

*General musings on
tube physics and amp
debugging by Niels
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Electric Toad Mojo- Powered Steampunk Amplifier and Matching Bass Guitar

In regions of the world lacking in easily-extractable iron ore, steampunk traditions could not be expressed in boiler technology and had to rely upon less-conventional sources of power instead.

For example, in the jungles of equatorial West Africa, various species of amphibians that generate electric shocks to stun their prey can be found. The indigenous peoples in these regions learned how to capture these animals, collect the electrical “mojo” from them, and then use it to furnish the power necessary to operate their machines.

This is a replica of a Zimbabwean electric mojo toad-powered steampunk amplifier, complete with matching upright bass guitar. The guitar is fully-functional. Although just one Zimbabwean electric mojo toad is capable of supplying enough power for an entire evening’s worth of bass playing, years of overharvesting and habitat destruction have rendered it an endangered species and it can no longer be harvested as a power source. Instead, a modern bass guitar amplifier can be hidden inside the amplifier cabinet for public performances.