Subject: Class A SS amp in Audio eXpress
Posted by Manualblock on Thu, 13 Apr 2006 22:34:41 GMT
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I like the looks of that amp. It uses simple basic parts; has a very thorough write-up and it includes a BOM from Mouser. I think a person could slap that together in a couple of spare nights.I re-did my GC, took the AC input and ran small caps to ground from each leg. Used some new insulated signal wire and better speaker jacks. I still like that sound; just a little better now.

Subject: Re: Class A SS amp in Audio eXpress
Posted by Wayne Parham on Fri, 14 Apr 2006 02:43:30 GMT
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I'm kinda fond of some basic SS amps like that too. With all the rush to tubes, some forget that solid state was developed as an improvement. Maybe some SS topologies aren't that great, but some are. Definitely worth a listen.

Subject: Re: Class A SS amp in Audio eXpress
Posted by zek on Fri, 14 Apr 2006 05:03:44 GMT
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Where I can find schematics for this Class A SS amp?If someone has it, please email me.Thanks in advance.

Subject: Re: Class A SS amp in Audio eXpress
Posted by Manualblock on Fri, 14 Apr 2006 11:57:39 GMT
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The schematic is written up in the magazine AudioeXpress. You can find it on their web-site or by purchasing a copy of their current issue on newstands or somewhere like Borders Books or Barnes and Noble. The only copy I have is in the magazine.

Subject: Re: Class A SS amp in Audio eXpress
Posted by Manualblock on Fri, 14 Apr 2006 12:03:36 GMT

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I have always maintained the Threshold Stasis Class A amps of the early eighties compete with tubes; I like them. Do you really think there was a rush to tubes? They still comprise a very small fraction of the overall high end.Let me ask you; what was the reason as you see it for people to return to using tubes as amplification devices? I mean they are pretty expensive and problematic to implement. Why do people set themselves up for all that hassle? All of the reasons people tossed them in the seventies are still valid; big/expensive/hard to place in a room/lots of heat/dangerous/lot of maintainence.

Subject: Re: Class A SS amp in Audio eXpress
Posted by Wayne Parham on Fri, 14 Apr 2006 15:31:10 GMT
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Many of the highest cost amps have been made using tubes and there is also a DIY focus on them. I think a lot of it is nostalgia and I think also the distortion grouping makes them have a different sound. So for whatever reason, they're back and I think they're kind of cool. Sound good too. But I definitely don't rule out SS designs.

Subject: Re: Class A SS amp in Audio eXpress
Posted by Manualblock on Fri, 14 Apr 2006 19:38:28 GMT
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Well; hard to say.One thing you can say for SS designs; they are a lot cheaper and easier to build.

Subject: Re: Class A SS amp in Audio eXpress
Posted by lon on Fri, 21 Apr 2006 02:40:13 GMT
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I've been watching ebay for someone to put up an overstocksale after the Christmas rush. The Sonic Impacts just came backinto the market last November after being sold out.People are into modding them too: upgrade this and that, adda 12 volt battery. The SI's are geared to the single drivermarket mainly.
Sonic Impact mod page

Subject: Re: Class A SS amp in Audio eXpress
Posted by Manualblock on Fri, 21 Apr 2006 14:17:13 GMT
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I have one; I use it occasionally on outdoor speakers. I am not so big a fan of modding SS equipment anymore. The few experiments I tried were really so-so results. Sometimes the sound gets worse. I am a fan of Brian GT's GC kits. The sound they provide for the money is the best I have heard within reason for SS equipment. And you can use whatever parts you like.Using two kits to bi-amp a nice horn-loaded two way is my next dream.Whats up with you?

Subject: Re: Class A SS amp in Audio eXpress
Posted by lon on Fri, 21 Apr 2006 17:22:23 GMT
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I've been watching the BIB (Bigger is Better) project developmentsat the full range driver sites. Terry Cain put up a design atFull Range Driver Forum from some Japanese manuals quite a whileback. Now there is renewed interest in this folded pipe thatrear fires out the top instead of the bottom. Corner loadingis all-important in this build.Other thing is an unique PVC application that I posted insingle driver forum here on building a Nautilus style t-line.See subject line: "I wish I would have thought of this."

Subject: Re: Class A SS amp in Audio eXpress
Posted by GarMan on Mon, 24 Apr 2006 16:33:58 GMT
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MB,Have you "modded" your GC yet with the snubberized PS yet?Gar.

Subject: Re: Class A SS amp in Audio eXpress
Posted by Manualblock on Wed, 26 Apr 2006 02:05:35 GMT
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Boy you have to follow these threads through. I just about lost this post in the ether. I orderd the snubber but it hasn't arrived yet. But I did get a new enclosure in the meantime. Have you done any thing yourway as of now? I am wondering whether to spring for a good volume control; any advice?

Subject: Re: Class A SS amp in Audio eXpress
Posted by GarMan on Thu, 27 Apr 2006 17:34:12 GMT
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I'm still rebuilding mine. The only thing I kept was the transformer, which happens to be the most expensive part of a GC. When I built mine a couple of years ago, it was my second or third DIY project. Most of the resistors and caps were bought for pennies at a surplus store and the point to point soldering was a mess. It wasn't a "safe" job, with lots of exposed solder joints and ungrounded chassis. Nevertheless, it was still a great sounding amp, but I decided it was time to rebuild with better parts.I couldn't find a chassis I like (and can afford), so I've been building one from scratch. This is taking most of my time. Compared to the chassis, the electronics is a snap.This time around, I used the 3886 and snubberized PS. Love the change with the PS. The "classic" PS scheme with only 1,000uF seems anemic by comparison. That's why I keep asking about your PS. Interested in hearing your impression of this mod. For signal and feedback resistors, I used Kiwame carbons. I used these on my Marchand boards (a completely different project) and loved the sound. Smooth and sweet.I'll post pix as soon as I'm done. Keep me up to date on you PS mod.P.S. About the volume control, if you're using a preamp, you don't need one on the GC. But having a pot in place does allow you to use the GC as a stand alone. And yes, spring for a good one if you're going to use it. I've got a bunch of stepped ALPS from a local shop during a close-out sale and their great. Not too hard to build your own with a DP12T switch. 24 steps is nice, but in reality, 12 steps is all you need. You just have to figure out what those 12 steps are. If you do use a cheap pot, wire it in shunt so it doesn't sit in the signal path.Gar.

Subject: Class A SS amp; What issue of Audio eXpress?<nt>
Posted by Francois G on Wed, 27 Dec 2006 22:11:37 GMT
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Subject: Asked before, what issue Audio eXpress?
Posted by Francois G on Thu, 04 Jan 2007 15:59:31 GMT
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It would be helpful if you could state the aX issue.Have you built it yet?Francois

Subject: "A Solid-State Single-Ended Power Amp"
Posted by Wayne Parham on Thu, 04 Jan 2007 18:33:56 GMT
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It's in the April 2006 issue of AudioXpress.
AudioXpress Back Issues

Subject: "A Solid-State Single-Ended Power Amp"
Posted by Wayne Parham on Thu, 04 Jan 2007 18:35:17 GMT
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It's in the April 2006 issue of AudioXpress.
AudioXpress Back Issues

Subject: You will find better designs at diyaudio.com solid state
Posted by Scooter on Fri, 23 May 2008 21:02:49 GMT
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The solid state section of diyaudio.com has free schematics for better designs. Some designs use new technology like On-Semi ThermalTrak temperature compensated bipolar output transistors. Some designs clone time tested favorites like the Krell KSA100. Some of the best designers in the world make frequent contributions.
