



Audioengine P4W & N22 Amplifier Review

by [Stefan Etienne](#) on January 25, 2015 in [Hardware](#), [Reviews](#)



One more time for the Audioengine crew. We've reviewed **not one, not two, but three** of their renowned powered speakers. But this time, I thought it would be curious to try out passive speakers — ones that you plug into a amplifier, and not into the wall directly like the aforementioned.

Enter the P4W monitors and the N22 amplifier; thus read on.

Price as Reviewed: \$249 for P4W, \$199 for N22 amp

Aesthetics

Nothing new here. It's the same blend of high quality materials from other Audioengine speakers: 4" Kevlar-covered drivers, silk dome 3/4" tweeters, magnetically-shielded casing, and smooth to the touch surface area. And despite not having much inside besides audio hardware, they still weigh a solid six pounds each and are compatible with wall or ceiling mounts.

Using It

Easy setup included! Connect the supplied wires to both speakers and route to the amplifier. Connect to an outlet, and the result is 10-125 watts of supplied power to each speaker. Blast to your heart's content, basically. Since I've reviewed Audioengine hardware three

times before, the subtleties are easy to spot. Compared to the A5 bookshelf speakers, the P4W falls between them and the A2+/B2. Essentially, these are mid-range in immersion and performance, but without the convenience of having the amplifier built into the speaker casing like its cousins.

Conclusion

Score: 8/10



At a certain point, everything in Audioengine's catalog is so up to par that the difference in selecting speakers isn't so much about capability, but preference. Do you still believe in rocking with an amplifier? Then go this path. If not, you can get the big room experience with the A5, office-sized sound with the A2+, or to conserve space and get Bluetooth right out the box, the B2.

But there's something about the vintage audio path. It's nostalgic, if anything.

Pros:

- Per usual, they sound incredible
- Build quality and then some
- Amp has a useful aux jack and a smooth volume/power nob

Cons:

- Not having the amp built-in robs you of desk space
- Pricey as a duo

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