
Subject: Grounded grid

Posted by [Thrint](#) on Sun, 04 Sep 2005 14:41:43 GMT

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Hey-Hey!!!,I have been considering a cathode drive power stage for the next amp. Seems a bit foolish to jump into a project well up the power ladder. So, this leaves the starting point of the linestage. Just to start with, PS parts are a bit easier to carry(let alone purchase).Input Z of the grounded grid's cathode is Plate Z over $\mu+1$. This is not typically a large value. For the 12B4, a plate Z of 1k5 at a reasonable OP is leaving a cathode Z of ~230R. It is a reasonable place to start.A pentode's cathode Z is $1/g_m$, and with a high gm example(36 mA/V), a 30R value is the result. This gets near the 1:10 ratio output Z to load...The pentode's g2 can be done with a simple dropping R and bypass C. Good quality C is likely to be worth paying for. A 1-2 uF and 30k should do quite well.Using a triode as the CF/input stage also provides a means to adjust gain. Put a plate resistor in of equal value to the amplifier plate load, and gain gets cut by half(looks like a phase splitter, NO?).Cathode load can be a CCS, or resistor to ground(going to be small) or to a negative rail. Going to ground will put a small resistor in parallel with the cathode load, and this will make the load appliedto the CF a whole lot bigger(maybe it will contribute to sound in a positive way?). The negative rail will make that part of the load large in comparison to the cathode of the amplifier.I am going to build *Something* new quite soon, just a matter of what....cheers,Douglas
