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Subject: Are amps improving?

Posted by [SpeakUp](#) on Tue, 06 Mar 2018 20:12:07 GMT

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I've read a few articles claiming that, while there's a lot of development in audio technology, amps have more or less remained the same over the years. I think most of them have said that amps today are just as good as (or worse than) amps that were made twenty years ago. Is that true?

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Subject: Re: Are amps improving?

Posted by [gofar99](#) on Tue, 06 Mar 2018 21:57:02 GMT

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Hi, It kind of depends on what you call improving. Solid state ones are now cheaper and in many ways better than the really early ones. However I sense a plateau on them that is about 5-10 years old. Very small improvements that are unlikely to be noticed. I doubt that there is anyone alive that can hear the difference between 0.1% distortion and 0.05%. Same for a number of other parameters. IMO there has been an improvement in tube based amps. New designs and better components have upped the game there. Cost has not gone down though.

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Subject: Re: Are amps improving?

Posted by [tom-m](#) on Sun, 08 Nov 2020 01:33:14 GMT

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I believe class D amps have made big quality improvements over the last 10 years, or so.

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Subject: Re: Are amps improving?

Posted by [johnnycamp5](#) on Wed, 09 Dec 2020 20:22:57 GMT

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tom-m wrote on Sat, 07 November 2020 20:33 I believe class D amps have made big quality improvements over the last 10 years, or so.

That would be good news.

Their efficiency, light weight and power are hard to beat.

Ive got a couple Crown amps (XLS drivecore 1002) that are only a few years old.

They seem to work quite well for my subwoofers.

In my room, and to my ears, they are basically un-listenable for my left and right mains (horns) though...

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