Subject: 6N11 vs 6922, E88CC, and 6DJ8 tubes
Posted by kasperbergholt on Fri, 24 Jan 2025 11:21:21 GMT
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Clever people,

Long time no see, but a question presented itself in regards to tubes for use in a DAC.

And having gotten excellent input & feedback here, I thought I'd give it a shot.

I'm considering buying a DAC that has a 6Z4 rectifier tube along with a 6N11 tube.

The 6N11 appears to be a Chinese version of the 6922, E88CC and 6DJ8 tube family.

Chat-GPT confirms this, but it's not 100% to be trusted. Its analysis is below.

I've done some fact-checking on different sites and it appears to be the general consensus.

But thought I'd get a couple of sets of human eyes on it too before investing in some different tubes to test.

Question: Which tubes are interchangable with the 6N11?

The 6N11 is a Chinese-made dual triode tube commonly used in audio amplifiers and preamplifiers. It is very similar to Western equivalents like the 6922, E88CC, and 6DJ8, but let’s break down the interchangeability carefully.

Direct Replacements for the 6N11: 6922

This is the premium, ruggedized version of the 6DJ8 and is fully interchangeable with the 6N11 in most circuits. It's a popular choice in high-fidelity audio.
E88CC

The European designation for the 6922. A high-reliability version that works perfectly in circuits designed for the 6N11.
6DJ8

A direct substitute for the 6N11 with very similar electrical characteristics. Widely used in audio and available in many variants from different manufacturers.
ECC88

The European equivalent of the 6DJ8, which can also directly replace the 6N11.
7308

A military-grade version of the 6922 with tighter tolerances and longer life. Fully compatible with the 6N11.

Conclusion:

The 6922, E88CC, 6DJ8, and ECC88 are direct replacements for the 6N11, as they share almost identical electrical characteristics and pinouts. For the best results in audio applications, stick to these equivalents, and if you want higher reliability or longevity, consider using premium-grade versions like the 7308 or 6922/E88CC.

The 6N1P and other substitutes may physically fit the socket but are not true replacements due to differences in heater current, voltage limits, and operating characteristics.

Thanks in advance,

Kasper
