

NuForce Icon Mobile

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IMPORTANT: LISTENING AT HIGH VOLUME LEVELS CAN CAUSE PERMANENT DAMAGE TO YOUR HEARING. BEFORE USE, READ ALL WARNINGS AND INSTRUCTIONS.

To avoid hearing damage, do not prolong listening at high volume levels. Follow guidelines established by the U.S. Occupational Safety Health Administration (OSHA) for maximum time exposure at various sound pressure levels. Ignoring these guidelines can result in permanent hearing loss. The following table may prove helpful.

- 90 dB SPL for 8 hours
- 95 dB SPL for 4 hours
- 100 dB SPL for 2 hours
- 105 dB SPL for 1 hour
- 110 dB SPL for 1/2 hour
- 115 dB SPL for 15 minutes
- 120 dB SPL to be avoided altogether.

A Beginner's Guide to Good Audio

What qualities distinguish a good audio system?

Let's start with a misconception. "Wow! I'll bet that can play loud!" This, or something like it, is typical of the newcomer's reaction to an audiophile's setup, particularly if the speakers are large.

Why a system's loudness capability should be the measure of excellence isn't difficult to understand. People install often quite costly sound systems in their cars. Some of the larger specimens seem capable of shaking their host vehicle apart. The pavement trembles when one passes by. A club's sound system is in the same league: ear-splitting, gut-wrenching, floor-buckling output. With the exception of classical music, which is rarely ever amplified, the same is true for most live concerts. Domestically, the average boom box can break a lease. TV ads featuring hard-pumping woofer cones say it all.

On actually sitting down and listening to our hypothetical audiophile's sound system, the newcomer will likely say "Wow!" again, followed this time by "It's so clear!"

Clarity. The term takes in a host of qualities. As strange as this may seem, one of clarity's principal components is silence. A silent audio system — an audio system that contributes little to no noise of its own — reveals the music all the more clearly at listening levels from soft to loud.

Resolution likewise contributes to clarity. Imagine two mounds of sand in bright sunlight. One mound is mixed with mud. It's difficult to see its individual grains. The other mound is free of mud. You have no trouble seeing its tiny, glittering bits. And so it is with high-quality audio. The music shines through. Nothing muddies the sonic image. You hear the texture of a singer's voice almost as if she's in the room. Instrumental timbres allow you to distinguish the purposeful grunge of the rockers' guitars. Violas differ from violins, 360 South Abbott Ave, Milpitas, CA 95035, USA • www.nuforce.com • EMAIL: directsales@nuforce.com

likewise oboes from English horns. A good sound system allows you to make these listening distinctions.

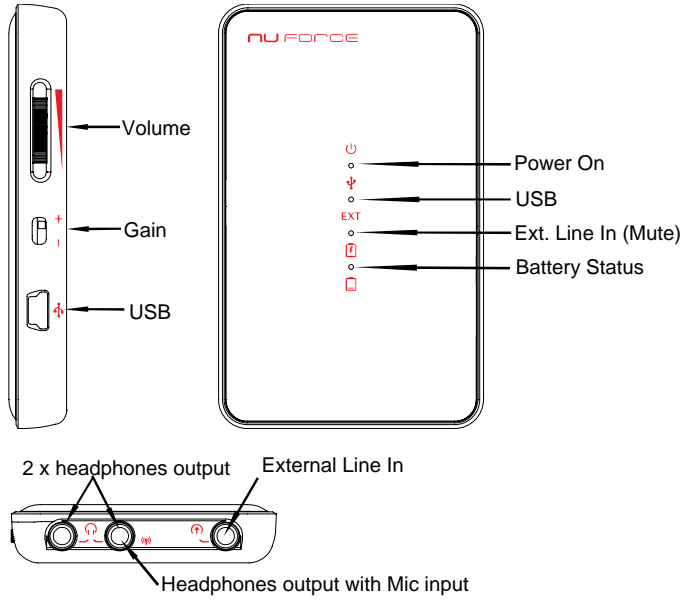
Soundstage. Another critically important measure of an audio system's quality is its ability to project a convincing soundstage. Can you perceive its width and depth? Is it realistically proportioned? Can you hear the venue as large or small? Is it clear to you where the musicians perform within the soundstage? Depending on the style of recording, our audiophile's sound system provides the answers. And of course the pleasures.

Speed. An audio system's superior speed produces crisp, clean attacks: a violin or trumpet's edge, a drummer's rim shot, a marimba's wooden loveliness — all those little delights that mimic live music.

Bass. To return to trembling pavements and hard-pumping woofer cones, the audiophile's guest will be pleasantly surprised to discover that a high-quality sound system's low end is as tuneful and clean as the rest of the audio spectrum. Again, no mud. Just lovely, well-defined sounds. A good audio system aims at naturalness.

