

Accustic Arts AMP IV

HIGHLY COMMENDED POWER AMPLIFIER COST NO OBJECT

he AMP IV from Accustic Arts is a rather massive affair, weighing in at 44 kg. It is dual-mono in construction and has balanced and single-ended inputs. There is a double set of speaker terminals for biwiring. The power rating is a massive 2x610 Watts into four ohms and 2x400 Watts into eight ohms. A novel feature is the ability to select the type of damping control. When switched on, the amplifier's damping factor is lowered and linearised over a wide frequency range. On the front panel, a blue light shows operation, and two red LEDs show protection during warm-up.

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Powerhouse

Tested with the TUBE PREAMP V, the AMP IV proved to be a real powerhouse. "I'm immediately impressed by the amp's ability to do scale." said Rafael Todes, "The bass is punchy; the presentation is colossal sounding, with real weight to the textures in the orchestra. However, this is combined with a light, airy, sweet, and highly detailed treble." He added that, "The amps are fast, too, and the transients are razor-sharp and highly dynamic." Rafael concluded "I have hugely enjoyed my time with these products. They uncovered layers of the mix I had not heard before, proving quite an education. They also excel on difficult-to-drive loads, like electrostatics, and by extension, planar magnetic speakers."

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