

Eton Power 150.6: Six-channel power amp from the Eton amplifier series



Power-Sixpack

► Following the two-channel Power 450.2 tested by the editorial team in the last issue, the Power 150.6 six channel power amp has now found its way into our test rooms.

At the moment at Eton the indicators are at full speed ahead. Whether it be speakers or amplifiers new models are coming into the dealers almost every week. For once without a signal processor, the new amplifiers of the Power series impress with no end of power in the tiniest space, quite in keeping with the times. Beside the two-channel variant there is an equally small four-channel power amp designated Power 220.4, with our Power 150.6 completing the series for now. The six-channel variant is two centimeters longer than its little sisters, but at just 270 x 146 x 50 millimeters certainly no 'plank' of a power

amp. The current Eton design is really inspiring, the Power for example being distinguished from the mainstream by its unique heat sink form. The numerous connections are made using plug connectors, and the people at Eton have gone to a lot of trouble to also design these correctly to carry the full current. According to the fuse rating a full 90 amps pass through the high current terminals, so a connector must first of all be able to take that. Features include high-level inputs for the factory radio as you would expect, with auto turn-on being able to use DC-offset as well as signal input. You have the option

to use 2, 4 or all 6 inputs. A remote control that operates on the last channel pair is included in the kit. The user controls are elegantly concealed under a narrow aluminum strip on the top of the housing. These include asymmetrically split crossovers so that the Power 150.6 can control everything that has a voice coil from subwoofer to tweeter. Inside everything is fairly tightly arranged. The circuit board is packed with a host of tiny SMD components. Naturally the 150.6 is digital, which means a Class D power amp with a high efficiency and relatively low thermal losses. The six amplifier channels are all similar, with the same power output. Each channel is provided with a driver IC made by International Rectifier and has two power MOSFETS. The driver ICs can also be programmed,



Connections are designed as plug connectors, which is why Eton has come up with connectors specifically designed to carry the full current



Six channels each with a Class D driver IC and two MOSFETs provide more than impressive power reserves

thereby making it possible to optimize them for power and low distortion. The result is a ‚smart‘ switch – similar to a chip power amp but with more power, thanks to the large MOSFETs. As is the case with the Power 450.2, Eton plays safe with the Class D low-pass coil, and has installed high quality flat wire coils with the appropriate power handling capacity.



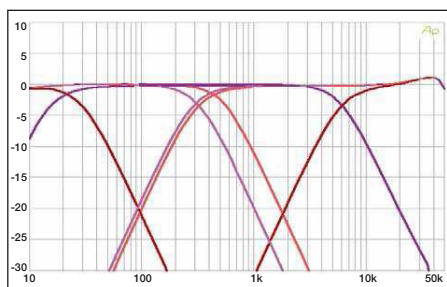
The gain and crossover potentiometers are concealed under a narrow aluminum cover

Measurements and Sound

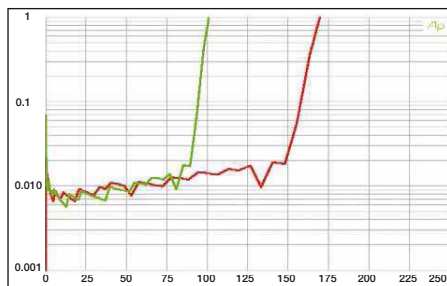
On our test bench the Power 150.6 again amazed us how far modern digital power amps have come. With 100 watts per channel it packs a little bit more than its mighty two-channel sister. At 2 ohms we estimated 170 watts, which makes the 150.6 a lot more than just a compact solution for supplying the entire system with one amplifier. Neither does it balk at full-fledged subwoofers – look at the included remote level control, which is intended exactly for them. Yet naked power is not everything. The 150.6 shows itself to be one of the cleanest power amps on the market. At low outputs the distortion is under 0.01 %, and even at full power is never more than 0.02 %. It also makes very little noise so that the Power 150.6 left our test lab with top marks. It also gave an equally excellent performance in the listening room. It immediately impressed with crystal clear sound that left no questions or desires unanswered. It even handled brutal bass effortlessly, which is not necessarily to be expected from a compact multi-channel power amp. In addition, the Eton produces a generous portion of details in the tweeter. And then there is also the airy spatiality. Altogether the Power 150.6 offers thrilling sound at the highest level.

Summary

How to make an amplifier fun: Practical size and features with plenty of power and flawless construction. Congratulations to Eton on the new Power series!



The crossovers of the 150.6 are asymmetrically split over the channel pairs. Channels 5 and 6 are specially for bass, while 1 and 2 can also run tweeters



With the Power 150.6 it is simply astounding how it cranks out so much power at such low distortion. Up to 150 watts channel output the distortion remains under 0.02 %

BEST PRODUCT
Top-Class
CAR&HIFI 1/2021

ETON

Eton Power 150.6

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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 %	2,0	■■■■■
Distortion	5 %	1,5	■■■■■
Signal/Noise Ratio	5 %	0,5	■■■■■

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

Technical Data

Channels	6
Power @ 4 ohms	6 x 100
Power @ 2 ohms	6 x 169
Power @ 1 ohms	0
Power bridged 4 ohms	3 x 338
Power bridged 2 ohms	0
Sensitivity max mV	500
Sensitivity min V	6,5
THD+N (<22 kHz) 5 W	0,006
THD+N (<22 kHz) half load	0,010
Signal/Noise Ratio dB(A)	87
Damping 20 Hz	144
Damping 20 Hz	139
Damping 20 Hz	139
Damping 20 Hz	124
Damping 20 Hz	19
Damping 16 kHz	5

Features

Lowpass	30 – 300 (CH3 – 6)/600 – 6k (CH34) Hz
Highpass	15 – 300/300 – 6k (CH12) Hz
Bandpass	15 – 6k (CH34)/15 – 300 (CH56) Hz
Bass-boost	–
Subsonicfilter	by HP
Phaseshift	–
High-Level inputs	•
Autosense	• DC or signal
RCA outputs	–
Start/Stop compatible	• (7,3 V)
Dimensions (L x W x H in mm)	270 x 146 x 50
Other	remote, 2, 4, 6 CH In

Summary

Price	about 450 Euro
Sound quality	40 % 1,1 ■■■■■
Lab	35 % 1,1 ■■■■■
Practice	25 % 1,1 ■■■■■

Eton Power 150.6

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

1,1
Price/performance: excellent

CAR&HIFI edition 1/2021
"Much power, low distortion"