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Subject: Building 2 Pi Towers - Part 1

Posted by [Fresno](#) on Wed, 02 Oct 2002 14:42:09 GMT

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So far I have one speaker screwed and glued. To get here it cost me money, time and aggravation. Hopefully my marriage will survive! Having had no real woodworking experience to speak of I needed to learn a lot of basics live without a net. I had no tools except an electric screwdriver. First job - determine whether I was going to rabet or miter. Looking at the cost of the routers I decided to go with the miter. Purchased a sabre saw for \$40, made sure the base could tilt 45deg. Tried my first cut and it would not go in a straight line, it kept veering to the right. My guess was that the blade was not rigid enough so I bought a circular saw for \$50. Same thing happened, veering to the right. I was told by my buddy at Home Depot that I needed a Carbon blade. I bought one for \$40. Worked like a charm! Had some trouble learning about how to properly make a straight lines at 90deg angles but I got though it. Used a compass and the sabre saw to cut the holes for the drivers, port and binding posts. So far I have spent 9 hours and \$130. Time to fit the pieces together. They fit better than I expected. I screwed them all together first drilling the holes for the screws. I then took it apart, drilled the 'outside' holes bigger so that the screws would squeeze the two together. I then applied glue and re-screwed them. The glue cost \$8.00 I thought that the mdf (MDF cost \$15.00) would be soft enough that the flathead screws would countersink themselves. Wrong! Now the screw heads are sticking out slightly. (Do I remove them and then countersink them or do I remove them and add wood putty?) Time spent assembling - 4 hours. I am not going to veneer them as I am now broke so I am going to paint them. I purchased a quart of primer for \$7.00. I purchased around 90 inches of R13 insulation for about \$30.00. So there it sits. Time spent so far - 13 hours. I need to brace it, insulate it, sand it, prime it, paint it, and then install the drivers and the binding posts. Then I will start on speaker number 2. I am expecting the time to drop dramatically.

|       |             |          |                |         |              |            |       |        |       |
|-------|-------------|----------|----------------|---------|--------------|------------|-------|--------|-------|
| ITEM  | 2 spkrs     |          |                |         |              |            |       |        |       |
| Tools | Saber Saw   | 40.00    | Circular Saw   | 50.00   | Carbon Blade | 40.00      |       |        |       |
| MDF   | 30.00       | Glue     | 8.00           | Primer  | 7.00         | Insulation | 30.00 | Screws | 10.00 |
| Paint | ? Sandpaper | ? Braces | ? Total So Far | \$85.00 | \$130.00     | Unless     |       |        |       |

everyone objects, I will continue the saga as it unfolds.