Subject: Re: What's your preferred solid-state amp now?
Posted by Rusty on Fri, 05 Jun 2026 16:15:41 GMT
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My very first foray into DIY and kit building was the Hafler DH 220 mosfet amplifier. This was around 1986, give or take from lack of memory. I have used it with various speakers and line preamps. The matching Hafler model 100 preamp I'd built was the only limiting part of using the amplifier.

Until I'd built a scratch build a line tube preamp. The Transcendent Sound Grounded Grid. I got curious from that by building their OTL monoblock amplifiers, the T-16. Sixteen Russian 6c19pi tubes running at once. A wonderful sound.

But summertimes in Missouri are hot n humid. And running the tube amps are counter to running AC. So, the Hafler takes over and I find that the extra watts are nice and the rest of the soundscape isn't dramatically inferior to the tube amps. I'd had some noise coming through the speakers, (Theater 4 Pi's), this last winter and this last spring I changed out the filter capacitors that were 40 years old and the rectifier and put a current limiting device before the power switch that is suppose to help with the issue of the amp having to replace the power switch. Which I have in the past.

This amp has served me all this time and has proven to me that there really is great value in building your own. Eighty percent of my stereo is just that.