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Qobuz: the Android galaxy updates to v.4

Qobuz, the leading Hi-Res music service, is launching its new Android application today. The v.4 app update, available on <u>Google Play</u>, brings Qobuz users an extensively reworked and enhanced design as well as new features. Discerning music lovers can now re-connect with the Qobuz spirit directly through their smartphone and enjoy a one-of-a-kind musical experience wherever they happen to be.

As it releases this latest version, Qobuz emphasises that its Android-based services are not confined to **smartphones**. Qobuz's Android offering is far more extensive:

Qobuz works with the **digital music players** produced by Sony, iBasso, Pioneer, Onkyo and Fiio. The **Chromecast** HD streaming device and all **Google Cast speakers** (LG, JBL, B&O, Naim and Raumfeld) are also compatible with the new app.

Version 4 of the Qobuz Android app is also built into the <u>USB Audio Player PRO</u> app, which handles all of the DACs on the market. It is also pre-installed in the **RSE** (Rear Seat Entertainment) systems of all Porsche vehicles.

The compatibility with the <u>BubbleUpNp</u> App allows Qobuz' users to stream audio to any products not yet equipped with the service (such as Denon, Marantz, Ankyo, Cambridge or Kef).





The main new features and functions of the v.4 of Qobuz for Android are:

- Redesigned graphics and optimised interface
- Hi-Res streaming included in the 24-bit Sublime+ subscription
- Import music for off-line listening

- Non-subscribers can download purchases and use the app to synchronise and listen to their purchases directly through the app
- "Discover" menu with annotated albums
- Access to hundreds of thousands of digital booklets (Qobuz exclusives)
- Access to exclusive editorial content
- New "Qobuz & You" section with equipment user guides and tests
- Choice of audio quality (320 kbps MP3 / 16-Bit 44.1 kHz FLAC / 24-Bit Hi-Res up to 192 kHz), depending on the user' subscription

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Additional images available upon request. Contact us for a trial subscription or a demo of our services.

About Qobuz

Qobuz is an online music platform which offers streaming subscriptions and instant downloads. Qobuz is the world leader in high-quality sound, and sets itself apart with its content selection and editorial line.

Qobuz has, over many years, set the standards for the online music industry, by pushing producers, artists and studios to provide the public with the best possible sound sources, in "lossless" sound quality and high resolution (Hi-Res). As of today, the Qobuz catalogue contains 40 million tracks. All of it is available in 16-bit/44 kHz quality, i.e. quality similar to what is found on a CD, in the Sublime and Sublime+ subscriptions.

Qobuz also offers access to the largest Hi-Res catalogue in the world, of around 70,000 albums. Since May 2017, all of this collection will be available via Sublime+, the first Hi-Res music streaming subscription service in the world.

The service, member of the DEG (The Digital Entertainment Group), is currently available in 9 countries (France, the UK, the Republic of Ireland, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Belgium, Holland and Luxembourg), and will soon be launched in Spain, Italy, Poland, the USA and Canada.

Qobuz was created in France by Yves Riesel and Alexandre Leforestier in 2007. It was taken over in late 2015 by Xandrie SA, based in Pantin, near Paris.

About the Qobuz audio eco-system

The manufacturers Sonos, Yamaha MusicCast, LINN, Devialet, Bluesound, NAD, Auralic, Aurender, Esoteric, Harman Kardon, Mark Levinson, Melco, Samsung, Cabasse, Arcam, T+A, Burmester, AVM, Musaic, Advance Acoustic, Sim Audio. GoogleCast technology used by Sony, LG, B&O, Pioneer, Onkyo, JBL, Naim, Raumfeld, Chromecast but also DTS Play-Fi used by McIntosh, Klipsch, Martin Logan. Software: Audirvana (Mac only), BubbleUPnP (Android only), MConnect (iOS & Android), USB audio Player PRO (Android) et Kodi (XBMC). And, of course, any device compatible with AirPlay or Bluetooth.

What is HI-RES sound?

Qobuz is certified Hi-Res by the Japan Audio Society The Japan Audio Society (JAS) is the only body to propose a definition of Hi-Res audio, and to operate a label of the same name.

According to the JAS, the term Hi-Res Audio covers all the analogous instruments which are capable of reproducing, or recording at, a frequency greater than 40 kHz (microphone, headphones, speakers etc.) and all the digital instruments capable of processing or converting signals to 24-bit/96 kHz. Many Japanese manufacturers design their Hi-Res products according to these specifications.

In technical terms, to merit the Hi-Res qualification, the volume of information transmitted must be greater than that of a CD (44.1 kHz/16-bit) or DAT (48 kHz/16-bit). There is not one type of Hi-Res file, but many. FLAC, WAV, ALAC, AIFF, DFF, DSF... In fact, all these formats can be considered to be part of the Hi-Res class from the moment that they are encoded in 24-bit (except for DSD formats derived from SACD, whose operation on 1-bit is different).