Subject: Anyone have experience wth the Yamaha ca-1010
Posted by akhilesh on Mon, 30 Aug 2004 19:55:36 GMT
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Hi everyone,I heard that SS amps from the 19070-s rfom yamaha, kenwood, pioneer, etc. were very good. Anyone have any experience here with a yamaha ca-1010, ca-1000 or ca-800? I wold love to hear your comparisons. thanx-akhilesh

Subject: Re: Anyone have experience wth the Yamaha ca-1010
Posted by Manualblock on Mon, 30 Aug 2004 20:17:36 GMT
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Hi AK; I had a Yamaha 840, I gave it to my brother in-law but it is still around. He uses it at work for background music. It has never given him any trouble and he has had it now for 12 yrs. Very pretty design. I still hear it ocassionally when I visit him at work.Is there something about it you need to know?He has an old pair of EPI speaks he uses with it. The brushed aluminum face is beautiful. Plenty of power and features.

Subject: Re: Anyone have experience wth the Yamaha ca-1010
Posted by Wayne Parham on Mon, 30 Aug 2004 23:55:15 GMT
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Hi Akhilesh,I had a 50 watt Yamaha receiver from 1978 and an 80 watter in 1980, both of which were excellent.Wayne

Subject: Thanks Wayne & John
Posted by akhilesh on Tue, 31 Aug 2004 14:27:17 GMT
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In a moment of weakness, I bought a yamaha ca-1010. I should receive it soon. I have no idea what prompted me to buy it, except a desire to listen to top-end solid state and see what it sounds like compared to SETs. These amps were made in the late 1970's (retailed for around $700 then). Someone mentione to me they have great independent power supplies (true monoblocks) and sound as good as most high end solid state today. It has a "class A" selector that allows 18 watts per channel. A/B is 90 watts per channel. I thought I'd try it with my different (high eff.) speakers to see how it sounds compared to my SETs. I'll try to increase the Q of my homebrewed setup to see how it sounds with SS. Will post results once I get the amp (assuming it works, of

course):-)-akhilesh

Subject: Re: Thanks Wayne & John
Posted by Manualblock on Tue, 31 Aug 2004 17:11:27 GMT
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Weren't you the guy who said"No more Amps!"? I have finished my chip amp have you heard one yet?

Subject: Re: Thanks Wayne & John
Posted by akhilesh on Wed, 01 Sep 2004 03:24:25 GMT
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HI John,Yeah i did say that! Guilty as charged, sir! The only chip amps I heard have been in othersystems. Never on my speakers. I am looking forward to getting this one, and trying it out on my speakers. I expect to hear more bass control, but I am curious to see if they are as transparent. -akhilesh

Subject: Re: Thanks Wayne & John
Posted by Wayne Parham on Wed, 01 Sep 2004 03:41:21 GMT
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Hi Akhilesh,Let me know when you get your amp - I'd like to see it. I'm curious if it is like the models I owned. They were very good.Hey, are you still thinking about getting a turntable? I have a lot more albums than I do CD's. I only rarely buy CD's that I already have on vinyl, and many can't be purchased. I tend to buy new material on CD instead of buying something I already have. But not always, sometimes I buy the same CD I have on vinyl. Anyway, are you still thinking about getting a turntable?Wayne

Subject: Re: Thanks Wayne & John
Posted by akhilesh on Wed, 01 Sep 2004 12:36:49 GMT
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HI Wayne,Actually, i managed to successfully fend that temptation off. I wold love to hear your

turntable though, to see if the LP medium is indeed better than the CD medium, given current CD players. Will elt you know once the amp comes in. thanx-akhilesh

Subject: Re: Thanks Wayne & John
Posted by Wayne Parham on Wed, 01 Sep 2004 13:30:36 GMT
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Oops, sorry - Didn't mean to tempt you with more gadgets. I think that turntables and CD players are like most other machines and technologies - There are good implementations and there are average ones. The thing that is most relevant to me is that I have so much source material in vinyl. Some of it is not available on any media, so the only way to play it is with a turntable. You'd be surprised how many recordings are no longer available, so maintaining quality copies on vinyl and tape becomes a matter of archival preservation.

Subject: Re: Thanks Wayne & John
Posted by Manualblock on Wed, 01 Sep 2004 14:17:59 GMT
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Wayne, What happened to your Rega 2? You know my buddy has been processing all his LP's into CD for archiving, then he is getting out of LP. Sometimes it seems like a good idea because the system he set-up makes darn good copies. J.R.

