
Subject: Kit vs. Finished Speakers

Posted by [Satyaa](#) on Tue, 29 Apr 2014 01:24:57 GMT

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Hi all, I am new member on the forum and am researching speakers for HT setup for a 13' x 23' living room with cathedral ceiling.

I was hoping to buy a set of finished speakers for under \$2K but it doesn't seem possible.

I am wondering whether I should buy the kits and build the speakers myself. I searched for 'kit vs finished' speakers on the forum and found nothing.

I have two questions...

1. How easy/difficult is it for a newbie to assemble speakers from these kits? I am new to cabinetry and was going to get into it for other things anyway. I can handle wiring connections/soldering/etc., but don't know anything about electronics.

2. The cost difference between kits and finished speakers is significant. Leaving the time and effort aside, how much would the material typically cost for decent cabinets (3 x Three Pi and 2 x Two Pi)?

If I go that route, I would have to spend a couple of months to get the cabinets ready and then order the kits when I am ready! That way, I won't have the kits sitting in the basement while I am learning to build cabinets.

Any advice from your experience is appreciated.

Thanks,
Satyaa

Subject: Re: Kit vs. Finished Speakers

Posted by [Csharp](#) on Tue, 24 May 2016 09:27:41 GMT

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If you're still lurking.....or for anyone else who wants to know.....if you don't have experience then expect this project to take twice as long than if you did have experience. Learning as you go will make the clock move slower as they say, so you want to keep that in mind.

Subject: Re: Kit vs. Finished Speakers

Posted by [mamoss](#) on Tue, 24 May 2016 17:19:35 GMT

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Csharp wrote on Tue, 24 May 2016 04:27 If you're still lurking.....or for anyone else who wants to

know.....if you don't have experience then expect this project to take twice as long than if you did have experience. Learning as you go will make the clock move slower as they say, so you want to keep that in mind.

I have to agree with you completely. Apart from assembly taking time, I believe doing this as a newbie may compromise the quality of the final product. I am one of those people who prefers to buy and learn along the way.

Subject: Re: Kit vs. Finished Speakers
Posted by [gofar99](#) on Tue, 24 May 2016 19:21:47 GMT
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Hi, One source of speakers I have found useful is Audio Advisor (on the web). PI speakers are great, but it may be difficult to fit your budget (ask Wayne). Audio Advisor often has closeouts of mid to high end speakers and they do a lot of HT systems. I snagged several high quality speakers off them for about 1/3 the original selling price.

Subject: Re: Kit vs. Finished Speakers
Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Wed, 25 May 2016 15:30:39 GMT
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I think we talked about this via email. So I think this post has been answered privately.

But I'll throw in my 2¢ here anyway.

Speaker cabinets that are just a simple box aren't too expensive to have made by just about any cabinet shop. The customer can choose any wood veneer they want. If cost is an issue, then the cabinet can be painted instead of using an expensive wood veneer.

The components in the kit come in a number of quality levels. One can choose an inexpensive kit costing less than a hundred bucks. Or they can choose a more high-end product that costs thousands.

So there are a wide range of products offered at just about any price point.

Subject: Re: Kit vs. Finished Speakers
Posted by [Ssal](#) on Sat, 05 Nov 2016 03:15:22 GMT
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As a newbie myself, I have to agree that it probably would be for the best to get the finished

product for now. At least until you are confident enough to start doing things for yourself.
