
Subject: Re: But I'm still on step 9...

Posted by [Damir](#) on Tue, 23 May 2006 12:13:59 GMT

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Hey, I'm interested - it's a DRD amp, yes? If you can find a pair, try E180F, too - it seems to me that D3a "sounds" a little more "raw/rough", although very similar like E180F. (In my application/system and with just a few tubes I tried:-). E186F is a low microphony/noise version of E180F - didn't try it yet. Unbypassed cathode (although I use CCS+low imp. out) sounds to me somehow "flat, warm, soft, rolled off, undynamic"... And various caps bypasses have their own "sounds" - currently experimenting with this. And one more thing just remembered - it's a better to stay away from 0V bias "border"; according to the M. Jones, significant grid-current flows when $U_{gk} < -1,1V$ - distortion on signal peaks. I tried various OPs, from -1,7V to -2,5V and "higher" bias sounds better to me, but it's sometimes not easy - the new D3a tubes I get have $U_a > 260V$ when $U_{gk} = -2,4V$! Out of specs (about 217V with -2,4V/11mA OP), but it's a common with those high-gm tubes, where fraction of the U_{gk} volts means tens of U_a volts change with constant I_a . C3g is interesting, too - but "softer" than both E180F and D3a - good for some music, bad for the other... Anyway, those are my "listening tests results" for now, I'm glad to hear other experiences with these tubes...