Subject: Re: Thanks Wayne & John
Posted by Wayne Parham on Wed, 01 Sep 2004 14:59:12 GMT
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Hi John,That's a very good idea. I have a way to record CD's, and I have done that several times. But I have a couple of tape decks that are very nice too, and so I often times make copies of records the old school way. Honestly, they last longer than my home recorded CD's.My Rega 2 is still around and I've been listening to it a lot lately. I've been doing a lot of little "mini-reviews" in the Movies and Music forum, and they've all been from albums I've played on the Rega.Wayne

Subject: Re: Thanks Wayne & John
Posted by Manualblock on Thu, 02 Sep 2004 13:20:44 GMT
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Wayne, your saying the tapes last longer than the CD's?

Subject: Re: Thanks Wayne & John
Posted by Wayne Parham on Thu, 02 Sep 2004 13:36:09 GMT
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Yes, absolutely. I have tapes that I made in the early 80's that still sound great, even after repeated plays. Of course, they're sensitive to heat and even more to magnetism, so those can kill a tape or at least the recording on it. And there is physical contact between the tape and head, so there will be wear and it will eventually wear out.Recordable CD's can conceivably be much more robust, but in practice, my experience has been that they aren't. Even with delicate care and nothing touching the surface, after few months and/or a few plays, most recordable CD's I've had begin to skip. I'm sure someone can point to examples of recordable media that is a little more durable than that, and possibly some decks that are better than others. But I think the symptoms I've described are pretty common and most would report similar experiences with recordable CD's.

Subject: Archie difital files on a hard drive
Posted by akhilesh on Thu, 02 Sep 2004 13:48:25 GMT
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HI Wayne,Good point about CDs skipping. I agree!At some point, it will probaby start making sense for all of us to buy a CD and first archive it on a hard drive. -akhilesh

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Subject: Re: Archie difital files on a hard drive
Posted by Wayne Parham on Thu, 02 Sep 2004 14:06:43 GMT
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Yeah, that's a great idea. In fact, I predict hard disk A/V recorders wil become much more popular this decade.

Subject: Re: Archie difital files on a hard drive
Posted by Manualblock on Thu, 02 Sep 2004 16:47:35 GMT
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Good thing I kept my reel-to-reel. What do you all think about sattelite radio? I have heard it and think standard, good quality FM sounds better.

Subject: Re: Archie difital files on a hard drive
Posted by akhilesh on Thu, 02 Sep 2004 17:06:18 GMT
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never heard satellite, john. I did buy a 25 year old Kenwood FM tuner that sounds darn good, unmodded, (through one of my tube amps & speakers) with a cheap wire for an antenna.
-akhilesh

Subject: Re: Archie difital files on a hard drive
Posted by Manualblock on Thu, 02 Sep 2004 22:48:18 GMT
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Akilesh; You bring up a good point there, the part about "unmodded".For some time now I have begun to believe that mods for mods sake may not be all it's cracked up to be. Some things I have heard both mod and not mod and I kind of liked the not mod better. Now in the case of Dyna Stereo 70 where there is obvious design flaws that when corrected make definate improvements, some Fisher gear I have heard sounded better with out the mods.And some Eico amps I have heard with only the old electrolytic caps replaced with stock values of inexpensive caps sounded better bfore the mods were done. So I believe the jury is out concerning all the benefits of mods. What do you think?J.R.

Subject: Re: Archie difital files on a hard drive
Posted by akhilesh on Fri, 03 Sep 2004 10:37:22 GMT
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HI JohnThe tuner I have is the kenwood kt-7500. I believe, based on reading about it at FMtunerinfo.com & corresponding with some folk who have had it modded, that some mods do benegit it sonically. Mainly, i think they are the power caps mod (as you mentioned) and in one case, shortening the signal path. ANother mod involves changing the opamp, which should make a difference.I think there are some mods that work, and many that don't (since you asked for my opinion...always a dangerous thing to do!). I don't really know about coupling caps....i am planning to put auricaps on my kit tube amp (pusxh-pull 6bm8 k-503 from AES) amp, but will it make a difference? I don't know. I have never yet been able to hea the difference with a power cord. I think most speaker cables sound the same (I use transparent becuase they seem to lower my

noise floor and bring out more detail). I do use little gel bases from bright star...tehy are cheap, and i figure tey can;t hurt. HAve they made a difference? not really sure, but if any vibrations do exisit, I am sure they do a good job of absorbing them. I mainly use them with the tube amps to reduce microphonics. I also use cheap tube dampers. Overall, i am now evolving, after about 2 years in this hobby, into just being happy with what I have, and not restlessly trying for more. Just enjoying the music, and once in a way buying vintage stuff, like the yamaha amp I just bought...what do you think about mods?Which ones do you use?-akhilesh

