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Subject: Auricaps

Posted by [Steve B](#) on Tue, 02 Nov 2004 15:34:44 GMT

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This is my first post here. I was told that Auricaps sound better than orange drops and generic caps but when I checked the price I got sticker shock. Are they really that good? What's the diff?

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Subject: Re: Auricaps

Posted by [GarMan](#) on Tue, 02 Nov 2004 21:39:49 GMT

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I'm one of those guys that tend to use Auricaps as coupling caps in my projects. However, I'm ashamed to say that the decision is not based on experimentation, but rather a "better-safe-than-sorry" attitude. Kind of like "Pascal's Wager". My use of Auricaps is based on its reputation from other builders, and truth be told, I have no idea how they stack up against cheaper components. As far as "boutique" parts are concerned, Auricaps are actually on the "cheap" end of the scale. Check out the crazy prices of Hovland and Jensen at [www.partsconnexion.com](http://www.partsconnexion.com)! I'm not sure if I can use the term "sound good" to describe any capacitors when used as coupling caps. My feelings on coupling caps is the same as those for interconnects. Their use cannot make a system sound better, only worst. It's just that the better ones degrade the signal less, or in a less objectionable way than the poor quality ones. Gar.

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Subject: Re: Auricaps

Posted by [Steve B](#) on Wed, 03 Nov 2004 19:19:33 GMT

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I see what you mean. I think best for me to buy Auricaps and place them strategically and listen for a difference. I might put them in one side and not the other and have someone move them so I don't know which is which. Do a blind test on myself and listen for a while to discover if I can hear a difference. I could ask other people to listen too. I can keep score of who noticed and which one they liked best. Then I can look and see which one had the Auricaps. If I do this, I'll be sure to report back here.

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Subject: Re: Auricaps

Posted by [Cantskienuf](#) on Fri, 05 Nov 2004 16:00:16 GMT

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Just keep in mind that caps can require significant break-in time. Auricaps have been known to sound worse until you get 50 - 60 hours on them. With that said, I like 'em.

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Subject: Re: Auricaps

Posted by [BillEpstein](#) on Sat, 06 Nov 2004 11:28:02 GMT

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One of the few really audible mods, IMHO. Good ole ceramic caps are heavily veiled, Wima less so but still NSG, Solens nicely detailed but tend to be bright, ICW Clarity much like the Solens at a higher price and finally the Auricaps which let through a lot of detail while still sounding smooth and musical. Bass can be a little boomy, however. Never had any break-in issues with them, always sound good from the start. Looking forward to trying the oil-in-paper and beeswax types once the bank account recovers from the wedding.

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Subject: Re: Auricaps

Posted by [jeffreysbeh](#) on Wed, 16 Mar 2005 15:21:15 GMT

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Auricaps apparently are fine-sounding caps. There are others too. Read the comments of Mike Elliott (of Counterpoint and AltaVista Audio fame) below. I have an attitude rather like one of my predecessor posters--I use high-quality coupling caps because I KNOW they sound better and not because I've compared them carefully. When I'm in the 5-star mood, I use TRT DynamiCaps. When I'm in the money-saving mood I use NorthCreek 'propylenes, here <http://www.northcreekmusic.com/Zen.html> . I use the 625V. NC Harmonys in tubed powersupplies even if I'm using D-Caps for couplers. In solidstate powersupplies I use 100V. Rel/MultiCap metalized 'propylenes and the RTS 'styrenes. I just ordered a pair Antuique Sound Lab 805DTs, 50W. SETs. When and if I upgrade them, maybe I'll use best-I-can-find teflon-film-tin-foil V-Caps, here <http://v-cap.com/tefloncapacitors.html> ...maybe. Coupling capacitors sound as different as amplifiers and at least as different as cables. If you can hear the differences among different interconnect and speaker cables, probably you can hear the differences among various good-sounding caps. Your one-channel-and-listen scheme sounds like an excellent way to find out. Good luck.

cap quality

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