Why Plinius prefers Ethernet

At Plinius we prefer Ethernet connectivity for digital sources because we think it's the best solution.

Ethernet offers many advantages for all aspects of communicating within a music system. It allows the best options for transmission of quality audio and control signals in one protocol. It's the elegant solution, and that's why we prefer it.

We understand that USB for example is convenient for sharing music files and easily transporting them or transferring them between devices when no network exists; but for convenience within your home environment it's hard to argue with the following advantages:

Performance
Ethernet allows the clock to be located at the DAC where it is required to be most precise resulting in minimal jitter. High quality files can be transmitted without being altered by software.

Control
Control of devices over Ethernet is superior simply due to the range of options available. Guidelines for DLNA and UPnP protocols mean many devices are already operating using the Ethernet protocol.

Installation
Ethernet operates with vastly longer cable lengths than S/PDIF or USB, typically expected to be capable of up to 100m (328ft), this allows the server hardware to be located away from the listening environment.

Multi-room capability
Ethernet allows multiple player devices to access the same server libraries, or to access multiple libraries allowing for true multi room or multi zone playback and control.

In addition to the better clock location relative to the DAC, Ethernet connectivity provides many features and additional benefits compared to standard Coax, Optical and USB DAC's. Ethernet means the Tiki and Toko are capable of being in a multi-room situation with excellent performance and have the connectivity and simplicity of the other protocols and more.

- Connectivity equal to USB
- Playback from portable USB devices
- Cable lengths up to 100m (328ft)
- Lower jitter designs
- Multi-room capability
- Wide range of control options
- Portable control and display available where needed
- Interfacing to wireless bridge devices
- Expansion to other wireless options (mobile servers, additional control options)

FEATURE	USB	ETHERNET	DETAILS
Direct connection to computer	Yes	Yes	Can connect just like a USB DAC, only the cable is different
Control from computer	Yes	Yes	Control can be like a USB DAC, only with different software
Playback from a USB stick	Yes	Yes	Set the server options to check for portable media
Control playback remotely	Yes	Yes	Use wireless device Apps to control playback effortlessly
Multi room capable	–	Yes	Run multiple server libraries and multiple playback systems
Wireless connection options	–	Yes	Wi-Fi bridge or powerline can be used instead of a cable
Use cable Lengths over 3m (10ft)	–	Yes	Ethernet cables can be of 100m (328ft) length
Limit jitter as much as possible	–	Yes	The clock can be located near the DAC for optimal sound
Use without software drivers	–	Yes	Easy setup, no risk that software is altering the sound

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The heart of music