

Eton Power 450.2: Two-channel power amp from the new Eton amplifier series



Very competitive

► With the Power series Eton has brought out a completely new line of amplifiers. We put the first representative of the line to the test.

Eton has a whole lot going on at the moment. Beside new high-end speakers and a subwoofer series there are also a number of amplifiers in the pipeline. The first model of this amplifier series with the name ‚Power‘ is our Power 450.2, a two-channel power amp with powerful performance data

that you can have for the moderate price of 300 euros. As soon as you see it you can recognize the modern Eton design that already distinguishes the ‚Mini‘ series of amplifiers. Both Minis, the four-channel 150.4 and the two-channel 300.2, have already undergone tests that were highly successful. The design is outstanding for the impressive performance data as well as for the extremely low distortion. The test specimen before us now, the Power 450.2, closely resembles the Minis, as the Power-series amplifiers come in a similar housing that derives an undeniable aesthetic attraction from its asymmetry. In the case of our Power 450.2

the long edge is just seven centimeters longer than with the Minis – after all it is supposed to have 50 % more power in there. The ports and filters of the Power-series amplifiers are also adopted from the Minis. We find plug-in power and speaker terminals that are designed to make installation easier, are very robust and provide a reliable contact. The high and low-pass crossovers can be individually switched and are a delight to operate thanks to the very good detent potentiometers. Here you won't hold it against the Power that they can do no more than separate subwoofer and main speaker from each other. In return the Power is abreast of the times as far as working with factory radios goes: the auto turn-on detects the DC-offset of factory radios and can also



The few controls are hidden under a narrow aluminum strip giving the Power 450.2 a clean look



The right half accommodates the amplification section together with the two driver ICs. The power transistors lie under the circuit board

be changed over to signal detection; dedicated high-level inputs are naturally also present. Inside everything is modern and tidy. The layout is strongly reminiscent of the smaller Mini series. We find one half of the main board allocated for the power supply, comprising carefully designed input filtering, a powerful power transformer, in addition to an electronic controller and generous buffering of four by 3300 microfarads. Amplification circuitry is built using SMD technology, with each channel using one driver IC for Class-D working. A generous four MOSFETS per channel then do the job before each signal is recovered via a high-current flat-wire coil.

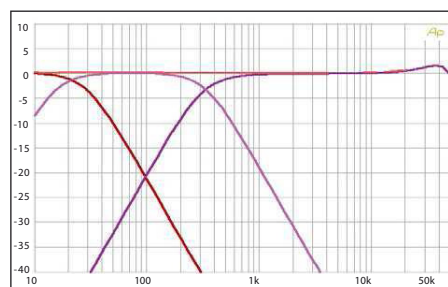
Measurements and Sound

In the test lab the Power 450.2 has nothing to hide. Despite its compact size it already produces a considerable output of 2 x 255 watts into 4 ohms. Into 2 ohms it can push that up to over 400 watts per channel. That does not correspond with the promised 450, but as that was measured at a voltage of 14.4 V the Power naturally outputs a little less on our 13.8 V. Over and above

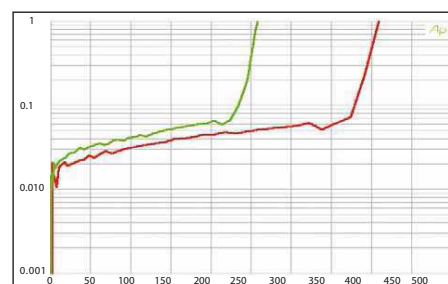
sheer naked power the Eton pleases, almost as expected, with very low distortion figures and very high damping. In the sound check the 450.2 reveals itself to be a real all-rounder. It is a delight how it works out the finest music details and delivers a spatially very clean and clearly segmented impression. Voices and instruments are also lovingly and realistically rendered making it a great pleasure to listen to it. However, on the other hand it can also thrill. Fat bass sounds burst with energy with more than enough pressure on the ears, delivering punchy dynamic hits unfiltered to the listener, which is great fun.

Summary

With the Power 450.2 Eton has turned out an amplifier that is among both the most powerful and keenly priced in its class. It is therefore one of the best that are out there in a teeming marketplace at the present time.



High-pass and low-pass crossovers can be individually activated and combined into a bandpass crossover



At 255 and 404 watts the Power series is one of the most powerful power amps for its price and size

SOUND-TIPP
Top-Class
CAR&HIFI 6/2020



Eton Power 450.2

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▶ Sound quality	40 %	1,1	■■■■■
Bass	8 %	1,0	■■■■■
Neutrality	8 %	1,0	■■■■■
Transparency	8 %	1,0	■■■■■
Soundstaging	8 %	1,5	■■■■■
Dynamics	8 %	1,0	■■■■■

▶ Lab	35 %	1,1	■■■■■
Power	20 %	1,0	■■■■■
Damping factor	5 %	1,0	■■■■■
Distortion	5 %	1,5	■■■■■
Signal/Noise Ratio	5 %	1,5	■■■■■

▶ Practice	25 %	1,4	■■■■■
Features	15 %	1,5	■■■■■
Workmanship electr.	5 %	1,0	■■■■■
Workmanship mech.	5 %	1,5	■■■■■

Technical Data

Channels	2
Power @ 4 ohms	255
Power @ 2 ohms	404
Power @ 1 ohms	0
Power bridged 4 ohms	808
Power bridged 2 ohms	0
Sensitivity max mV	510
Sensitivity min V	6,8
THD+N (<22 kHz) 5 W	0,018
THD+N (<22 kHz) half load	0,049
Signal/Noise Ratio dB(A)	87
Damping 20 Hz	341
Damping 20 Hz	317
Damping 20 Hz	296
Damping 20 Hz	246
Damping 20 Hz	24
Damping 16 kHz	6

Features

Lowpass	30 – 300 Hz
Highpass	15 – 300 Hz
Bandpass	15 – 300 Hz
Bass-boost	–
Subsonicfilter	by HP
Phaseshift	–
High-Level inputs	•
Autosense	• DC or signal
RCA outputs	•
Start/Stop compatible	• (7,4 V)
Dimensions (L x W x H in mm)	249 x 146 x 50
Other	remote

Summary

Price	about 300 Euro
Sound quality	40 % 1,1 ■■■■■
Lab	35 % 1,1 ■■■■■
Practice	25 % 1,4 ■■■■■

Eton Power 450.2

Ultimate-Class
Top-Class
Upper-Class
Middle-Class
Entry-Class

1,2
Price/performance: excellent

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"Powerful, good value, simply good"



The generously designed power supply unit is good for more than 2 x 400 watts