Subject: Why would anyone buy "readi-made"?
Posted by BillEpstein on Mon, 23 May 2005 21:16:10 GMT
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Back when I was a wee ladde and fortune (my dad's) found me in Merrie Olde Englande-e-e-e-e-e-e-e-e-e-e-; WTF with all those "E"'s anyhow?I was touted to Burton Tailors. Tailor-made to the masses. Amellican masses, that is. Who remembers but maybe $100 bucks got me A suit, a Harris Tweed Sportcoat and a Camel Hair overcoat. ca. 1966It all fit! I looked gorgeous!In AUDIO, the same bargains abound! (I love abound...)Out of the box, Ella was kinda top heavy with a flabby bottom. Like the  neighbor-woman with the 6 kids.Ever heard an ARC VT-100. Ears bleed. "Boy-oh-Boy, that's hi-fi"How about a CJ Premier 11. 4 EL-34's fpr $4000 bucks? Better than the ARC but a lot like the Ella with too much mid-range and easier highs.Dynaco ST-70. The most over-rated since Leon Spinks!Ya buy a box, ya buy a kit, ya buy some transformers and caps and ya make MUSIC! Tear it up. Rip it apart. Get a schematic (how I wish I could read a schematic) from the 'Net.This Norh SE-9 is FAB but has issues I can resolve. Scratch-building very soon.....stay tuned.....

Subject: Re: Why would anyone buy "readi-made"?
Posted by Wayne Parham on Mon, 23 May 2005 22:30:24 GMT
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OK, I was doin' fine until the neighbor woman. But I take your meaning.  Colin, John, Damir and Douglas have some really good stuff going on the Group Build forum, so check it out.  I'm wanting to be in there with 'em, but I've been kinda busy and slow to follow.  There are a couple new projects brewing too, Howard was teasing us with some cool amps as was Damir and Douglas.I'm still grooving on my little Stoetkit.  I've got a few really good amps right now.  I've kinda gotten attached to them.  But the Stoetkit just seemed to resonate with me.  The kit came with a bad cap, partially shorted and biasing one tube into conduction enough to overheat a resistor.  So I swapped out all the caps and resistors with really good stuff.  Now it has all the primo parts and it's from Amsterdam too.  Gotta love it.

Subject: Re: Why would anyone buy "readi-made"?
Posted by Manualblock on Mon, 23 May 2005 22:32:23 GMT
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Can we get an interpreter here? Also your caps lock is stuck.

Subject: Re: Why would anyone buy "readi-made"?
Posted by Manualblock on Tue, 24 May 2005 01:15:44 GMT
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Wayne; Please forgive this but how do you feel about that, the amp coming in with bad parts?

Subject: Re: Why would anyone buy "readi-made"?
Posted by Wayne Parham on Tue, 24 May 2005 02:53:16 GMT
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Well, it wasn't great, that's for sure. I was surprised to find a brand new capacitor in that condition. A 25 year old electrolytic, maybe. But this was a premium cap. Still, I made lemonade and got Kimber Kaps for all the medium size caps, Auricaps for small, and Black Gates for the large capacitors. That turned the repair into an upgrade.The design is good, sounds good, and the chassis looks great too. So I overlooked the bad cap and I'm just glad to have it in tip-top shape now. I bought several brands of NOS and current production tubes, so I have a variety of spares for it. Should keep it going forever.

Subject: Because some of us are tweaking speakers instead!
Posted by spkrman57 on Tue, 24 May 2005 10:05:18 GMT
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Bill, What a way to wake up in the morning and check the pc before heading to work, but to find another of Bill's (Actually "Till-E" fits better on some of these posts. LOLI know how you feel though as I feel the same way about speakers. It is all a compromise and if you let get you by the tail you will go in circles eventually.Tube amps are like people, so many different flavors it can be difficult to decide which best fits ones needs. I get the impression this will be a "life-long" pursuit of yours, so we will all buckle up and enjoy your travels enroute to finding the holy-grail of tube amps.While the Norh SE-9 is not the last word in tube amps, I find it coming out more often than anything else other than my Yamamoto 45 SET amp. When all my different setups annoy me the Norh is a breath of fresh air with its very basic and nuetral sound.Just my 2 cents worth of course.Ron

Subject: Re: Why would anyone buy "readi-made"?
Posted by Manualblock on Tue, 24 May 2005 10:19:43 GMT
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Did they offer to compensate you for that?

