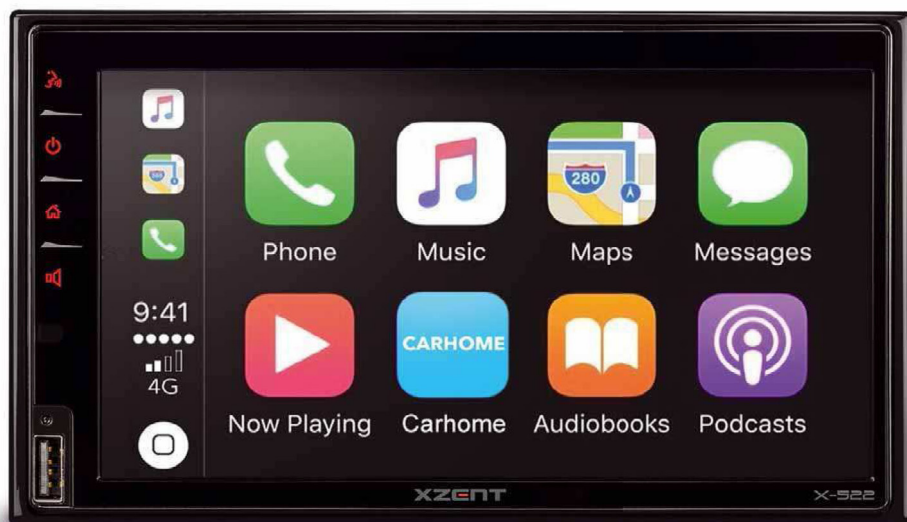


For Android and iPhone

Universal for all vehicles with 2-DIN radio



PRICE-TIP
Upper-class
CAR&HIFI 1/2020

XZENT X-522

► Xzent offers the Xzent X-522 with excellent smartphone connectivity and DAB+ for as little as 330 euros.

At the present time Apple CarPlay and Android Auto are unquestionably the best, safest and most comfortable methods of connecting iPhones and phones having the Google operating system with the head unit, and being able to legally use them while driving. These functions can now be found in many devices in the upmarket segments, but one can look mostly in vain at the more affordable levels. Now, with the Xzent X-522 at 330 euros, the Swiss car media specialist ACR is offering a moniceiver at a really good price that can manage both CarPlay and Android Auto.

Smartphone Connectivity

To be able to use the numerous phone applications available all you have to do is install CarPlay or Android Auto

from the associated app store on the smartphone, connect the latter with the front USB connection of the Xzent, and you are ready to go. Compatible devices are iPhones from iPhone 5 and up as well as Android phones with the operating system Android 5.0 or higher. Beside standard applications, such as navigation, phone and music player apps, both operating systems support numerous other apps like messenger and streaming services. In the case of Android Auto there are now over 150 different applications, including all the common messenger apps. Display and control of the apps is fast and reliable from the touchscreen of the Xzent. The user interface can be configured with any of the desired apps, and with a well-arranged layout it is optimized for use while driving. Ideally, control is by

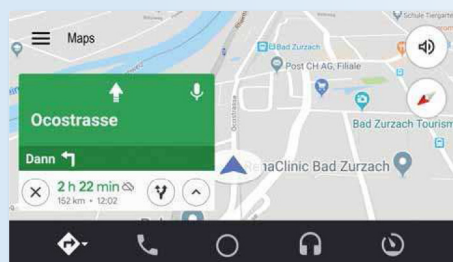
voice via Siri or the Google Assistant: simply press the soft key at the top left on the Xzent and say, for example, what your desired navigation target destination is. Incoming messages can be read out from the Xzent if required.

Digital radio

Recently the German Federal Parliament (Bundestag) passed a new telecommunications act to implement an EU Directive, according to which as of December 21, 2020 all new OEM and retrofit radios brought onto the market must also be able to receive digital terrestrial broadcasts. Xzent is now already compliant, equipping the X-522 with a tuner for DAB+ digital radio to complement the existing analog FM receiver. The new device manages practical comfort functions like Service Fol-



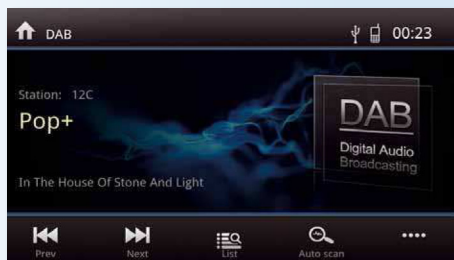
CarPlay and Android Auto in the main menu



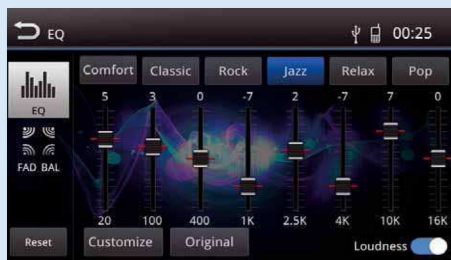
Navigation from the smartphone



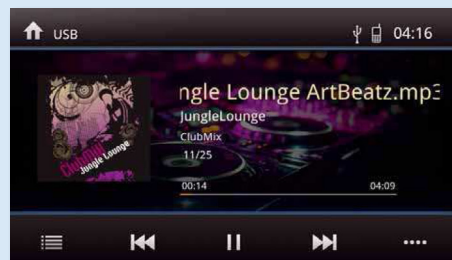
Hands-free function with favorites list



Digital radio DAB+



Eight-band graphic equalizer



Media player with cover art

lowing within DAB+, but also between DAB+ and FM. Comfort Scan, Slide-show and DLS-Text are also supported. The reception is crystal clear as is usual for digital radio, and the automatic station search and alphabetical station list makes operation very comfortable.

