



## Harman Kardon HK 3490 Stereo Receiver

By: HomeTheaterReview.com

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May 11, 2009

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Although home theater (or audio/video) receivers enjoy the bulk of receiver sales these days, there's still room in the market for stereo receivers. Some listeners want a high-quality stereo music-only system. Others want good, full-range home theater sound, but don't have the room for, or don't want to install, a surround sound speaker set-up. Harman Kardon is one company that hasn't abandoned the stereo receiver market, as evidenced by their HK 3490 stereo receiver.



The HK 3490 (suggested retail price: \$499) isn't your father's receiver. It's filled with features that make it right at home in 2009. It delivers a robust 120 watts per channel into eight ohms (150 wpc into four ohms). Its rear and front panel provide seven analog audio inputs, including a phono input for those listeners who want to enjoy their vinyl (the phono input accommodates moving-magnet phono cartridges). It includes coaxial and optical digital audio inputs - ideal for users with older CD and DVD players that might get better sound from utilizing the up-to-date D/A circuitry in the HK 3490. The receiver has four composite video inputs and a dedicated input for the Harman Kardon The Bridge II iPod docking station. This latter feature enables you to connect an iPod via The Bridge II (sold separately); the iPod can then be controlled from the HK 3490's remote control and menus that are displayed on a connected TV or on the receiver's front panel.

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### Conclusion

The Harman Kardon HK 3490 stereo receiver combines excellent sound quality with plenty of power (120 watts per channel into eight ohms), an extensive selection of audio inputs, including a phono input and dedicated iPod interface (via the optional Harman Kardon The Bridge II docking station), and other useful features like XM Radio compatibility, Dolby Virtual Speaker and Dolby Headphone, dual subwoofer outputs and other useful features. It's a good choice for listeners who want to put together a high-quality stereo music system, or add high-quality sound to their TV and home entertainment system.

### Keywords

Harman Kardon, Harman Kardon review, Harman Kardon HK 3490, Harman Kardon HK 3490 stereo receiver, receiver, stereo receiver review, phono input

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