

Hello all,

I have several different topics I would like some help with. I am going to order 6Pi's in a couple of weeks, and I plan to use a 3Pi as a center channel.

My first question is in regards to the dimensions of the 3Pi. The 6Pi's will flank a fireplace that I have never used in 23 years of ownership. It occurred to me that I could tuck the 3Pi back into the fire box. My fire box is tiny and measures 21w x 23h x 14d. This is fairly close to the side profile of the 3Pi. I am wondering if I could make the speaker shorter and put the extra volume on the side along with the drivers and horn.

My second question is in regards to the bookshelves that flank the fireplace. I am going to replace the freestanding shelves that came with the house with proper built-ins with doors.

I am worried about the doors themselves resonating, and would like some advice on construction materials. The walls are lathe and plaster.

I see two options, sliding doors (which are not a perfect fit style wise) and flush mounted hinges.

Hinges are by far the simpler solution since I can use latches that will pull the doors firmly closed to prevent any rattles. The down side is the doors can not be of equal width if I want to be able to open the door closest to the fireplace with out moving the speaker, but I am willing to have unequal doors.

I do plan to put the speaker on wheels, but I also plan to store CD's and movies in the book shelves, so having easy access to the shelves is important. Sliding doors will require me finding and fabricating some solution to hold them rigid so they do not rattle.

The last option is not to use doors at all, but I think that defeats the purpose of using a corner horn in the first place. Please correct me if I am wrong on this point.

Any thoughts on door materials? Is raised panel construction ok? Or do I have to use flat panels like yucky Ikea stuff in my Arts and Crafts bungalow?

The ideal thing to match the house would be oak doors with 6 or 8 glass panels, next best is 2 (or even 1) oak raised panels, last would be oak veneered flat panel. Oak raised panels must be free floating, and can be challenging to make so they do not rattle during the winter. Glass panels can be rigidly glazed, but will make any damping materials visible unless they are almost opaque (opaque = very expensive).

Flat panels have the benefit that I can veneer over anything solid enough to not get permanently crushed in my veneer press.

My intuition says that the contours of raised panels are OK, since the wavelengths coming out of

the bass box will pass right over them, but my understanding is that the bass driver does share a fair bit of the low-midrange that could be affected.

Any thoughts on what doors will do? Should they be backed with damping material? If so, what is good that is still thin? Are glass panels just a nightmare problem?

I am a very competent furniture maker (formerly a professional), and a competent hobby machinist. I have two shops full of woodworking and metal working machinery. So basically, nothing is out of the question provided it is worth the hassle.

Lastly, Wayne, please email me plans for the 2Pi tower and the 3Pi please.

Thank you all in advance

-Josh

---