Subject: SE for beginners
Posted by Howard on Wed, 02 Mar 2005 11:25:03 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Dear SET forum,I own a pair of Coral BL-25D horns. So far they have sounded at their best using some Quad Twos. I would really like to have a go at building my own single ended amp. I am looking for something which is "well sorted" and sensibly priced but not so simple that I am constantly checking shifting bias voltages. Any suggestions gratefully receivedHoward(sunshine coast....queensland)
my audio page

Subject: I love your web site
Posted by colinhester on Wed, 02 Mar 2005 16:52:08 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Thanks for the link to your page. I really enjoyed looking at the old Yamaha gear. My first real system was a Yamaha R-700 receiver and Infinity RS-7s. I could not afford the Yamaha speakers at the time and have always wanted and older pair. Thanks for sharing and bringing back some fond memories. Although not SET, you might want to check out the "Group Build" forum anyway. We are just finishing our first project: a 5687-based preamp. Our next build will be a PP of some sort; the details have not been completely worked out. I have built several Bottlehead kits and have been very satisified with both the performance and level of suppoet. However, building one from scratch has no equal. No more tab "A" into slot "B." This has been rewarding beyond my expectations. As far as an SET, I believe Wayne is very fond of his Stoetkit (see "FS Audio Forum" for buildup process.) Wayne did a super job of documenting the build. Also, have you looked at the SEX kit from Bottlehead.com? It has the advantage of driving either 'phones or highly efficinet speakers.Thanks again for the site.....Colin

Subject: Small correction
Posted by akhilesh on Wed, 02 Mar 2005 18:20:41 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

I agree Colin..i have a yamaha ca-2020 amp, and i love it! It even has a "real class A" mode with 15 amps of class A power (though darned if i can hear the difference....does serve as a good heating device though if the room gets cold: the class A operation I mean)BTW: the stoetkit is a pushpull, not a SET. -akhilesh

Subject: for beginners
Posted by Thrint on Wed, 02 Mar 2005 23:42:55 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Hey-Hey!!!,How much of the design are you capable of doing? Would a schematic and build list be acceptable? Are you comfortable making a chassis and laying out with help?I have an idea for a simple one. SE KT88 for ~10 watts. Quite simplistic, but not in my nature to actually build, being a PP man(who's in the market for some Maggies).This could be one for Group Build. It can be done SE or PP with addition of a few parts. Its PP version is SWEEEEEET, and the SE ought to be similar.regards,Douglas

Subject: Re: for beginners
Posted by Howard on Wed, 02 Mar 2005 23:58:20 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Dear Douglas,Thanks for your response. I have built some solid state amps. I would be a bit nervous about all that high voltage. (Although 240V is enough to do serious damage if you have sweaty hands) Getting power supply bits may be a problem locally. If you could advise on a source it all sounds fine to me.With my speakers I would probably go with the SE variantThanks againHoward

Subject: Re: I love your web site
Posted by Howard on Thu, 03 Mar 2005 00:07:58 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Dear Colin,Thanks for responding and your comments. Its always good to meet people with similar interests.Australia is home to some very passionate audiophiles, but we are a bit thin on the ground. (Most aussies prefer a board and the beach)Its great to hear about what is available in other parts of the world. (also to soak up all the enthusiasm)I will have to look up this SEX kit. It just has to be good. Is this still SE?Many ThanksHoward

Subject: SET
Posted by colinhester on Thu, 03 Mar 2005 01:15:22 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

You should really check out bottlehead.com for some great DIY amps. The SEX kit I mentioned is based on a 6DN7. They also sell 2A3s and 300B kits. Again, good guys to deal with.Your site is

just full of surprises. I love the carbon fiber cables. I'm going to read up on those more and have some questions for you.....Colin

---

Subject: Re: for beginners
Posted by Manualblock on Thu, 03 Mar 2005 01:37:52 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Say T; You never said you had Maggies; no wonder you talk about the 100watt amps; that explains it. Also KT 88's are nice, whats cookin'?

Subject: Re: for beginners
Posted by Wayne Parham on Thu, 03 Mar 2005 07:48:36 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

I think that's cool, Douglas. I'm diggin' it. An SE KT88 might be just the ticket.

Subject: Re: for beginners
Posted by Howard on Thu, 03 Mar 2005 12:06:35 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Dear Wayne,You guys are making me very curious.Where have you buried the plan?Please tell me moreHoward

---

Subject: SE Iron...
Posted by PakProtector on Thu, 03 Mar 2005 21:55:50 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

We should perhaps enlist Jack at E-P to specially tap some g2/E-Linear OPTx's. Perhaps a few taps so soem experimetation can be carried out to adjust for personal taset/system synergy.I am departing the low power arena, and considering Maggies. Going to demo a pair of the 1.6's soon. I worked with my Pop, and we came up with a tentative PP 813 amp. Full pentode rigging for the finals. ~100W w/o leaving the comfy, house heating bounds of Class A, or using loop NFB.It will take a sepcial OPTx to do it, and I *MAY* have just the ticket!And another thing to increase complexity. All DH valves. not a cathode sleeve among them. Lotsa glow!regards,Douglas

---

Subject: Re: for beginners
Posted by Wayne Parham on Fri, 04 Mar 2005 03:40:19 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Check out the Group Build forum. Lots-O-Stuff happening there.

Subject: Re: SE Iron...
Posted by Wayne Parham on Fri, 04 Mar 2005 03:41:57 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Cooooool!I've got to see and hear that!

Subject: but back to SE...
Posted by PakProtector on Sat, 05 Mar 2005 15:50:48 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

THe E-Linear circuit is sweet. It is not restricted to pentode finals. All amps can use some well applied NFB to good effect IMO/IME. The thing to do is get custom Iron with ~4k primary, and tap it at 10%, 20% and 40%. Tehn there is the pate z of the driver to modify the ampunt of NFB on top of tap %-age. lowe pate z means less NFB. Pentodes and the faux pentode cascode connnection delive the highest fraction due to the high plate z(horizontal plate lines, no?).L-C-L-C is probably the best idea for the PS. Good input choke in first pos'n, and a low DCR, low Hy for the second. Moror run oilers for PS caps. Rectifiers? too many choices. Hg-vapour? DH like 5R4's? IDH like 5AR4, or single diode like the damper diodes of 6AU4 ilk?It always comes back to the custom OPTx, you need the taps where you need them, so might as well get a few and be able to mod the amp and/or experiment.regards,Douglas

Subject: Re: but back to SE...
Posted by Thatch_Ear on Thu, 17 Mar 2005 00:08:48 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

I agree that NFB can be nice at times. An interstibg solution is to use a stepped attenuator in the feedback loop so that you can adjust the feedback, or have none at all. I was shown how vocals sound better with feedback but an acoustic guitar can sound better with none. It is nice to have it both ways.

Subject: Re: but back to SE...
Posted by PakProtector on Thu, 17 Mar 2005 00:27:08 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

absolutely. It also depends on methods of applying NFB. In a PP circuit I am quite the opinion that the NFB ought to be PP or balanced as well. That requires the rest of th amp be built PP. So this puts certain constraints on the design.A variable amount is another nice trick. I think that my opinion of what is the best changes from recording to recording. Let alone week to week. It does stay fairly centered about a general level though...regards,Douglas