

### ETON PRO 16+ • TEST REPORT CAR<sub>&</sub>HIFI 4/2022

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## Eton PRO 16+: 16 cm compo system for audio fans

# Fine speakers

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After the recently presented POW+ Eton forges ahead with an overhaul of its speaker range. The development department has set its hand on the PRO series, which is now available as PRO+.

Eton is among the few manufacturers that still make in Germany virtually everything that has cones. From the entry-level system to the high-end dream package, practically everything is done on the doorstep so that the highest quality can be ensured under full control of the production process. Important piece parts like cones, surrounds and centering spiders originate from German production, with only parts such as magnet rings and pole pieces coming from elsewhere in the world. The PRO system represents something like an intermediate level category in the extensive product range. It is still affordable, but indulges the listener with a fine design and serious tonal ambitions. Totally new is the tweeter, and Eton is especially proud of its use of space. In particular, in the same enclosure as earlier there is now a 28 mm dome instead of a 25 mm one. In addition, the new tweeter has been given a

Like the tweeter, the handsomely finished PRO woofer is also Made in Germany special woven fabric cone and coating, using processes that likewise have been newly developed specifically for this purpose. Furthermore, the 28 mm dome has also got a small rear resonance chamber, that brings it a big step forward without it being obvious at first sight. The woofer has also been given an overhaul, but in comparison with its tweeter partner it is rather modest. Eton has gone for a finely made paper cone that has been air dried and whose front is also hand-coated like the woven fabric dome of the tweeter. As for the crossover, only the housing has been retained. As before, it is nice and compact, and can therefore be placed anywhere. The assembly is sparse, as is typical for Eton: a coil and a capacitor are present in addition to a twostage level adjustment control for the tweeter. The difference from before is that now both components are responsible for the high-pass filter. The new tweeter is separated with a steeper 12 dB slope and cuts off lower than the 25 mm tweeter. The 16 cm woofer performs without a crossover, something that was an option before.



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The compact crossover is only responsible for the tweeter, there being a high-pass second order filter and an attenuator

#### **Measurements and Sound**

We can only but applaud this change of crossover. The woofer manages an amazing 88 dB at one watt without a delaying low-pass coil. No one will miss taming components if a 16 cm woofer works below the corner as if drawn with a ruler. The new PRO+ tweeter also pleases with a wide frequency band well beyond 20 kHz. Its resonant frequency has fallen to 1.3 kHz thanks to the large cone and rear resonance chamber. However, as there is little space for damping, it is fairly pronounced. The steep separation is therefore very useful. Incidentally, the voice call works without damping ferrofluid in the air gap, which may be interpreted as a sign of free bright playing at low frequencies. In the sound check the PRO+ immediately impressed with a very mature, audiophile sound. It does not really impose itself, but produces a very pleasant und nice neutral sound that is designed more for

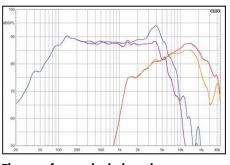


The new tweeter houses a large 28 mm woven fabric dome — it's a tight fit

long distance than a sprint. Here it has to be said that though the tweeter impresses with very fine nuances, it never sounds sharp or brash. On the dark side of the frequency spectrum the stiff and well damped paper cone of the 16 cm speaker delivers a deep bass with an adequate bass response that in itself sounds very well balanced. Kick drums, for example, do not come over exaggeratedly bone dry, but with optimum precision and full-bodied drive. Voices and natural instruments of every kind are reproduced by the PRO+ so authentically that you would think it to be at least a whole price class higher. The system also does not disappoint as regards level, with plenty of volume for everyday listening. However the PRO+ with its 25 mm voice coil will appeal more to sound conscious listeners than high volume aficionados. Altogether, the PRO+ can be thoroughly pleasing: it sounds very high class and is wonderfully well balanced.

#### Summary

The new PRO+ consolidates its position as an intermediate level system with an excellent price/sound performance. With these superbly made speakers you are always on the safer side.



The woofer works below the corner as if drawn with a ruler, and without a crossover. The tweeter scores with its wide bandwidth and a decent upper cut-off frequency



Eton PRO 16+			
Price Distributor Hotline Internet	about 335 Euro ACR, CH-5330 Zurzach info@eton-gmbh.eu www.eton-gmbh.eu		
Summary			
Sound quality	55 %	1,1	
Bass	11 %	1,0	
Neutrality	11 %	1,0	
Transparency	11 %	1,0	
Soundstaging	11 %	1,0	
Dynamics	11 %	1,5	
Lab	30 %	1,3	
Frequency response	10 %	1,0	
max. volume	10 %	1,5	
Distortion	10 %	1,5	
Practice	15 %	1,3	
Crossover	10 %	1,5	
Workmanship	5 %	1,0	
Technical Data			

Diameter TT	165 mm
Cutout diamaeter TT	146 mm
Mounting depth TT	66 mm
Magnet diameter	84 mm
Tweeter dome diameter	28 mm
Tweeter housing diameter	45 mm
Slope	–/12 dB
Tweeter protection	_
Tweeter volume adjustment	+2, 0 dB
Grill	_
other	_

Nominal impedance	4 ohms
DC resistance Rdc	3,23 ohms
Coil inductivity Le	0,31 mH
Coil diameter	25 mm
Cone surface Sd	137 cm <sup>2</sup>
Resonance frequency Fs	76 Hz
Mechanical quality Qms	4,10
Electrical quality Qes	0,70
Total quality Qts	0,60
Equivalent volume Vas	8,91
Moving mass Mms	12,8 g
Rms	1,49 kg/s
Cms	0,34 mm/N
B*I	5,32 Tm
Pressure 2 V, 1 m	88 dB
Power handling	20 – 100 W

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