

THEATRE POWER

The problem with many home theatre systems is simple: a lack of power and flexibility from the AV amplifier. The amplifier is often so full of "bells and whistles" circuitry that the important aspect, effortlessly driving the loudspeakers, is neglected. Given the space constraints to which a standard size amplifier is subjected, there is very little room available and whatever there is has to accommodate the pre-amplifier and power amplifier - transformers and sensitive circuitry are placed close together. This causes many problems. But while a separate power amplifier and pre-amplifier combination seems to solve this problem, it does not stop there.

Most AV amplifiers allow very little flexibility. You have the number of channels built into the unit, the processing and decoding circuits and so on. Beyond that you have to live with what you bought. And with the increasing co-existence required by digital multi channel AV processing and analogue stereo processing, another problem rears its head - separating two very different requirements on one circuit board. Most AV amplifiers do not cater for analogue / stereo.

Introducing the Valve Audio Power Theatre 5.200 (200w) power amplifier. Here you have a unit that solves the above mentioned problems in the most simplistic of ways. A few highlights illustrate what we mean:

- Valve based 5.200 power amplifier;
- Standard size casing means that you can add the unit to an existing system without requiring additional floor space, as is often the case with large power amplifiers;
- Five channels, each driven by its own power unit delivering a conservatively rated 200w;
- Two sub woofer outputs if required. A few years ago you I was ridiculed by an insensitive salesman when I asked for an AV amplifier with dual sub connections. Now it is becoming a standard;
- The option to decide how many channels you require and add more later. This is indeed a handsome prospect. If you do not require anything more than 3.1 surround, then this is what you get - mains left and right, and a centre channel. If you require the standard 5.1 configuration, the rear surround channels are added. Thus there is no waste, as you would get in a standard 7.1 amplifier where you may only have sufficient loudspeakers for a 5.1 configuration;
- The massive transformers are all separated from one another. Each is an individual amplifier in its own right.
- Clean delivery to each loudspeaker, providing even difficult speaker loads to be handled with ease.

Technical specifications

Non-inverting;

Balanced and single ended input selectable for each channel;

200 Watts per channel @ 8ohm;

Non intrusive HFO and DC offset protection for each individual channel;

Full 5 channel version fitted with:

Power supply: 5 x 400VA Toroidal transformer (all 5 channels fitted);

Tube complement: 5 x 6922;

15 pairs of complementary mosfets;

Face plate: 12mm 6082 grade anodized aluminium;

Weight: 45kg (fully equipped);

Dimensions: Width 450mm, Height 160mm, Depth 450mm; and

Ventilation allowance above amplifier at least 100mm.