



## 2024 Best Value Award

By [Marc Phillips](#)

December 13, 2024

Over the last couple of years we've tried to differentiate between "best value" and "affordability" in our annual Best Value Award, which is important since we've made the move to review more upscale products at PT.Audio. The 2024 Best Value Award nominees, as a result, probably have a higher-than-average cost than in years past.

When it comes to high-end audio, this is a good thing—and it has nothing to do with upwardly mobile price tags. Many audiophiles are consumed with finding "giant killers" and products that "punch way above their weight class," and as we've mentioned before those products

are largely unicorns. The price/performance ratio in high-end audio is fairly linear in 2024, and products that tend to be too expensive for their own good usually don't survive in the market for very long. But the 2024 Best Value Award list is comprised of nominees that go the other way—these are the high-end audio products that really do offer incredible value no matter the price. Their MSRPs should probably be higher and it's an act of altruism, or perhaps just "lean" manufacturing processes, that allows us to enjoy these extraordinary and smart products and, more importantly, buy them and take enormous pride in ownership while saving enough money to flaunt our whip-smart buying decisions in front of our Audio Buddies™.

**Here are the nominees for PT.Audio's 2024 Best Value Award:**



### **Allnic Audio T-1500 Mk. II integrated amplifier**

We had three incredible integrated amplifiers land on our doorsteps in the year 2024—the True Life Audio TSI-300, the Vinnie Rossi Brama 2 and the Allnic Audio T-1500 Mk. II. The first two integrated amps cost around \$50,000 each, so they're not really fitting for the 2024 Best Value Award despite their awesomeness. The third, the Allnic, retails for only \$9,600—and I found it was just as desirable, at least to me, as those first two amazing products.

This is where we start to examine the difference between cheap/affordable and the notion of extraordinary value. On paper, the T-1500 doesn't look like the bargain it is—for example, it has only 10 watts per channel. But those ten watts are brought to you courtesy of 300B output tubes, and the resulting sound is so warm and embraceable and yet surprisingly dynamic and powerful—with the right speakers, of course. We haven't even had a chance to tube roll yet, but it's at the top of our list for 2025. Where are those Western Electric 300Bs when you need them?

*"It didn't just sound good to me, it raced across a crowded room when it saw me, and it leapt into my arms and showered me with kisses while the orchestra struck up Etta James."*

**[Content removed]**

**And the winner of PT.Audio's 2024 Best Value Award is...**



**...the Allnic Audio T-1500 Mk. II integrated amplifier.**

I'll let you in on a little secret. Up until the True Life Audio TSI-300 and Vinnie Rossi Brama 2 integrated amplifiers arrived for review, I was all set to declare the Allnic Audio T-1500 Mk. II integrated amplifier as 2024 Product of the Year. Or, at the very least, I was considering naming the Songer Audio S2 field coil loudspeakers AND the Allnic as partners in the award since together they made me re-evaluate everything I wanted from a reference system.

I'm not saying that the TLA and the Brama are far better than the Allnic. I'm saying that the three integrated amplifiers together formed a sublime triumvirate of products that dominated my reviewing duties over the year. The fact that the Allnic made me just as happy for one-fifth of the price, however, screams "2024 Best Value Award" more than anything else I can imagine. Congratulations to Allnic Audio and John Ketcham of Kevalin Audio, the US importer and distributor, for this amazing integrated amplifier.