Subject: Re: Room for Imperfection?
Posted by Adveser on Wed, 09 Mar 2011 00:20:18 GMT
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There has been a Winamp plugin around for about a decade that will simulate the playback of a digital files as it would appear on a vinyl album with noise, clicks, pops, distortions, wow, flutter, rumble and whatever else a record could possibly do. You can even set the year the record would be made and it'll simulate the way vinyl of that vintage sounds. It's freeware.

I think that's the go-to one if you needed it for an effect.

I do something a different so it warms up the signal like a tube amp would, but digitally and when I use headphones I let 10% of the signal crosstalk so it simulates the speakers' sweet spot.

I have another DSP that cleans up the signal and acts like a good pre-amp would. It has a pre-amp, a treble exciter and reverb built in, but I only use the 3-band EQ to get the signal flatter and tighter.

That DSP is added in the output stage and everything is processed at 24-bits and output at 24-bits. It's then converted to analogue with no bit-truncation and output to a power amp. The sound is much closer to DVD-A or HDCD than 16-bit redbook audio, from 16-bit sources.

Analogue would do this stuff a little bit better at ridiculous prices. But the output is so classic sounding, warm and so much more detailed than any analogue source. There are lots of ways to hear the music as intended and to suit your tastes.