
Subject: Re: ECC 82 recommendation | Telefunken vs Mazda Belvu

Posted by [kasperbergholt](#) on Sat, 11 Dec 2021 14:32:52 GMT

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positron wrote on Wed, 08 December 2021 11:58kasperbergholt wrote on Sat, 04 December 2021 11:51Hi!

I've upgraded from a preamplifier with a fixed mini tube to one with a standard socket accepting an ECC 82 (Audio Note M1).

I'm looking for recommendations on different tube types / brands / signatures to test.

It comes with an EI Yugoslavia produced in the 90's (on Telefunken equipment some sources say).

I've ordered an NOS Siemens E80 CC (which is compatible) and a NOS Telefunken.

Anyone with experiences with Mazda Belvu or Toshiba (which seems to be bang for the bucks and the only Japanese product receiving good reviews).

Thanks,

Kasper

Hi Kasper,

Just a note that the 80 and 82 are not truly compatible. There are major differences between them that affect distortion, clipping, dissipation etc.

1. filament current 600ma vs 300ma at 6.3 volts, check fil tranny for handling capability
2. transconductance ~2700 vs ~7000
3. μ ~27 vs ~17
4. plate resistance
5. plate dissipation 2 vs 2.75

As such, the plate voltages and currents will be quite different, requiring different plate, cathode resistors. Without changing these parts values, the clipping point and distortion characteristics will be different. Might also check the plate dissipation to be sure it is safely within limits.

You might make a go of it, but I could not guarantee the quality will be optimum.

Cheers and good luck with your endeavors. :)

steve

Hi Steve! Thank you very much for your feedback, it was exactly knowledge like this I was after. I'll have to read up on the technical aspects, but I do get the essence of it.

The Siemens ECC82 was out of the stock, so I got a Telefunken ECC82 instead (normal version,

not smooth plates).

To my ears the Telefunken sounds much better than the ECC80. First thing I noticed is the amount of soft hiss before the music starts playing. The Telefunken is extremely quiet in comparison to both the IE Yugoslavia and the ECC80.

So for now, and considering the things you said about compatibility, I've mostly listened to the Telefunken vs the IE Yugoslavia. I get a bit more speed and treble in the Yugoslavia, but also a bit of harshness and overall thinner stereo perspective, which leads to a bit more distinctness especially on violins, guitars, and other string instruments.

But it's not what I prefer. But I do get some people's preference for more detail.

Best & thanks again,

Kasper

<https://bergholt.net/blog/>
