Subject: Wharfedale D-60E
Posted by MWG on Fri, 23 Jun 2006 13:42:13 GMT
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I picked up a pair the other day and after dusting them off and adding a generous coat of Lemon Oil they look presentable. They still need refinishing someday but at least for now they don't look so bedraggled. I need to find a badge as one is missing.When I listened to them I noticed they have a real good midrange and that's all. I'm quite sure that my impression is colored by having listened to my speakers for so long. I doubt I would be a very objective reviewer They are the first 3 way system I've ever owned and the odd thing is compared to KLH 17's these have a West Coast sound which is odd because they're both acoustic suspension Like I say maybe it's me. The tweeters have some sort of plastic ball I presume is to diffuse the sound radially? Anyway, they must be crossed over pretty high as they don't add much.If anyone owned a pair when they were new I'd be interested in your take on them. These are quite pleasant to listen to. Not harsh or overwhelming.I also was wondering if the rubber surrounds have hardened and that's why the lack of bass? I would have thought there would be more pronounced bass with these. Anyway, that's about all I know about them so far

Subject: Re: Wharfedale D-60E
Posted by Manualblock on Sat, 24 Jun 2006 13:30:12 GMT
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Say MWG; I had a pair I picked up at Salvation Army. Except mine have cloth surrounds. Are your drivers Alnico? Maybe the surrounds were replaced at some point? Anyway those plastic tweeters don't sound so great but the 8" mids and the 12" woof are excellent sounding; very smooth and musical. I use them in an open baffle and I have a T35 Electrovioce tweeter on top. Are yours in a large vented box with a long vent tube?

Subject: Re: Wharfedale D-60E
Posted by MWG on Sat, 24 Jun 2006 13:44:57 GMT
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I don't know what the drivers are as they are in a sealed acoustic suspension type box. I have to pull the drivers out the front to see what they are. Which I'll do when I decide to replace the crossover caps. The tweeters I'm told are supposed to be decent. Once you get used to the sound they are fine. Mine also have sand in them to stiffle resonance. I think one reason I notice such a difference in sound is going from the Altecs to these you lose a lot of presence that the horns provide so it takes some time for your mind to accept that what your ears hear is good; just different Maybe someone better versed can explain it better.

Subject: Re: Wharfedale D-60E
Posted by Manualblock on Sat, 24 Jun 2006 15:27:39 GMT
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I see; maybe I am thinking of something else. Mine came in a ported box. Inside there was Three drivers; two oil caps and a couple coils as crossovers. The drivers had cloth surrounds and alnico mags. I agree with the smooth sound assesment. Very British sounding. It's hard not to like all those speakers from that era across the pond; Spendor/Rogers/B&W/Hartley etc. I still don't think that sound has been significantly bettered in all ways by anything in the current list. They definately have that musicality in spades. Funny but I can compare mine to my Altecs also; but we know the Altecs have a lot of energy in the upper mids from the 811/806, even though they roll off pretty quickly.Switching the Valencias into the new carpeted and bigger room with 10 ft ceilings has really made a huge difference in how the Altecs present. I know now they really need a lot of room to sing. I have to wonder why such different designs sound so right to me. Curious.

Subject: Re: Wharfedale D-60E
Posted by MWG on Sun, 25 Jun 2006 03:26:11 GMT
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I have a theory about what you describe. Mind you it's just my own take on it and probably not ascribed to by many I read several audio forums and when you take note of various threads about sound it appears the most vocal and passionate folks are in the sound is everything camp. I think most of the people who are in the good sounding music is more important camp don't spend as much time or money pushing their point of view.I even find myself wanting a piece of vintage gear just because Not that it is the best but simply because it appeals to me in some way. Like now I have this thing that I want to find a Yamaha M-80 or M-85 amp. The M-50 I have sounds great and that's what triggered it I suppose

Subject: Re: Wharfedale D-60E
Posted by Manualblock on Sun, 25 Jun 2006 13:01:02 GMT
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Thats good stuff MWG; it is so true that sometimes we just want what we want and who cares why. I have three tube integrateds I bought recently just to have, not for any other reason; I just coveted them. It's a human thing.I wonder how many people feel the same way but need to justify that impulse by creating in their minds some "sounds good" rationale.But in defense of the Wharfedales; hey, they do sound darned good.

