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Subject: amp murderer???

Posted by [Downsoul-Michael](#) on Tue, 22 Jul 2008 03:23:40 GMT

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Ok, this is probably going to sound insane to most people but I'm nearing my wits end. Every guitar amp I have ever owned has had a tendency to lose all of its tone and presence after a fairly short time. I have used a Peavey Bandit and XXX, a Vox Valvetronix, a Marshall AVT 2000, a Crate GT212, and most recently an Ibanez ToneBlaster Extreme. After a month or two, they all sounded dead and fuzzy, like the signal chain was breaking down somewhere, sort of like having a bad cable only worse. These amps never had much in common except me being the one using them. Most never gave any warning or other symptoms, they just decided to sound like crap one day, with the exception of the Ibanez, which made a loud POP and cut out, then slowly faded back in, but to a lower volume and with that wonderful scratchy fuzz I've come so accustomed to. Could other equipment be feeding bad juju into the power lines??? Do I produce some unidentifiable bioelectric field that destroys output transformers??? Seriously, I have no clue. Please HELP!!!!!!

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Subject: Re: amp murderer???

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Wed, 23 Jul 2008 17:12:35 GMT

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Everybody does have their own electro-magnetic signature, mostly made up of the power cycle hum that surrounds us all. I've noticed some people can touch an amp input and develop much more signal than others. I think it has to do more with skin conductivity than anything else. That said, I doubt your string of amp mishaps is from anything bio-electric, bad karma or magic mojo. It could be that you're simply pushing the amps too hard and causing failure but I wouldn't expect them to change their tonal characteristics unless a tube started getting weak or a capacitor getting lossy. Both are functions of time more than drive level. Then again, maybe you're shredding the speaker cones.

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