Subject: Tung-Sol 7581A vs Tung-Sol 6L6G Big Bottle
Posted by bergholt on Thu, 13 Nov 2025 18:26:44 GMT
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Dear fellow enthusiasts, It’s getting a bit chilly outside, so I’ve found myself spending some time looking at tubes again for my Leben CS-600.

At the moment, it’s running with a set of Russian 6P3S-E tubes. However, I’ve been reading a lot of positive things about the Tung-Sol 7581A, which makes me quite tempted to give them a try.

The Tung-Sol 6L6G Big Bottle series also looks interesting; I actually came across them for the first time today. My Leben originally came fitted with Sovtek 5881s. As far as I know, both Sovtek and Tung-Sol are produced today by New Sensor, correct?

I’d love to hear about your experiences, both good and bad, with these tubes.

The only downside I can see with the Big Bottle tubes is that they’re too tall to run with the top cover on the amp.

Subject: Re: Tung-Sol 7581A vs Tung-Sol 6L6G Big Bottle
Posted by Kurt on Sun, 28 Dec 2025 12:07:04 GMT
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Well, there is nothing as close to the chill of winter to remind us of the mesmerising dance of electrons in glass- the smooth poetry of thermionic emission.

At my age, I've stopped calculating the cost of getting quality tubes.

I mean I can spend more for a tube with an ethereal glow.

I've been using the Leben CS-600 for quite some time now too and it has served it's purpose for a while now.

I think you are right about the Tung-Sol and Sovtek lines being produced under the New Sensor at the Saratov plant. They've rolled out quality products over the years with no issues.

I've been using the Tung-Sol 7581A for my CS-600 for a while now. I've got 2 platinum matched quads that I use and they've been a reference for recent production power tubes.

Now compare it to your rugged 6P3S-E, which I won't deny got great value, or the stock Sovetek 5881s. I can say my Tung-Sol 7581A brings superior res., deeper bass with heavyweight and articulation that never gets fatigued easily.

I can't even point out any significant drawbacks with it. They are made tough and sound smooth. I

also made use of the Tung-Sol 6L6G Big Tubes for a couple of months and while they offered a more vintage flavor than the 7581A that I am using and were aesthetically appealing, I just didn't like the height as they were too tall for the stock cage.

So, if money won't be an issue for you, I won't mind you going for a customised brass cage that can contain the Tung-Sol 6L6G. It allows for more ventilation for the huge bottles to breathe easily. My colleague at work did that at his place and it looks beautiful.

The choice is surely yours to make anyway.

That being said, what source and speakers are you pairing with your Leben? Care to share?