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Subject: Speaking of Pro Amps

Posted by [elektratic](#) on Fri, 30 Jul 2004 22:20:31 GMT

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, which I nothing about. I have a 16 yr. old nephew who's really, really dying for an amplifier (he has an old stereo receiver w/ pre outs). Unfortunately (from my perspective), he's at that age where power (watts, baby!) is everything, and I'm not going to convince him otherwise. (I keep telling him that my "cool" amps put out 8W, but it has no effect.) I assume a pro amp is the cheapest way to go to get a high power amp (c. 200W?). Whether pro or amateur, does anyone have any suggestions for a reasonably-priced (and hopefully decent-sounding) amp in the 150 - 200W range? Thanks in advance.

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Subject: Re: Speaking of Pro Amps

Posted by [Bill Martinelli](#) on Fri, 30 Jul 2004 22:43:12 GMT

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Depends what you think reasonably is. Take a look at a Mackie M800. I think its one of the better sounding machines out there and priced better than most.

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Subject: Re: Speaking of Pro Amps

Posted by [Brad Kizer](#) on Sat, 31 Jul 2004 17:29:45 GMT

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My uncle turned me on to high end audio back in the 70's when I was 15 or 16 years old. That's cool. What is he using for speakers? SPL? How large is his listening area? What I'm getting at is if his bedroom is his listening area I question the need for anything much over 100w. Now if his parents have "regulated" his system to the garage or a large basement area by all means go with the big power. I destroyed a good number of amps and speakers when I was a kid (basement and later they moved me to the garage) because I simply didn't have enough power. You most likely have taken all of this into account because I've seen your posts in various forums. But if not it's something to consider. You guys are going to laugh but when I visited Randy Slone (Seal Electronics) in 6/04 he had a Pyramid 150w amp hooked up to a pair of Electrovoice pro audio speakers that sounded pretty good for the money. Brad

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Subject: We're Not Talking Rational Here!

Posted by [elektratic](#) on Sat, 31 Jul 2004 22:21:47 GMT

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You're absolutely right. There's no question -- he doesn't need the power, and probably can't use it, but we're not dealing with a rational mind, but rather that of a 16 year old kid, and a young one at that (very bright but not sophisticated). He's heard my 300Bs and knows how loud 8W can be. I played him a 100W amp and nearly blew him out the room (w/ my Pi 2 towers). Didn't phase him one bit. I have some sympathy. Although now I think 8W is plenty for most applications, the first piece of "high end" gear I ever bought was a 250W Acurus amp. Don't tell anyone.

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Subject: Re: We're Not Talking Rational Here!  
Posted by [Brad Kizer](#) on Sun, 01 Aug 2004 03:43:44 GMT  
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It's nice to see I'm not alone. I have the same situation with my wife's 15 year old. He too is of the bigger is better mentality. Please take a look at the link provided below. Most every pro audio amp discussed on this thread is listed here. I'm sure we would all be interested to hear what your nephew ends up with so please keep us informed.

[http://instruments.listings.ebay.com/Pro-Audio\\_Power-Amplifiers\\_W0QQfromZR4QQsacategoryZ64450QQsocmdZListingItem](http://instruments.listings.ebay.com/Pro-Audio_Power-Amplifiers_W0QQfromZR4QQsacategoryZ64450QQsocmdZListingItem)

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Subject: Re: Speaking of Power  
Posted by [James W. Johnson](#) on Sun, 01 Aug 2004 03:58:32 GMT  
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You guys with your 2 watt tube amps need to hear a solid 400-500 wpc SS amp on your speakers , 200 wpc amps are smallish in the pro audio world. Big amps are not just for listening to loud music, there is something to be said about the wonderful sonics that can be had with the right combination of high power amp and speakers.

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Subject: Re: Speaking of Power  
Posted by [Brad Kizer](#) on Sun, 01 Aug 2004 12:05:57 GMT  
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Without a doubt James. I agree the sound presentation of a high power pro audio amp is totally different from any tube or audiophile SS amp. My only problem with "some" of the pro audio amp manufacturers of today is their grossly exaggerated power ratings. One look at their power supplies (transformer ratings and reservoir capacitance) will tell you part of what any amplifier is made of with the circuit topologies being equal. But this is the Pi Speaker forum so I'll close here.

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Subject: Re: Speaking of Pro Amps  
Posted by [Chris R](#) on Sun, 01 Aug 2004 15:18:54 GMT  
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More of a test post at this point, but check out the Behringer EP1500 and EP2500. \$300-\$400, 1500W, 2400W total each. They are rated by a live sound pro friend of mine I trust as decent. Chris

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Subject: Thanks, Guys!  
Posted by [elektratic](#) on Wed, 04 Aug 2004 20:45:51 GMT  
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I wound up ordering a Behringer EP-1500 from zZounds.com. Incredibly, I placed the order over the internet Monday, it shipped Tuesday and arrived at the recipient's house today (Wednesday) -- and that's with the "free shipping" option! I just received an excited call; I think he's on his way to Radio Shack as I write to get some RCA-to-1/4" plug adapters.

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