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Subject: Distortion vs Output

Posted by [GarMan](#) on Wed, 01 Mar 2006 18:43:33 GMT

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According to spec sheets of National's amp chips, THD declines as output power increase. As an example, THD for LM3886, 8 ohm load, 1kHz: 0.03% at 10 mW, 0.01% at 0.1 W, 0.006% at 1 W, 0.003% at 10 W. Does this mean that if I put an L-pad at the output of the amp to reduce signal to speaker by say 20dB, I can force the chip to operate at a higher wattage and therefore, lower distortion? gar.

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Subject: Re: Distortion vs Output

Posted by [Manualblock](#) on Wed, 01 Mar 2006 22:48:00 GMT

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Hey G-Man; are you following a build article or going it alone? Have you checked the Chip amp sites? I am sure you checked Rod Elliott's site but in case not he has a very good tutorial on these amps. Very down to earth and well written.

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Subject: Re: Distortion vs Output

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Fri, 03 Mar 2006 23:16:16 GMT

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'Spose you could, but that seems counter-intuitive. You know, 0.03% distortion is very low. I think I could probably live with that, all other things being equal. But if you do try to increase power output and load it down with an L-Pad, let us know how it sounds.

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