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Subject: headphone amp

Posted by [willyable](#) on Thu, 18 Oct 2007 23:22:42 GMT

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A headphone amp is simply a miniaturized power amplifier specifically designed to drive the miniature speakers inside headphones. Because headphones are often used in portable applications, many headphone amps are conveniently battery-powered. Headphone amps can also be used in a workstation or desktop setting where they sometimes act as a switch between various sound sources or as a pre-amp for powered desktop speakers. Dedicated headphone amps may also include USB connections for use directly with a computer's USB audio-out and digital inputs (optical, co-axial) for compatibility with most digital-output audio sources.

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Subject: Re: headphone amp

Posted by [Crystal](#) on Tue, 23 Oct 2007 04:19:19 GMT

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Thanks for the information willyable. So the headphone amp basically makes the headphones louder. Makes sense.

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Subject: Re: headphone amp

Posted by [Shane](#) on Wed, 07 Nov 2007 02:25:50 GMT

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They do more than just make them louder depending on your source. If your source has a line out, which is best, then you can tailor the design of the amp to achieve a certain type of sound your looking for (eg. quick/tight bass, sweet mids (think tubes), etc....)And some headphones like Grados like a lot of current which many sources cannot supply in the amount that lets them work their best.Check out HeadFi.com and Headwize.com for more than you ever wanted to know.Here's a few of mine that I've built that I have on the web. Several more in the works. headphone amps.

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Subject: Re: headphone amp

Posted by [Crystal](#) on Wed, 07 Nov 2007 19:29:17 GMT

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Those are gorgeous amps! Congratulations! Why did you use tubes instead of more modern parts?

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Subject: Re: headphone amp  
Posted by [Shane](#) on Wed, 07 Nov 2007 23:45:50 GMT  
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I feel tubes give a more "musical" presentation than solid state. Tubes, especially in a single ended application, tend to give a very lush/sweet midrange and high end. SE amps can have less tight bass, that's where solid state excels. You can equal SS or get close with some push-pull tube designs. SS just always sounded somewhat lifeless and sterile to me. On that note I have a SS amp that I love. But when doing serious listening for pleasure the tubes get fired up. I suggest that if you ever get a chance to hear a good tube setup do it. If you're able to come to Dallas next year for the Lone Star Audio Fest you can hear some very nice setups, tube and SS.

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Subject: Re: headphone amp  
Posted by [Crystal](#) on Thu, 08 Nov 2007 15:42:46 GMT  
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I am definitely coming to LSAF next May. When I saw mention of last year's convention, I wanted to come but then realized I had missed it. I'll be there in 2008 for sure. I have never heard a tube amp yet. Crystal

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Subject: LSAF  
Posted by [Shane](#) on Thu, 08 Nov 2007 18:42:25 GMT  
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You'll have a great time and meet some great people. I couldn't make it last year either, but am looking forward to this coming May.

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Subject: Re: headphone amp  
Posted by [Fenton](#) on Mon, 22 Feb 2010 03:28:34 GMT  
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Thanks for the info its good that we have that input.

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