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Subject: Re: Why would anyone buy "readi-made"?
Posted by Wayne Parham on Tue, 24 May 2005 10:50:27 GMT
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Frank Stuppel offered. But I didn't want him to bother with it, because the cost of the capacitor was small. I understand there was one kit shipped with a bad output transformer, and he replaced it with one he had in stock.

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Subject: Re: Because some of us are tweaking speakers instead!
Posted by Wayne Parham on Tue, 24 May 2005 10:54:00 GMT
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Yeah, I dug those little Norh amps too. Good products, great value.

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Subject: Because, asswhy.
Posted by Poindexter on Wed, 25 May 2005 03:39:50 GMT
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Nobody can be SOA in every branch of audio execution. My system 'back end ( line amp, power amp, speakers)' are my own, and in some respects, unconventional. The 'front' end of the rig, I just haven't had time to explore yet. So, my CD player (MicroMega Stage2), and tuner (Denon TU460) are commercially sourced (though tweaked with chassis damping and PS cap upgrade) units.Nobody (unless a fiscally independent European Aristocrat) can build everything. We build what we think the most important, listen, and build some more.If you have a better idea, please advise.Aloha, Poinz

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Subject: Re: A-skeered a digits, huh?
Posted by BillEpstein on Wed, 25 May 2005 07:55:00 GMT
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Well, I had to have a high school kid tear into my CeeDee player but I was referring to tailoring the sound of components to your own room and system instead of having to listen to units that were

developed with someone elses ears and room.Didja find any Royal Cable in Pineapple land? Want some? E-mail me.

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Subject: Cable Royale
Posted by GarMan on Wed, 25 May 2005 13:46:23 GMT
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I'm starting to doubt whether this Royal Cable thing is for real or not. In the past three weeks, I've been to Walmarts in Toronto, South Texas, Baltimore, and Buffalo and have yet to come across this elusive cable. Everywhere I go, it's just Philips brand.

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Subject: Re: Why would anyone buy "readi-made"?
Posted by GarMan on Wed, 25 May 2005 13:48:22 GMT
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I want to write a reply too, but I'm not 100% sure what Bill's saying. Have we found an interpreter yet?

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Subject: Re: Cable Royale
Posted by Bob Brines on Wed, 25 May 2005 13:51:46 GMT
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You can get'em in Hot Springs Arkansas!

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Subject: Re: Cable Royale
Posted by guitarplayer on Wed, 25 May 2005 15:36:32 GMT
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I am going by Wally World today to pick up some swimming pool stuff, I'll check and see if they have it here in Dallas.Does it say "Royal Cable" on it?Regards, Lee

---

Subject: I ain't got sense enough to be askeered.
Posted by Poindexter on Wed, 25 May 2005 15:44:22 GMT
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I got involved in the Tulsa hoedown and forgot all about it.  I'll go have a look tomorrow.I'd like to try a ceedee player, or at least a DAC; there are some neat unconventional ideas going around.Poinz

Subject: Re: Send a SASE and 4 boxtops.....
Posted by BillEpstein on Wed, 25 May 2005 20:09:08 GMT
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e-mail me your address and you shall have  8 ft pairs. Offer limited to the first 3 callers, ya think I'm made of money?It's in the Auto Parts section with the Kraco stereos and fuzzy dice.

Subject: Maybe, if you can't find it....
Posted by wunhuanglo on Thu, 26 May 2005 10:38:51 GMT
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you could try my personal favorite, also from Walmart. In the auto section they sell black and red 14 Ga auto primary wire. A couple of spools, a twist with a drill and you're good to go.

Subject: Fuzzy dice? FUZZY DICE?
Posted by Poindexter on Sun, 05 Jun 2005 02:49:15 GMT
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Oh, man, gotta have 'em!  They got that gnarly perfume to put on 'em, right?They got dingle balls?Poinz