



Because Carat24 offers a wide range of formats, we would like to help you choose the best format for your needs.

The following list should help you quickly find out the requirements of particular disc types. This is only a general overview and does not include reference to specific device manufacturers. It is to be recommended that you consult your device's handbook in order to accurately assess which format your player supports. If you are still uncertain, you are advised to consult a specialist dealer or the device's manufacturer.

In general the majority of players will reproduce CD and DVD player writable media (such as CD-R or DVD-R). However, to be on the safe side, you should consult your device's handbook.

When considering DVD Surround Sound you also need to take into account a number of other things.

1. If you should choose either the DTS Surround  or the Dolby Digital Surround Sound  option, you need to ensure that the relevant logo is on both your player and amplifier. These logos indicate that both devices are equipped with the necessary decoders and connections (these connections come in a variety of forms including optical and coaxial connectors.) This guarantees that the DVD Video Discs can be reproduced in DTS and Dolby Digital. Our surround sound productions also necessitate at least 4 speakers (2 front - left/right) and 2 rear (surround). If you already own a Surround Sound amplifier you will see that it has 5 outputs for loudspeakers and one output for an additional LF (subwoofer) channel. Like many audiophile recording studios, Carat 24 masters its surround sound recordings in 4.0 format. This means that 2 output channels of the surround amplifier - the "Center" and the "LF" (subwoofer) channels - are unnecessary and therefore remain silent. In general these channels are used by the film industry for effects and are therefore rather less important for music production.





























2. DVD Audio 24 bit High Resolution. This format offers the very best in audio reproduction. However such recordings can only be played on specialized DVD-Audio players. For surround sound reproduction it is necessary that the player has analogue outputs to the A/V amplifier. In other words, both the player and the amplifier must have analogue 5.1 connectors (this is generally standard with DVD-Audio players) [see diagram 1.]. As for loudspeaker connections DVD-Audio and DVD-Video are the same.



Diagram 1.
5.1ch Audio Connection
DVD Player and
A/V Amplifier

At the moment the best players for all media are the relatively new Multi-Format players. As a rule these can play all currently available formats (see list) and are equipped with the necessary connectors. The good news is that most large manufacturers now offer these players at a moderate price.

Device List

Media Logos	Disc Typ	Player Type					Amplifier Typ	No of speakers	Specials
		CD	DVD Video	DVD Audio	SACD	Multi Format			
	Standard CD-R 					   	Stereo	2	nothing
	DVD-R Video with DTS stream 	no	yes DTS Logo 	yes DTS Logo 	no	yes DTS Logo 	AV Amplifier 	minimum 4 speaker or 5.1 / 6.1 or 7.1	5.1 connection Amplifier / DVD player or optical connection
	DVD-R Video with Dolby stream 	no	yes Dolby Logo 	yes Dolby Logo 	no	yes Dolby Logo 	AV Amplifier 	minimum 4 speaker or 5.1 / 6.1 or 7.1	5.1 connection Amplifier / DVD player or optical connection
	DVD-R Video 24bit Stereo 	no	please check your device Manual	yes	no	yes	Stereo or A/V Amplifier	2	nothing
	DVD-R Audio 24bit Stereo 	no	no	yes	no	yes	Stereo or A/V Amplifier	2	nothing
	DVD-R Audio 24bit Multichannel 	no	no	yes	no	yes	A/V Amplifier	minimum 4 speaker or 5.1 / 6.1 or 7.1	5.1 connection Amplifier / DVD player

* A/V (audio/video) Amplifier = Surround Sound amplifier/receiver which has been specially developed for DVD-Video specifications.