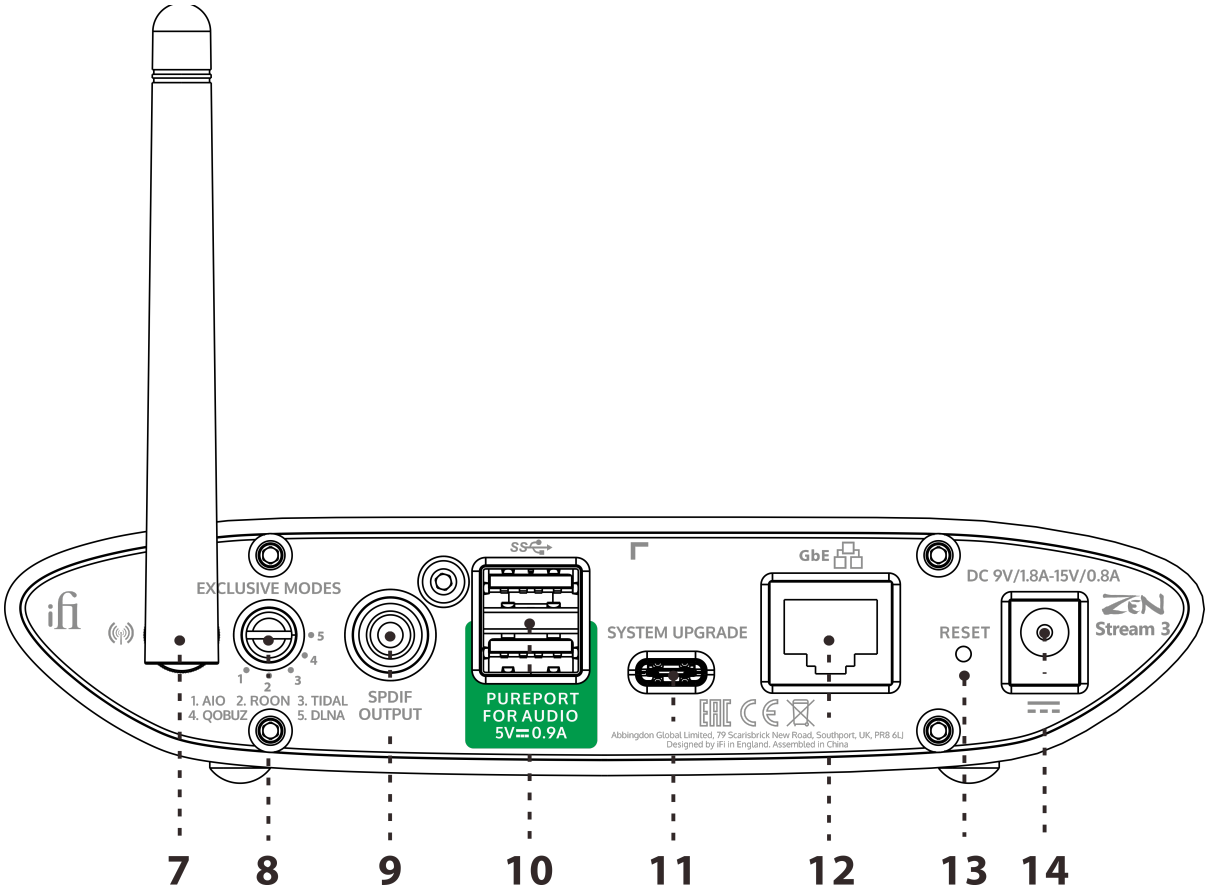
6. K2 Technology & LED Display On/Off

- K2 Technology On/Off (long press ≥3s)

Long press to enable or disable JVCKENWOOD's K2 Technology.

- LED Display On/Off (short press)

Short press to switch off both the (2) Network Status and (3) Sampling frequency (kHz) LEDs. They are on by default.



7. Wi-Fi Antenna

Please attach the included antenna to ensure the best Wi-Fi reception.

