Subject: Tube Pre-Amp Recommendation
Posted by HaknHendrix on Sat, 24 Jul 2004 11:44:21 GMT
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I'm interested in building a Tube Pre-Amp for my system. Current system consists of a Toshiba 3950 (Vinnie/Swenson mods), Onkyo SS Amp, and 4 Pi speakers. The Adcom preamp I currently have sounds a little thin, in contrast to my son's Foreplay which tends to color the sound (sounds great though)and limits the base somewhat.So, thinking about doing another Foreplay - however, if you could advise on an alternative DIY Pre-amp to the Foreplay, that would be great - either a kit, schematics (with pictures) or a book (with illustrations).There are so many products/designs out there that it is very difficult to decide. Eventually, I may replace the SS amp with a Tube Amp - but I'm OK with it for now.Hakn

Subject: Consider a tube amp with a passive volume control
Posted by akhilesh on Sat, 24 Jul 2004 13:32:51 GMT
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HI,I can recommend at least two tube amps, for maybe a couple hundred more than the preamp: The zen amplifier (decware) and the stoetkit amplifier (www.stoetkit.nl). Both have a passive volume cntrol that is very transparent. My guess is you will find far more improvement in sound than with a tube preamp and a ss amp. esp given your pi speaker system (very efficient) and your modded cd player. BTW, i bought a toshiba after seeing the hype, and burned it in and played it. I could not see myself investing time and money in a device that had such low quality parts. SO i returned it. I am curious...how does it sound after the mods? Can you compare it for us to other CD players YOU HAVE HEARD, and maybe post in the digital forum on this website?thanx-akhilesh

Subject: Re: Tube Pre-Amp Recommendation
Posted by Manualblock on Tue, 27 Jul 2004 05:42:43 GMT
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Coloring the sound and thinning the base sound like impedance issues between the Onkyo and the foreplay. I use an AES 6sn7 that you can get as a kit and it beats the foreplay in terms of depth and musicality as well as seeming to work with any amp. I think it's about 400$ J.R.(I have heard the foreplay sound very full and articulate with several moderately priced tube amps, maybe you should borrow a rebuilt Dyna or something and see how you like it)