

ZENEC Z-N966 • TEST REPORT CAR&HIFI 6/2020



The new moniceiver from the Zenec Prime series shines with its large high resolution display and a great set of features, including CarPlay and Android Auto.

The housing of this premium infotainer has standard double DIN size and is therefore no problem to fit in a wide range of car models. The monitor which has a real glass touch display is extra large with a diagonal of 9-in (22.9 cm). It therefore sits a bit in front of the unit chassis. Yet it is not just the dimensions of the display that are striking. With 1280 x 720 pixels it is among the sharpest moniceivers on the market. In the TV sector a resolution like this is called "HD-ready". If you consider that this would already achieve a good quality on much larger television sets, then it is easy to imagine what sharp, crisp images are possible on the Zenec which is small in comparison.

Optional navigation packages

Ex works the Zenec comes without

navigation software. But it does have the hardware necessary for navigation. Three different navigation packages are optionally available as an accessory. The in-car sat nav package Z-EMAP66-PC3 (139 euros) includes 3D maps for 47 European countries, clear route guidance with lane assist, tunnel mode, intersection zoom, as well as traffic information via TMC (FM) and TPEG (DAB). Map updates are included for the first three years. Camping versions Z-EMAP66-MH3 (199 euros) and -MH7 (299 euros) are available specially for motorhomes. In addition, they offer vehicle profiles for entering height, length, weight etc. and include a very comprehensive package with camping-points of interest together with details. The MH3 gives you free map updates for three years, and the

MH7 a whole seven years.

Smartphone

Those who do not want to buy a navigation package, can also make use of the Z-N966 for navigation thanks to its support for Android Auto and Apple CarPlay. For this you only need to connect an appropriate iPhone or Android mobile phone to one of the two USB ports at the rear. If Apple CarPlay or Android Auto is installed, then the relevant app starts automatically and is displayed on the large display of the Zenec device from where it can be controlled. You can download both Car-Play and Android Auto free of charge from the corresponding app store. They have a clear, simplified user interface that makes them optimal for use during driving. They provide access to a range of important phone functions, such as telephony, navigation, media player and messenger services. Control is easy and smooth from the touchscreen of the Z-N966 or, thanks to Apple Siri or Google Assistant, even more comfortably by voice input.

DAB+ twin tuner

Beside traditional FM broadcast the Zenec is also capable of receiving



The twin DAB tuner offers crystal clear reception with every comfort



The integrated DSP even offers time alignment



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Multizone via cable or Bluetooth streaming

DAB+ digital radio. With the twin tuner it can deliver crystal clear reception of digital radio stations, and with DAB<>DAB Service-Following, MOT Slideshow, DLS Text and Comfort Scan it offers all the associated comfort functions. The remaining features can only be described as complete. For example, there is the option to connect up to three cameras. For the Cam1 input there is even an audio input available for a microphone triggered on engaging reverse gear. The cameras can be controlled from the CAM button and the touchscreen. For better estimation of distances, guidelines can be displayed.

DSP and multizone

The audio features of the Z-N966 satisfy every possible requirement. The Expert mode allows numerous sound parameters to be set. In addition to a 10-band equalizer, crossovers and subwoofer control, the time alignment particularly stands out. This allows, among other things, optimization of staging and the dynamic response of the sound system. Furthermore, the multizone function allows, for example, different sources to be played at the front and rear. This can, for example, be used in a motorhome to provide the living area with entertainment while radio and navigation are on in the driver's area.

Bluetooth

Connecting to the phone via Bluetooth turns the Z-N966 into a comfortable hands-free system. You can speak over the internal or external microphone as required. Music can be streamed wirelessly from the phone or tablet to the Zenec. And it offers a further extremely useful function, particularly for motorhomes: the Bluetooth Source Mode enables music streaming to also be reversed, that is from the Zenec device to



Android Auto and Apple CarPlay offer all the useful functions on the move

a Bluetooth headset or speakers. This is very practical if, for example, you want to enjoy your music or listen to the radio outside in the sun. To achieve the maximum possible Bluetooth range the Z-N966 has a BT antenna at the rear of the device body. And that's not all. With the free Remote app, basic functions like selecting a source and volume can be controlled from the smartphone. Two conventional IR remote controls are also included in the package.

Summary

Superb large display, huge range of functions and outstanding performance in all areas. The Zenec Z-N966 is an absolute premium infotainer that has no need to shy away from any kind of comparison.

Technical data	
Amplifier output / W	15
Output Voltage / V	5,3
Output impedance / ohms 6	63
USB	
THD+N (%) 0,0	09
SNR (A)	88
Tuner	
THD+N (%) 0,0	37
Signal/Noise Ratio (A)	58
Crosstalk (dB)	<u>45</u>
Monitor size (cm) 22	2,9
Touchscreen	•
Dual Zone	•
Dolby Digital / Pro Logic decoder	_
param./graph. EQ-bands -/	10
Crossover HP /	LP
Time alignment	•
Pre-outs	6
AV-in / AV-out	/ •
Digital-out	
Connectors camera / navigation 2	/_
USB front / rear - /	/ 2
iPod controll	•
Bluetooth HFP/A2DP •	/ •
Other CarPlay / Android Au	ıto

The Zenec Z-N966 fits here:

In cars with a double DIN slot. For many other models installation and connector adapters are available as accessories. A check should be made that no safety-related elements of the vehicle (hazard warning flasher switch, airbag etc.) are obscured by the front of the Z-N966.



The optional motorhome navigation includes a large camping POI database



Distributor	ACR, Ba	ad Zurza	ach, Schweiz
Hotline	acr-info@acr.eu		
nternet	www.zenec.com		
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 %	1,1	
• USB	7,5 %	1,0	
Distortion	3,75 %	1,5	
Signal/Noise Ratio	-	1,1	
• Tuner	7,5 %	1,5	
Frequency respons		1,0	
Crosstalk	1,88 %	0,5	
Distortion	1,88 %	0,5	
Signal/Noise Ratio	1,88 %	1,5	
Practice	45 %	0,8	
Operation	10 %	1,0	
Features	20 %	0,5	
Reception test	10 %	1,0	
Workmanship	5 %	1,0	
Summary			
Price		appro	ox. 380 Euro
Sound quality	20 %	1,2	
Picture quality	20 %	1,2	
Lab	15 %	1,1	
Practice	45 %	1+	
Zenec Z-N966	3		

CAR.HiFi

"Premium top class infotainer"

Price/performance:

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