8. Exclusive Mode Selector

The ZEN Stream 3 offers user-selectable 'exclusive modes' that disable background system processes at the OS level to deliver optimal sound quality. You can choose from the following five modes:

1) All In One - Required for accessing the browser-based user interface (default address: http://ifi-zen-stream3.local/)

2) Roon only

3) TIDAL only

4) Qobuz only

5) DLNA only

Note: When using modes 2-5, the ZEN Stream 3's online GUI will not be accessible, nor will it be visible on the network. Please select AIO mode to regain access to the GUI and advanced settings.

9. S/PDIF Coaxial Digital Output Port

This is the S/PDIF coaxial output with built-in iPurifier technology. Connect it to the coaxial input of a DAC, or integrated amplifier with a digital input.

10. PurePort 2 x USB-A Data and Power Output Ports

The 'PurePort' USB-A ports support bi-directional input and output, and are compatible with both USB 2.0 and USB 3.2 devices. We recommend using them as follows:

a) Top Port: Connect to a USB DAC

b) Bottom Port: Connect to a HDD, USB drive, etc.

Both ports incorporate our proprietary Active Noise Cancellation technology to ensure optimal signal transfer.

11. USB-C System Upgrade Port

Used to install firmware update via a wired connection, if required, and to recover the device in the event of a software-based fault.

After performing a long press on (13) Factory Reset, use the refreshing tool to load the firmware image via this USB-C port.

Note: If your device encounters a software-based fault and requires recovery, please contact our technical support team at https://support.ifi-audio.com/ for further assistance.

12. RJ45 Ethernet Port

Connect a wired network cable directly from a router or network switch.

13. Factory Reset

Long press ≥3s to perform a factory reset. After the operation is completed, please wait for ~5 minutes.

DO NOT POWER OFF!

Warning: Do not disconnect the power or switch off the device while waiting; loss of power during this period may damage your device and leave it unusable.

14. DC Power Supply Input

The ZEN Stream 3 requires a DC 9V/1.8A-15V/0.8A* power input. Please connect the ZEN Stream 3 to the included power supply.

**Any connected power supply must be able to deliver a voltage within the specified range, and the minimum relevant amperage for that voltage.*

Tip: For optimal performance, it is recommended that you upgrade your regular power adapter to an ultra-low noise power adapter such as the SilentPower iPower2 (9V/2.0A, 12V/1.8A, or 15V/1.2A), or iPowerX (9V/3.0A, 12V/2.0A, 15V/1.5A).

Set up and control your ZEN Stream 3 using our iFi Nexis App

Download the Nexis app for added features and future updates

Please search for "ZEN Stream 3" within the iFi Nexis app.

The iFi Nexis app helps you to use all the features and settings of the ZEN Stream 3, such as OTA updates*, remote control** and more.

**OTA, or Over The Air download technology, allows users to download firmware update packages and complete updates directly over the network.*

***Provides users with a convenient and easy-to-use way to control their device as an alternative to the traditional remote control, for adjusting all the functions and settings of the ZEN Stream 3 more easily, conveniently and freely. The iFi Nexis app connects to your ZEN Stream via Wi-Fi - please ensure your mobile device is connected to the same network as your ZEN Stream while using this function.*

Cautions

1. Avoid extreme heat, cold and humidity.
2. Avoid dropping or crushing the ZEN Stream 3.

Prolonged Heat Exposure

Your ZEN Stream 3 may become very warm during normal use. It is important to keep it on a hard, stable, and well-ventilated work surface when in use.

SPECIFICATIONS:

CONNECTIVITY	
Digital inputs	WiFi, Ethernet (RJ45), 2x USB-A
Digital outputs	2x USB-A, S/PDIF Coaxial

System update	USB-C
Hi-res support	PCM 384kHz
	DSD256 (11.2MHz)
Power requirements:	DC 9V/1.8A-15V/0.8A (centre +ve)
Power consumption:	
Idle	~6W
Max.	~10W
Dimensions:	158 x 100 x 35 mm (6.2" x 3.9" x 1.4")
Net weight:	578 g (1.27 lbs)
Limited warranty:	12 months*

**12 months typical or as permitted/required by local reseller laws.*

***Specifications are subject to change without notice.*

"K2 Technology" is a trademark or registered trademark of JVCKENWOOD Corporation.