Size. Good audio is not necessarily big audio. If you shop wisely, you need not spend a fortune to achieve a high level of audio performance. With these pointers as a guide, the newcomer has a good idea of what to listen for. The least expensive NuForce components will more than satisfy modest applications. With our reference-grade components serving as the culmination of all our efforts, our entire line answers to the same ideal: accurate, vibrant, lifelike sound.

Overview



Using the Icon Mobile for the first time

Charge your Icon Mobile initially for at least 4 hours. This conditions the Lithium battery to a fully-charged status and extends its useful life span. Subsequent battery charges, as needed, should take about 2 hours.

Functional descriptions

The Icon Mobile has no ON/OFF switch. The unit turns on when headphones are inserted in any of its output jacks.

Controls

- **Volume:** Always turn the Icon Mobile's high-quality, analog volume control to minimum before and after each use to prevent sound bursts that can damage your hearing.
- **Gain:** Use the included plastic tool to access the Gain switch. Do not use a pen or screwdriver as these may damage the switch. High gain (+) is designed for use with full-size headphones such as Sennheiser, AKG, etc. Low gain (-) is designed for use with in-ear monitors such as Nuforce, Shure, Etyomotics, etc.
- **USB** connects to a PC for charging as well as for using the Icon Mobile as a USB sound device. The Icon Mobile works with Windows XP, SP2 or higher, including Vista, as well as with Macintosh with USB 2.0 support. If a 4-pin earphone set (such as Nuforce NE-7M) is connected to the center 3.5mm 4-pin jack, Icon Mobile is able to support internet phone or voice messaging features from Skype, MSN or other messaging software.

STATUS LEDs

- **Power On:** the blue LED Indicates that the Icon Mobile is powered on. There is no 360 South Abbott Ave, Milpitas, CA 95035, USA • www.nuforce.com • EMAIL: directsales@nuforce.com

On/Off switch. The Icon Mobile is turned on whenever an headphone plug is inserted into any of the headphones outputs. The Icon Mobile turns off when the headphone jacks are removed.

- **USB:** the white LED indicates that the USB connection has been established. The white LED blinks when the USB port is transmitting USB data.
- **EXT:** the yellow LED indicates that an external line-level device has been plugged into the input (e.g., an iPod). The external line-level device takes precedence over the internal USB audio. The yellow LED blinks to indicate that the microphone input is in a mute mode.
- **Battery Status:** when the dual-color LED shows red, the battery is low. Green indicates that the battery is charging. During normal use, the dual-color LED is inactive.

Connectors

- **Both headphone outputs can be used simultaneously.** For example, one output can drive a high-impedance, line-in device such as an Integrated amplifier or active loudspeakers with compatible 3.5mm or RCA jacks via the correct adapter cable.
- **Headphone output with microphone input:** the center 3.5mm 4-pin jack supports a 4-pin iPhone-style headset such as the NuForce NE-7M, to be used, for example, with Internet voice applications. The NuForce headset's push-button can mute and disconnect Internet calls. For privacy protection, the Icon Mobile defaults to Mute if a headset is inserted while the USB is actively connected. This feature exists only with the iPhone-style push-button headset.
- **External Line In** connects to a standard 3.5mm output signal from an iPod or similar portable device. If the Icon Mobile is connected to a PC's external audio via USB, the external 3.5mm input will take precedence over the USB audio.

Included accessories

Mini-USB cable
User's Guide
Plastic tool for accessing the gain switch
Rubber band for tying the Icon Mobile to a portable audio device

Specifications

Headphone Amp

Power output: 80mW x 2 @ 16-Ohm
THD+N: 0.054% @ 25 mW, 1 kHz
S/N: 98dB @ 40mW

USB DAC

USB 2.0 compatible
Supports 44.1kHz and 48kHz native sampling rates
Microphone input: 16-bit ADC

Nuforce One Year Limited Warranty

WARRANTY COVERAGE

Nuforce's warranty is specified in **NuForce Terms and Conditions of Sale**. If a defect exists, at its option Nuforce will (1) repair the product at no charge, using new or refurbished replacement parts, (2) exchange the product with a product that is new or which has been manufactured from new or serviceable used parts and is at least functionally equivalent to the original product, or (3) refund the purchase price of the product. A replacement product/part assumes the remaining warranty of the original product or ninety (90) days from the date of replacement or repair, whichever provides longer coverage for you. When a product or part is exchanged, any replacement item becomes your property and the replaced item becomes Nuforce's property. When a refund is given, your product becomes Nuforce's property.

OBTAINING WARRANTY SERVICE

If you purchased the product in the U.S., deliver the product, at your expense, to any Nuforce Service Center located in the U.S. If you purchased the product outside of the U.S., deliver the product to any Nuforce Authorized Importer in the country where you purchased the product. Be aware, however, that not all countries have Nuforce Authorized Service Providers and not all Authorized Service Providers outside the country of purchase have all parts or replacement units for the product. If the product cannot be repaired or replaced in the country it is in, it may need to be sent to a different country or returned to the country of purchase at your expense for repair or replacement. You can always deliver the product to

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NuForce's U.S. main service center for obtaining warranty service.

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