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Subject: Amplifier feedback - post here

Posted by [Anonymous](#) on Tue, 06 Aug 2002 19:57:04 GMT

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I have a pretty good understanding of amplifiers and I can weed thru the baloney but I'm curious on what your thoughts are on amplifier selection for high sensitivity speaker systems whether horn loaded or not. I'm going to break this down into some categories. Your thoughts on each category.

Tube amplifiers - Does it really sound better for mid to high freq? I have no opinion.

Consumer grade amplifiers - Technics, Sony, Aiwa, JVC, etc. Is it junk?, I think so. Weak power supplies and output stages.

One step up from consumer grade amplifiers - Denon, Onkyo, Marantz, Elite Pioneer, Yamaha, etc. I think this stuff should be the normal consumer grade stuff, it's worth the money paid I think.

High-Fi/low end exotic - Parasound, ATI, Adcom, Anthem, B&K, Rotel, etc. I think some of this stuff starts to resemble good circuit design with beefy circuits (transformer/output stages), probably worth the money paid.

Exotic - The field is wide open, Krell, Passlabs, Levingston, Conrad Johnson, Bryston, Jeff Roland. blah blah blah ..... blah blah. I find it hard to justify paying \$10k for 200w/ch amplifier - heheh I'm sure they are fine amplifiers, construction, circuit design, but god-awful expensive.

Prosound - Interesting, seems to give a nice bang for the buck. Crown, QSC, not sure about this but Cinepro, who else?

Sonically, what is wrong with using these in a home stereo?

Esoteric - Bob Carver's Sunfire - The controversial designer has done it again with his new innovative tracking down converter (patented) power supply. I read his patent and I'm amazed at the concepts. My real issue is whether this design can power subwoofers as well as a similar amplifier in it's class. In theory, it should outperform many amplifiers in it's class for mid to high frequencies due to it's high dynamic power capability (handling transients).

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