Subject: Review of the i84 amp by Vista Audio
Posted by akhilesh on Sun, 25 Mar 2007 01:40:50 GMT
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Check this out:http://www.positive-feedback.com/Issue30/altavista_i84.htmEnjoy!-akhilesh
Review on Positive Feedback

Subject: Well written and informative, good review!
Posted by Norris Wilson on Sun, 25 Mar 2007 02:45:37 GMT
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Thanks Akhilesh for the review, I like it.Norris

Subject: Re: Well written and informative, good review!
Posted by akhilesh on Sun, 25 Mar 2007 10:39:45 GMT
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Thanks for the feedback, Norris! Glad you enjoyed reading it. -akhilesh

Subject: Corrected Link
Posted by akhilesh on Sun, 25 Mar 2007 19:36:22 GMT
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It got changed. Sorry about that.
New link

Subject: Good review
Posted by Shane on Mon, 26 Mar 2007 01:05:03 GMT
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Thanks Akhilesh. Glad to hear your comparison to your 12B4 as well. I'm sure that our amps sound somewhat similar, although I haven't noticed mine being terribly bass shy for what it is.

Subject: Re: Good review
Posted by akhilesh on Mon, 26 Mar 2007 03:27:58 GMT
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HI Shane,Thanks for your post. The strong point of the 12B4 in my opinion are the highs...they are very very clear. When i run it as the amp for the tweeter at 3500Hz plus in a triampe dsystem I run, the highs are very very clear. it also has good midrange. It has OK bass, IMHO, until it is pushed (like on a dynamic bass heavy track) where it quickly runs out of steam. But that is not what it was built for, so that's fine. Overall, it's a very good amp, and right now, in my triamplified stephens trusonic based system, is sounding very very good in the highs..in fact putting this amp in this 3500 hz plus area has made me realize what a difference excellent highs can make in a system, in terms of clarity and air and general believability of realism. Just my 2 cents...the performance of the amp will differ of course given the PM, the other components & the room, not to mention the subjective tastes of the listener. -akhilesh

Subject: Sounds like an excellent little amp
Posted by Duke on Mon, 26 Mar 2007 05:27:37 GMT
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Thank you Akhilesh - not only was it a very enjoyable read, but you've given me a resource in case I need to recommend a high quality, affordable, 15-watt amp to someone. I feel like you've given me a good sense of what the amp does well, and that there won't be any unpleasant surprises. Duke

Subject: Re: Sounds like an excellent little amp
Posted by akhilesh on Mon, 26 Mar 2007 10:52:41 GMT
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Thanks Duke! Glad you enjoyed the read, and got something useful out of it. -akhilesh

Subject: Re: Review of the i84 amp by Vista Audio
Posted by Wayne Parham on Mon, 26 Mar 2007 15:30:40 GMT
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Very cool, Akhilesh! Nice looking, nice price. From what you've said, I'll bet it sounds nice too!

Subject: Re: Akhilesh is in the SHOW!
Posted by Bill Epstein on Tue, 27 Mar 2007 01:20:38 GMT
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You made it to the Bigs and knocked one out first at bat. I'm on a bus to Pawtucket and can only say congratulations.

Subject: Re: Review of the i84 amp by Vista Audio
Posted by akhilesh on Tue, 27 Mar 2007 01:55:08 GMT
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Thanks Wayne!-akhilesh

Subject: Re: Akhilesh is in the SHOW!
Posted by akhilesh on Tue, 27 Mar 2007 01:55:54 GMT
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THanks for the support Bill. Appreciate it. -akhilesh

Subject: Re: Review of the i84 amp by Vista Audio
Posted by SteveBrown on Thu, 29 Mar 2007 15:40:33 GMT
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Nice review excpet for when reviewers make dumb statements like: "At one point, a friend brought over a Sophia Baby amplifier, and we compared it to the i84. The difference in power output was obvious, as the Sophia needed to be turned nearly to maximum to get anywhere close to the volume that the i84 achieved at 9 o'clock. The midrange was a tossup, with the Sophia producing a softer, more rounded tone." You would think that someone who does reviewing on a regular basis would understand that the position of the volume control is only an indication of the gain of the amp, for a given output level, and not an indication of the available power of the amp.

Subject: Re: Review of the i84 amp by Vista Audio
Posted by akhilesh on Thu, 29 Mar 2007 17:33:15 GMT
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Thanks for pointing that out, Steve. Glad you like the review overall. You are right, the Sophia may require a larger voltage input in order to provide the 10 watts it advertises. I used what I consider a standard CD player in the review, so it is extremely likely that a consumer buying one amp over the other would experience similar results when listening to the two amplifiers, (in other words they may need a source with a larger voltage output signal, or some sort of preamp with the Sophia). I could have been more precise in my statements, but hey, it's printed now! Contrary to what you said, a lot of reviewers are not technically inclined. SO a lot of reviewers may not know that Power = VI = V^2/R. My goal in writing these reviews is to approach it from the point of view of the majority of audiophiles, (i.e., not impress others with my technical knowledge but attempt to communicate how the product performs in a real world environment for an audiophile who may not remember much about electrical circuits but still likes to listen to well reproduced music).-akhilesh

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Subject: Re: Review of the i84 amp by Vista Audio
Posted by SteveBrown on Thu, 29 Mar 2007 21:14:13 GMT
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Sorry, it didn't occur to me that you were the reviewer. I should not have said "dumb". I will say, however, that I've met many people who associate the volume control setting with output power, so I'm on a mission to correct the misconception. Appologies,Steve

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Subject: Re: Review of the i84 amp by Vista Audio
Posted by akhilesh on Thu, 29 Mar 2007 22:01:24 GMT
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Not a problem, Steve! Apology accepted. It was an imprecise thing for me to say in the review, and when I was writing that, in my mind the two concepts WERE muddled up, though I should know better. Feedback like the one you provided will just make my reviews better in the future. THanks for reading the review. -akhilesh

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