

## HOME SERVER

# Tranquil PC T2-WHS-A3 Harmony Home Server

PC PRO  
A LIST

Value for money, quietness and efficiency in perfect harmony



Tranquil PC impressed us last summer with its compact VIA C7-based T7-HSA system (web ID: 121499), but the more substantial T2-WHS-A3 made an even bigger impact.

It's solidly built, made of sturdy black sheet metal with a perspex plate on the front to add aesthetic interest.

It's bulky by Home Server standards, and there's a limit to how easily you can hide it away in your home, but that isn't its main appeal.

The A3's key selling point is quietness. Unlike the HP machine below, it's passively cooled throughout with no fans anywhere, so the only noise you'll hear is the hard disk spinning. It's also cheap to run and idles at a mere 32W. HP's EX475, meanwhile, runs at

60W. That translates to a saving of roughly 245kWh a year, which could cut £25 a year off your electricity bill. The A3 is also cheap at just £299, and has a capable core specification, which includes a 500GB hard drive plus room to add another if need be.

If you don't need a small, unobtrusive home server, the T2-WHS-A3 Harmony Home Server is a very appealing product. It may be bulky, but its low price, quietness and efficiency mean it's well worth the money.

### SPECIFICATIONS

1.2GHZ INTEL CELERON 220 • 512MB RAM • 500GB HARD DISK • PCI SLOT • VGA • 4 X USB • ETHERNET • WINDOWS HOME SERVER • 2YR RTB WARRANTY • 387 X 356 X 66MM (WDH) • 5.8KG

**PRICE**  
£299 (€351)

**SUPPLIER**  
Via Tranquil website

**INTERNET**  
www.tranquilpc.co.uk

**WEB ID**  
164685

## ALTERNATIVE CHOICE

### HP EX475 MediaSmart Server

**PRICE** £369 (€434)

**WEB ID** 145170

**SUPPLIER** www.lambda-tek.com

**INTERNET** www.hp.co.uk

HP took a different tack to Tranquil for its first Windows Home Server. Instead of focusing on quietness and efficiency, it decided to

opt for bells and whistles instead. It's an approach that means, in addition to Windows Home Server, you also get HP's PhotoShare

application, an iTunes music server and additional management tools in the shape of enhanced hardware status monitoring. There's also impressive expandability with four hard disk bays, while a good-looking piano-black chassis tops it all off.