Subject: Re: Wharfedale D-60E
Posted by MWG on Sun, 25 Jun 2006 18:09:59 GMT
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It took me awhile to get past being concerned about what others think of me or my hobbies. I just try not to be deliberately offensive unless provoked or unshowered I think the 60's are keepers so I'll have to replace the missing wood strip on the grill and refinish them. My biggest ptoblem is getting rid of anything once I buy it. If I would sell my old Mac stuff I could upgrade to a newer preamp. I just can't seem to get rid of something I've had over 30 years and stills sounds great.There is a current thread about recapping W-70's on AK I've been following so maybe I'll nut up and do that too I do wish we all lived closer so we could share our thoughts & music in person. Where I live there isn't much interest in audio.I'll bet the Vals sound wonderful in a large room. I had mine in a fairly large room once and stuck in a corner they sounded like K-Horns on steroids I used a center channel speaker in the 70's where you took power from the hot side of left channel and ran the ground to the hot side of the right channel. I guess some folks still do that today?
W-70 recapping thread

Subject: Re: Wharfedale D-60E
Posted by Manualblock on Mon, 26 Jun 2006 11:12:09 GMT
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Ha! Thats the old Hafler Hook-up; using a center channel like that. I used to do that with a pair of Bozak's.Which pre-amp in the Mac series is it again?

Subject: Re: Wharfedale D-60E
Posted by MWG on Tue, 27 Jun 2006 00:53:12 GMT
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It's a C-26 with a MC-2505 and MX-114 for a tuner. I have a MC-275 I'm saving up to get refurbished also. I'm spoiled by the sound of the 275.

Subject: Re: Wharfedale D-60E
Posted by Manualblock on Tue, 27 Jun 2006 11:58:58 GMT
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The C-26 is SS?

Subject: Re: Wharfedale D-60E
Posted by MWG on Tue, 27 Jun 2006 13:04:38 GMT
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Yes it's SS. It was designed by Roger Russel to replace the C-24 that was not exactly a raving success. It's the same generation as the MC-250, 2100, 2505, and 2105.That equipment is like the Energizer Bunny. It just keeps going and going. Plus it keeps appreciating. One of the nice things about this music listening hobby is there is so much room for diversity. You can have extremes like me at one end who only change gear when it completely goes up in smoke or the other end of the spectum where folks change gear like underwear; almost daily

Subject: Re: Wharfedale D-60E
Posted by Manualblock on Tue, 27 Jun 2006 14:50:47 GMT
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Years ago I belonged to the Audio Society and went to the meetings. Then it became; instead of appreciation of diversity a competition of price stickers. And the stuff didn't sound any better.Your Mac gear is very good sounding and bulletproof. I would be much like yourself except I thought about building things to learn about the hobby. But now I have too many projects and too much stuff so; go figure! Is it worth it; I may sell off a lot of stuff and get a new set of golf clubs.And another thing is reading the forums and the Joelist; I am beginning to suspect and some of the posters agree that a lot of this is people chasing their tails. How many different amp and speakers designs actually are improvements? I wonder.I think guys like Roger Russel knew a few things and had access to big laboratories and lots of equipment; thats why they still sound good after twenty or thirty years.

Subject: Re: Wharfedale D-60E
Posted by MWG on Wed, 28 Jun 2006 00:41:06 GMT
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One thing has always puzzled me about high end audio. If those high ends products are so good why are there so many for sale all the time?Maybe it's like you say folks chasing the unreachable. I believe Roger Russel and what he says about some of the products available today. Were those engineers in the 50'60' & 70's so dumb they didn't think of special cables, cable stands and all those other controversial tweaks? If you read Rogers site you can read about the standing offer Gordon Gow had with anyone who could tell the difference between cables & regular speaker wire. Nobody ever collected the money Hell , maybe they just weren't as discerning listeners as todays audiophiles I think I better stop now I have to go buy a gold plated audio power outlet so my equipment will sound better.

Subject: Re: Wharfedale D-60E
Posted by Manualblock on Wed, 28 Jun 2006 12:32:52 GMT
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No problem; I have to oil up the chainsaw to cut that 100 yr old Black Walnut tree down; I use the wood to make the little pucks that make everything more coherent and focused; with better detail and they eliminate time smear.

Subject: Re: Wharfedale D-60E
Posted by MWG on Wed, 28 Jun 2006 13:00:44 GMT
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Time smear, pap smear and wind shear. Any one of those will pull your attention away from the music. Here is a link in case you haven't seen it before. It caused a big stink over at AA. Some of the folks there take themselves, this hobby and life way too Cirrus.
Audiophile BS

Subject: Re: Wharfedale D-60E
Posted by Manualblock on Wed, 28 Jun 2006 13:21:29 GMT
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Hey I have the rainbow foil. He had a free offer; you could get enough magic foil to do ten cd's and a small strip for say a pre-amp. I still have it in a bag except I did try it on a cd. Who knows; it certainly didn't make the cd sound any worse; maybe thats all we can hope for.I do hear some different sound with interconnects though; but there at least we have electrical properties of the wire that could effect sound..

Subject: Re: Wharfedale D-60E
Posted by Wayne Parham on Wed, 28 Jun 2006 13:53:52 GMT
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There were a few links in the Dungeon with funny voodoo products in them. Gotta laugh at some of 'em! Audiophile Darwin AwardsCould anybody possibly be this stupid?Audiophile B.S. PageThe One, The Only, The True Original, The Master