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Subject: Tube PreAmp - Done! (almost)

Posted by [GarMan](#) on Thu, 01 Apr 2004 20:45:05 GMT

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(point to point), and Chips from scratch. But this is my first attempt at tubes directly from a schematic. The actual soldering was the easiest part. The most difficult and time consuming part of the build was drafting the wiring diagram and chassis work. I took about two weeks and twenty drafts to translate the schematics into a component placement and wiring diagram, and an entire weekend to construct the chassis. The chassis was built from a Hammond 6x10x2 1441 Series steel enclosure in black satin finish. I highly recommend this finish. Very nice to the touch, just the right amount of sheen, and very durable. The only down side is that this finish is a non-stock item at many places and has a lead time of approx 3 weeks. For holes, I just used a hand drill. One trick I learned to get nice clean holes was to clamp a clean thick piece of MDF very tightly

passing through the sheet metal. Otherwise, you end up with triangular shaped holes :p To keep your drill pattern accurate, draw it out on a sheet of graph paper and tape it on the chassis as a

panels. Unfortunately, I reversed the hole pattern for the back of the amp and had to find a creative solution. With the pattern reversed, I had the input/output running in under the

side out and wrap the enclosure with wood. It turned out to be a happy accident. If I knew from the

have been a lot easier to just use a flat plate and build a wood frame for it Bottlehead-style. My

never been a big fan of chassis top connections (ie Bottlehead). However, since the rear wood

think it would be a good idea to have 120V out in the open. I ended up going for a vintage look. I thought the dark wood works very well with the toggle switch and black/silver knobs. All and all,

its construction, using my superior powers of hindsight. Good thing I have a long list of projects I want to go through to apply my new found skills. Gar.

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