
Subject: Tube Pre-Amp Recommendation
Posted by [HaknHendrix](#) on Sat, 24 Jul 2004 11:44:21 GMT
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I'm interested in building a Tube Pre-Amp for my system. Current system consists of a Toshiba 3950 (Vinnie/Swenson mods), Onkyo SS Amp, and 4 Pi speakers. The Adcom preamp I currently have sounds a little thin, in contrast to my son's Foreplay which tends to color the sound (sounds great though) and limits the base somewhat. So, thinking about doing another Foreplay - however, if you could advise on an alternative DIY Pre-amp to the Foreplay, that would be great - either a kit, schematics (with pictures) or a book (with illustrations). There are so many products/designs out there that it is very difficult to decide. Eventually, I may replace the SS amp with a Tube Amp - but I'm OK with it for now. Hakn

Subject: Consider a tube amp with a passive volume control
Posted by [akhilesh](#) on Sat, 24 Jul 2004 13:32:51 GMT
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Hi, I can recommend at least two tube amps, for maybe a couple hundred more than the preamp: The zen amplifier (decware) and the stoetkit amplifier (www.stoetkit.nl). Both have a passive volume control that is very transparent. My guess is you will find far more improvement in sound than with a tube preamp and a ss amp. esp given your pi speaker system (very efficient) and your modded cd player. BTW, I bought a toshiba after seeing the hype, and burned it in and played it. I could not see myself investing time and money in a device that had such low quality parts. SO I returned it. I am curious...how does it sound after the mods? Can you compare it for us to other CD players YOU HAVE HEARD, and maybe post in the digital forum on this website? thanx-akhilesh

Subject: Re: Tube Pre-Amp Recommendation
Posted by [Manualblock](#) on Tue, 27 Jul 2004 05:42:43 GMT
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Coloring the sound and thinning the base sound like impedance issues between the Onkyo and the foreplay. I use an AES 6sn7 that you can get as a kit and it beats the foreplay in terms of depth and musicality as well as seeming to work with any amp. I think it's about 400\$ J.R. (I have heard the foreplay sound very full and articulate with several moderately priced tube amps, maybe you should borrow a rebuilt Dyna or something and see how you like it)