Connections

Beside the USB connection at the front as already mentioned, the Xzent offers further interfaces at the rear. Fitted there is a second USB 2.0 connection that you can use to play back audio and video files from USB sticks. For the connection of external amplifiers there are six separate preamp outputs available. Naturally, there must also be a camera input and video output. You can use the RCA input to connect an external analog source. In addition, the X-522 has an IR-in port to which separately obtainable CAN or SWC adapters can be connected for interfacing vehicle functions such as the buttons of the multifunction steering wheel or other supported functions. There is a Bluetooth wireless connection for mobile phones that allows a hands-free system and audio streaming to also be used independently from CarPlay and Android Auto.

Audio

To adjust the sound the Xzent offers an eight-band graphic equalizer with various presets. Volume, balance and fader controls are also provided. The volume of the subwoofer can be controlled separately. The settings also allow for the normal volume of the individual sources to be matched with each other to avoid an unwanted jump in level when changing the source.

Operation

As mentioned above, operation with

Apple CarPlay and Android Auto is ideally optimized for use while driving, and even voice commands are possible. But the other functions of Xzent are also very easy to use thanks to the clear and logical menus with large buttons. Using the four permanent soft keys on the left, whose illumination color can be set at red or white, you can for example change to the main menu at any time, or show the volume control. The touchscreen responds quickly and reliably to every finger touch.

Summary

With Apple CarPlay, Android Auto, digital radio, two USB connections and Bluetooth, the Xzent X-522 offers smartphone connectivity and features, which are otherwise hard to find in this price category.

Technical data

Amplifier output / W	15
Output Voltage / V	1,9
USB	
THD+N (%)	0,006
SNR (A)	92
Tuner	
THD+N (%)	0,047
Signal/Noise Ratio (A)	65
Crosstalk (dB)	37
Monitor (cm)	17,1
Touchscreen	•
Dual Zone	-
Dolby Digital / Pro Logic decoder	-
Param. / graph. EQ	- / 8
Crossover	-
Time alignment	-
Pre-outs	6
AV-in / AV-out	• / •
Digital-out	-
Camera connectors / navigation	• / -
USB front / rear	• / •
iPod control	•
Bluetooth HFP/A2DP	• / •
Other	CarPlay, Android Auto

The Xzent X-522 fits here:

In all cars with a double DIN slot. For many other models installation and connector adapters are available as accessories.

XZENT X-522

Distributor	ACR, Bad Zurzach, Schweiz
Hotline	acr-info@acr.eu
Internet	www.xzent.de

► Sound quality	20 %	1,2	■■■■■
Bass	4 %	1,5	■■■■■
Neutrality	4 %	1,0	■■■■■
Transparency	4 %	1,0	■■■■■
Soundstaging	4 %	1,5	■■■■■
Dynamics	4 %	1,0	■■■■■

► Picture quality	20 %	1,2	■■■■■
Sharpness	3,3 %	1,0	■■■■■
Brightness	3,3 %	1,5	■■■■■
Contrast	3,3 %	1,0	■■■■■
Color rendering	3,3 %	1,0	■■■■■
Viewing angle	3,3 %	1,0	■■■■■
Reflection	3,3 %	1,5	■■■■■

► Lab	15 %	1,2	■■■■■
• USB	7,5 %	1,0	■■■■■
Distortion	3,75 %	1,0	■■■■■
Signal/Noise Ratio	3,75 %	1,0	■■■■■
• Tuner	7,5 %	1,3	■■■■■
Frequency response	1,88 %	2,0	■■■■■
Crosstalk	1,88 %	1,5	■■■■■
Distortion	1,88 %	0,5	■■■■■
Signal/Noise Ratio	1,88 %	1,0	■■■■■

► Practice	40 %	0,6	■■■■■
Operation	10 %	0,5	■■■■■
Features	5 %	1,0	■■■■■
Reception test	5 %	1,0	■■■■■
Workmanship	20 %	0,5	■■■■■

Summary

Price	about	330	Euro
Sound quality	20 %	1,2	■■■■■
Picture quality	20 %	1,2	■■■■■
Lab	15 %	1,2	■■■■■
Practice	45 %	1,1	■■■■■

Xzent X-522

Ultimate-Class
Top-Class
Upper-Class
Middle-Class
Entry-Class

1,2

Price/performance:
excellent

CAR&HIFI

edition 1/2020

„Apple CarPlay, Android Auto and DAB+ at an attractive price“