Subject: Hey Bill !!! plywood question
Posted by Wayne-o on Sat, 08 Nov 2008 19:07:30 GMT
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Is the plywood just plain yellow pine plywood ??? Is it as good as birch ??? Is it sanded on both sides ??? Thanks.

Subject: Use Baltic Birch
Posted by Wayne Parham on Sun, 09 Nov 2008 04:47:06 GMT
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Use baltic birch. The real stuff has Russian lettering on it. It is much stronger and there are noticeably more plies than cheap Chinese "plain yellow plywood".Never use that cheap stuff for loudspeakers. They're guaranteed to rattle and buzz if you do. The plies separate easily and there are several voids in them. There is almost always debris in the voids, small chunks of wood and glue that has broken off and rattles within the void.A good quality baltic birch is one of the best materials to make speakers from, but a cheap "plain yellow plywood" is one of the worst.

Subject: Re: Use Baltic Birch
Posted by Wayne-o on Sun, 09 Nov 2008 17:26:31 GMT
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Thanks ,Where do you get it ? I tried Home Depot but they have the cheap stuff now.

Subject: Re: Use Baltic Birch
Posted by Wayne Parham on Mon, 10 Nov 2008 02:59:08 GMT
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Call around, not many retailers stock it but all wholesalers have it.

Subject: Re: Use Baltic Birch
Posted by Bill Epstein on Mon, 10 Nov 2008 13:25:58 GMT
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Wayne's right about true Baltic Birch and it is expensive. I'm cheap and a wholesaler was 45 miles away so I looked for something else.This is the plywood I used. It's very much like the late, lamented Marine Plywood every lumberyard, pre-Big Box, used to carry.It is 7-ply with an "A" side, no visible voids on any of the cut pieces and nary a rattle.
Arauco 3/4" plywood

Subject: Re: Use Baltic Birch
Posted by Wayne-o on Mon, 10 Nov 2008 18:00:29 GMT
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Thanks !!! Wayne and Bill

Subject: Re: Hey Bill !!! plywood question
Posted by breakfastchef on Fri, 14 Nov 2008 21:39:25 GMT
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I looked around my local Home Depot and spotted some decent looking plywoods. Upon curosry inspection, the surfaces looked very clear and I did not see any voids around the perimeter. AS I recall, the 3/4" stock was five or six plys. Would one of these also be a good choice for speaker cabinets, or should I continue to seek out Baltic Birch from a specialty supplier?3/4" x 4' x 8' Baltic Plywood - $49.88/sheet3/4" x 4' x 8' Sanded Plywood (one surface only) - $43.88/sheet

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Subject: Re: Hey Bill !!! plywood question
Posted by Matts on Sat, 15 Nov 2008 02:33:35 GMT
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not Bill, but I've used that sanded plywood at HD. Stay away from it!Also, most good Baltic Birch doesn't come in 4x8 sheets, more like 5x5, although there are some 4X8's. 3/4" BB ply will have 13 plys.

Subject: Re: Hey Bill !!! plywood question
Posted by Wayne Parham on Sat, 15 Nov 2008 07:04:24 GMT
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Nothing from a big box retail store is likely to give good results. I've never seen baltic bitch at any of them, and frankly, I've never seen them stock any plywood I would be comfortable using to make loudspeakers. 18mm baltic birch has 13 plies and is very strong. The plywood you often find with 5 to 7 plies is terrible for making speakers. You'd be better off with chip board than that stuff.

Subject: Re: Yup!
Posted by Bill Epstein on Sat, 15 Nov 2008 18:00:26 GMT
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The HD and Lowes hardwood, especially the Chinese 'cabinet grade' plywood is junk, but once again, the Lowes Arauco is a pleasant surprise.

Subject: Re: Yup!
Posted by Wayne Parham on Sat, 15 Nov 2008 21:54:01 GMT
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Ah, yes, very good Bill. Thanks for the tip!

Subject: Re: Use Baltic Birch
Posted by beto on Sat, 22 Nov 2008 03:50:25 GMT
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Hi Bill,yours is chilean radiata pine plywood. Arauco products are often use here in Chile on construction and they have, of course very different qualities.cheersbeto

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