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Subject: Re: Archie difital files on a hard drive
Posted by Manualblock on Fri, 03 Sep 2004 19:44:56 GMT
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Good reply. I did not mean to suggest that mods are of no value but re-reading my own post I see I may have done that. I really mean't to express the thought that mods are not always beneficial especially with vintage gear. I always replace vintage electrolytics only because you have too since they dry out. I like carbon-comp resistors but lots of others don't and I understand why, they are soft and lacking detail. I think of all the mods to vintage gear replacing connections and coupling caps does the most good. Some of the recent mods I have done is to replace the rectifier diodes in the AES pre-amp with Hex-Freds. That helped as I stated in the post on the tubes forum. I have replaced the entire power supply in my Dyna 70 and it sounds better. I am familiar with that group you mention concerning Tuners. I have a Sherwood tube tuner and I noticed they thought highly of that model. I called them on the phone to discuss mods and they told me not to touch it as long as it worked and sounded good. I have the AES pre-amp but I don't recall they made a 6bm8 based amp, which one is that? How you like that Yamaha and which speakers sound good with it. I know you have the Single Driver Fosteks and the Klipschorns. I respect your opinion thats why I ask, so isn't the point of both of these speakers to refuse brute power, but to sound good with low power well controlled tubes, triode SE in fact. Wasn't the Klipschorn voiced with a Brook SE amp? I have a question that I have spent some time considering, when you put passive baffle step correction or frequency contour circuits in line with Single Drivers why not just bite the bullet and add a tweeter? What would be the gain in using one driver if you have to use a xover after all? I know about the point source thing but if you listen from 10 feet away whats the difference? I am rambling I see, thanks AK for any reply you have,J.R.

Subject: Re: Archie difital files on a hard drive
Posted by akhilesh on Fri, 03 Sep 2004 22:34:51 GMT
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HI John,Not at all. I think mods do sound good. I am not sure about coupling caps, but hey, it can;t hurt i guess.The kit amp i am talking about is the k503 from s5electronics & from antique electronic supply. The htread at:http://www.audioroundtable.com/Tubes/messages/51.htmlhas more info on it.My home brewed

speakers:http://www.audioroundtable.com/SingleDriverSpeakers/messages/520.htmlhas more info on them. I DO have a tweeter on them. Without it, in fact, they don;t sound very good at all to me. The step filter I have on (contouring, BSC whatever we want to call it is fine with me) is really subtle, and only makes a small difference. It actually controls the peaky midrange as much as it adds an illusion of bass. I agree, I am not selling my tube amps anytime soon! My spekaers all sound good with a tube amp. The reason I biught the yamaha (not yet arrived by the way but should be in the next couple of weeks) was to test a solid state amp and see if there was a difference. I'll post any differences I hear on here. It will be interesting to see how speakers voiced for SETs sound with top of the line SS from 25 years ago!:-) I am rambling too...but hey...in this hobby, wo else will understand our rambles but a fellow hobbyist?-akhilesh

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Subject: Re: Archie difital files on a hard drive
Posted by Manualblock on Fri, 03 Sep 2004 22:43:59 GMT
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Now I got you. We have our AES mixed up, Audio Electronic Supply/Antique Electronic Supply, that explains it. I would like to say this little chip amp sounds pretty good, I have been listening to it on the Pi-4's now for 3 days and it has opened up and now sounds rich and full with nice detail and wide soundstage. Not bad for 70$ ehh? And easy to build.I have the High End version and I am going to wire it up into a nice box this week. It uses Black Gate caps and Riken resistors, we shall see. I have compared it to my Carver TM 35, and so far I kinda like the chip amp a little better.Any way, keep us posted about the Yamaha, J.R.

