

Audio Research Reference 6 line preamplifier

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Conclusions

The Reference 6 was an absolute pleasure to have in my system. I installed it and immediately fell in love with it, so strong were its positive attributes, so ultimately unimportant its minor shortcomings.

The Reference 6 made music. I have no doubt its sound has been sculpted and contoured in a particular way, just as was the sound of the Reference 2, which I reviewed in the September 2000 issue, and which then cost \$9995. Adjusted for inflation, that would be \$13,979 today—just \$21 less than the Reference 6. When I reread my review of the Reference 2, I saw that it hit similar sonic points. The Ref 2 is long gone from my system, but I'm confident that the Ref 6 is far superior in every way—and particularly in its top-to-bottom seamlessness and resolution of detail. And ergonomically, the Reference 6 is the product of a different and far better world.

See full review:

<http://www.stereophile.com/content/audio-research-reference-6-line-preamplifier#F4pJtLqwQWQ53F0j.97>