
Subject: Stage 4 Update

Posted by [Matts](#) on Mon, 24 Oct 2005 03:26:23 GMT

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My fairly new Stage 4's have been getting nicer & smoother with more play. Also, this weekend replaced the stock horn compensator(?) with one made of Mills non-inductive resistors and an Auricap. Even w/out break-in, it sounds a lot smoother and much more defined. I also found the nuts on the woofer connections had loosened a tad (all that Tupac to loosened up more than the cone), and one of the spade connections was a little loose. Good to get that stuff tightened up again- it's like re-torquing the head after 900 miles. Eventually, going to replace all the stock caps in series and solder it all up- since I'm using Paramours I don't need the high-power capability in the stock. Going to be fun....

Subject: Re:Bologna and Wonder Bread

Posted by [Bill Epstein](#) on Mon, 24 Oct 2005 08:05:01 GMT

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Those attenuation caps are really crucial to the sound. I've had Solens (unremarkable), Clarity (dreadfully bright), Auricaps (most listenable but maybe rolled-off?) and now Kimber Kaps. The Kimbers allow the most detail and air but give a hard edge to even Jacintha's creamy voice in the upper octave when pushed above normal listening levels. Hoping they'll break in but....Maybe I'll pack Bologna and Wonder bread for a few weeks and get a pair of those VH Teflon caps for \$120 each.

Subject: Re:Bologna and Wonder Bread

Posted by [spkrman57](#) on Mon, 24 Oct 2005 09:47:20 GMT

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And to think I am using Parts Express MPP's and still eating bread and bologna!Ron

Subject: Forget the spades

Posted by [GarMan](#) on Mon, 24 Oct 2005 12:43:27 GMT

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Spades are poor connectors. Solder the wires directly to the drivers instead. If you want the option to disconnect the drivers, then solder a 4" length of wire to the driver and connect the bare wire on the other end with electrical screw caps. Twist it in tight.

Subject: Re:Bologna and Wonder Bread
Posted by [Matts](#) on Mon, 24 Oct 2005 14:17:35 GMT
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listening more today- sounds much better already, especially with orchestral music. Whole different speaker. I've tried several of the boutique caps in different things. I think the Auricaps are the best all-rounder & most predictable- they open it up and give great definition. Probably another type would be better in any given app, but for the \$\$ the experiment gets expensive quick..and it's nice to be able to put a good deli mustard on those bologna sandwiches!Now I have to decide what to do about the other caps, and they get expensive quick... maybe bologna & mustard roll-ups?

Subject: Re: Forget the spades
Posted by [Matts](#) on Mon, 24 Oct 2005 14:21:11 GMT
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man, I was cursing the spades blue the other night working with them...shoulda soldered it all from the start! Actually, I do have a few connections soldered now where I was so frustrated with the spades, rest will come soon... Wierd how something intended to be simpler is so much more of a pain.

Subject: Re:Bologna and Wonder Bread
Posted by [Matts](#) on Mon, 24 Oct 2005 14:30:12 GMT
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looks like Bill has a lot of decent caps he could give you to recycle...trade him a bottle of Gulden's Brown or Hebrew National mustard for those sandwiches

Subject: Re:Bologna and Wonder Bread
Posted by [Bill Martinelli](#) on Mon, 24 Oct 2005 16:17:59 GMT
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Same here!

Subject: Re:Nobody FORCED you to buy a wooden hole in the water!nt
Posted by [Bill Epstein](#) on Mon, 24 Oct 2005 21:31:20 GMT
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Subject: Re: Forget the spades
Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Mon, 24 Oct 2005 21:53:37 GMT
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I know what you mean. Sometimes they're too loose, and sometimes they're snug enough to break the connector.

Subject: Re:Bologna and Wonder Bread
Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Mon, 24 Oct 2005 22:00:46 GMT
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I've played around with a few different brands too. I kinda like the Solens for big values and Kimber Caps for the small ones, Erse for big coils and Jantzen for the smaller ones. Makes a nice step up that doesn't require a few hundred bucks worth of caps. But I'll have to say the stock stuff sounds pretty good, and it's not a night and day thing. If there was one part I'd say was most noticeable, it would probably be the 5.6mH Erse coil on the speakers that use the big coil.

Subject: Re:Bologna and Wonder Bread
Posted by [Jerrod Harden](#) on Mon, 24 Oct 2005 22:22:05 GMT
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Parts Express MPP's for me, bypassed with AudioCap Theta's. Recommended from many regulars on the JBL board. I wonder if I'm missing something with this setup? Jerrod

Subject: Re: Forget the spades
Posted by [Matts](#) on Mon, 24 Oct 2005 23:22:32 GMT
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worst thing for me was worrying that I was going to stab my hand with the oyster knife I was trying to loosen a couple of 'em up with!

Subject: Re:It's FIBERGLASS, if it's all the same to you!
Posted by [Bill Martinelli](#) on Wed, 26 Oct 2005 02:32:54 GMT
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