Subject: Re: Anyone have experience wth the Yamaha ca-1010
Posted by BuckNQ on Sat, 18 Jun 2005 00:15:46 GMT
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I currently own a ca-1010 and a pair of ct-810 tuners. I am a solid state baby, class of '80. I have nothing but respect for tube gear mind you, just not the bank account for it.I had my eye on an 810 amp and I knew I was headed that way so when an 810 tuner came up cheap on eBay I jumped on it and waited for a suitable amp. I ended up with a 1010 that came with its own 810 tuner. Now I have 2 CT-810's and all of a sudden they're flooding eBay! (But try and catch a 1010 tuner. Pffft!)As for the amp, whew. Massive. Intimidating.I've had it hooked up to a slew of speakers.Klipsch: Heresy (v.1978), Synergy KSF 10.5's, KG 3.5, 3.2, 2.2, 1.2; Spica: sc-50; Realistic: Maximus-20; Tannoy: Mercury m20's and 605's.The clear winner was the ca-1010. It handled all of them with finesse and grace. Granted it's 90 watts into a selection of bookshelve speakers for the most part. I'd pick the Klipsch KG 3.2's if I had to. They are pigs and they love that power. The CA-1010 drove them without distortion to a volume beyond my limits.Led Zeppelin and Jeff Beck to Frank Sinatra. Berlin Philharmonic with Peer Gynt Hall of the Mountain King. Surprising performance by the Radio Shack marketed Maximus-20. Possibly the closest sound to the venerable Heresy's. Though I haven't inspected the drivers in the Maximus, I do

suspect that this is a Pioneer (Japan) family product from the time of the famed sx-_50/sx-_80 of the late 1970's. Big enough to handle the power and true to the sound of the seventies.I have a Mac1700 that will never leave my bedroom system unless it's to go to Audio Classics for a tune-up. It powers the Spica sc-50's. I will note here that the Spica's were the only speakers I auditioned on the CA-1010 that noticeably improved with the switch to Class A operation. I would rate the Heresy's as most disappointing in class A mode possibly due to their power hungry construction. My expectations were too high because the 18 watts just didn't cut it for me and the musicians from the Berlin Philharmonic.The family room has a Harman Kardon AVR525 and matching DVD player with the Klipsch 3.2's front and 2.2v center, 2.2 side surrounds and 1.2 rears plus a pair of SW-10II subwoofers. The whole system is Oak Oil finish and looks spectacular.My private listening room (study) is permanent home to a Pioneer sx-950 driving a pair of vintage 1978 Klipsch Heresy's in Walnut Oil backed by a pair of Klipsch KG 1.2's in matching Walnut Oil.To compare the CA-1010 to any other system is very apples/oranges. The Yamaha achieves a unique voice and quality that is it's own.Overall the CA-1010 is a keeper. The mating of the obviously Japan made Maximus-20's with the 810 tuner and ca-1010 seemed wholly natural. As new permanent members of the garage system they will be replacing an old Harman Kardon HK650 amp and matching tuner. Watch eBay for that deal. Tannoy's too!until the next hot vintage piece comes along ... Buck

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Subject: Re: Anyone have experience wth the Yamaha ca-1010
Posted by akhilesh on Sat, 18 Jun 2005 19:14:38 GMT
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Cool post, Buck! Looksl iek youhave some good gear!I agree with you, the vintage stuff sounds darn good!-akhilesh

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Subject: Re: Anyone have experience wth the Yamaha ca-1010
Posted by fps_dean on Mon, 31 Oct 2005 05:48:48 GMT
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My father bought one new. They were made from '77-79 and I ran around $700 or a little more new.A few years ago, it died and he replaced it with a Denon. He said I could have it if I got it fixed, but I never had the money and when I do, I just forgot about it, so I gave it to my mother who could use it.My uncle gave me some Infinity Column II's he paid around $1000 for in the same era. It sounded unbelieable through those speakers. The detail of the amp was very good, as was the tonal balance. I think it without a doubt sounded much better than his new Denon. I forget the model number of the Denon as it would be nice to know what it is being compared to, but when it came out it was supposed to be the same quality as the $1000 models at the time (2002 or so).Good amp! And you can get them for $150 today.

Subject: Re: Anyone have experience wth the Yamaha ca-1010
Posted by fps_dean on Mon, 31 Oct 2005 05:51:16 GMT
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I can buy a Mac 1700 for $350, working order... is it worth it?

Subject: Re: Anyone have experience wth the Yamaha ca-1010
Posted by Scott on Fri, 27 Jan 2006 21:58:38 GMT
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I HAVE A CA-1010 (YAMAHA) AND IT WONT POWER UP? MABY A FUSE? I CANT FIND IT THOUGH! ANY IDEAS????