Subject: Re: Johnny5's four Pi build
Posted by johnnycamp5 on Fri, 04 Dec 2015 13:33:30 GMT
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Been rather busy, haven't updated in a while.

My kit-1, 300B set amp has been completed for more than two weeks now.
The pcb and extra tiny caps (in post/pic above) were all part of the attenuator (volume) knob which I did not need.

When I checked voltages (carefully!) with Brian from Audio note kits, he said all was well.
When checking voltages, I would hear a slight high pitched sound coming from the regulator/filament board. Then tiny amounts of white smoke would come from one of the bridge rectifiers .
It ends up one of the leads that stick out through the bottom of the pcb had laid over and contacted the next lead. I suppose this happened when I cut these leads off the bottom of the board. Time for me to wear my magnifiers every time I do electronics/soldering!

I explained this to Brian, and he sent me two new Bridge rectifiers right away, so I replaced the one that was shorting (and splitting!) and now all is well.

Ive only been using the amp for a couple of weeks, so this is an early response to how it sounds.

My first general impression is- like Wayne has said, the differences between amplifier topologies seem stark.

The "magic midrange" that a set amp is supposed to provide seems true, though not as paradisical as some set fanatics would have you believe.

The high end is nice, while not having the "etched" sound I might describe of my ss amp.

My impressions of the bass are what you might expect when going from a ss amp to a tube amp. It has a fuller, more "round" sound to it, yet at the same time sounds a bit "loose" compared to my ss.

After a few more weeks of becoming accustomed to the way this amp sounds, I intend to switch back to my Adcom 555, and give my final impressions.

Regards!