
Subject: input/output wiring of 3Pi subwoofer?

Posted by [ziofil](#) on Sun, 15 Jan 2017 01:11:05 GMT

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My current subwoofer just died and I'd like to build a 3Pi sub.

I'm wondering about the input/output wiring: in my current setup, a 2 channel tube amp feeds into the sub and then from the sub the signal goes to two speakers (just left and right channels). Will the 3Pi be able to do something similar? If not, what should I do for the configuration/wiring of a stereo (2.1) system?

Subject: Re: input/output wiring of 3Pi subwoofer?

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Sun, 15 Jan 2017 01:51:54 GMT

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It's a passive sub, so you need an amplifier and crossover. Many people use a plate amp and attach it to the loudspeaker cabinet, effectively making it an active subwoofer.

Subject: Re: input/output wiring of 3Pi subwoofer?

Posted by [ziofil](#) on Sun, 15 Jan 2017 02:17:57 GMT

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I see. And does it make any sense at all to operate the 3Pi in passive mode with a 3W/channel tube amp?

Subject: Re: input/output wiring of 3Pi subwoofer?

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Mon, 16 Jan 2017 01:54:49 GMT

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All speakers are ultimately passive devices, being a linear motor attached to a diaphragm. They are all driven by an amplifier of some sort.

I wouldn't run subs with tube amps even if my mains were run on tube amps. However, one of my personal systems uses SET amps for the mains and single-ended FET amps on the subs. I find that a good synergy.

Subject: Re: input/output wiring of 3Pi subwoofer?
Posted by [ziofil](#) on Mon, 16 Jan 2017 04:46:09 GMT
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Understood, thanks Wayne. So, just to be clear: what comes with the three pi subwoofer kit and what else will I need? (Besides the cabinet material and tools).
Also, does a plate amp include a crossover or will I need to build a separate one? If so, can I buy all the crossover parts together with the kit?

Subject: Re: input/output wiring of 3Pi subwoofer?
Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Tue, 17 Jan 2017 16:28:13 GMT
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Plate amps generally include the crossover, yes.

Our kit includes the woofer, the cable assembly with connector plate, a tube to use for the port and a printed copy of the plans.

Subject: Re: input/output wiring of 3Pi subwoofer?
Posted by [ziofil](#) on Tue, 17 Jan 2017 22:10:01 GMT
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Excellent!
Could I ask you for a recommendation regarding the plate amp? Also, I'm located in Ontario, perhaps you are aware of online shops here in Canada where I can find one?

Subject: Re: input/output wiring of 3Pi subwoofer?
Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Wed, 18 Jan 2017 15:46:56 GMT
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Do a search here for "plate amp" (click the link):
[Plate Amp](#)

Subject: Re: input/output wiring of 3Pi subwoofer?
Posted by [ziofil](#) on Sat, 21 Jan 2017 18:53:22 GMT
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Thanks!

I'll make an order for the 3Pi soon, I'll ask you for the plans after ordering.

I did the search you suggested. I think I have settled for the SPA 250, do you approve? The other option is the BASH 300S.

Subject: Re: input/output wiring of 3Pi subwoofer?

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Mon, 23 Jan 2017 01:30:44 GMT

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Both are good. While I really like Solen as a brand, I like the low-pass filter of the Bash unit better. But both are good units and will work well.
