Subject: Bargain Blaster
Posted by Man From Uncle on Thu, 14 Oct 2004 18:31:19 GMT
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What's the cheapest good sounding rig you've ever heard?I am looking for dirt cheap systems that put a smile on the face anda tap on the toes. Chip amps, SET amps, single drivers, little twoways, whatever. No fair telling us about the 6000$ amp you foundin a garage sale for 10$ though. :-)

Subject: Re: Bargain Blaster
Posted by lon on Fri, 15 Oct 2004 06:50:59 GMT
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Well, I don't get out a lot. :-) From my building experience, the most bang for the buck is PVC pipe. Parts are cheap. You don't have to havea shop and they look like they're from the future. Just about any full range driver will work-- RS 1197or upscale FE127e's. There's prob'ly a 4 " from Tangbandthat will work too. You mount the speak on one end and the other end is open.Allow about 80 inches in between. Supply elbows to shapeto taste. Here's a shorter version:
PVC periscopes

Subject: Great site
Posted by colinhester on Fri, 15 Oct 2004 18:00:53 GMT
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I found the link a couple of years ago, after I bought a pair of 8" "full range" speakers from RS. Still haven't done anything with them. But for the money, you are dead on referencing this site....Colin

Subject: Re: Great site
Posted by lon on Fri, 15 Oct 2004 18:45:40 GMT
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Like I said, I am fairly isolated from hearing a lot of buildsand I don't know how this would apply to theory, but.... If you have the 8 inchers you could make a quick transmissionline with some 6 in PVC., one elbow and a base. I have neverseen any PVC 6" pipe used... only 4". Try some of these experiments and you place will looklike the set of McHales Navy or Oh Susanna! starring Gale Stormand Charles Farrel. But you are prob'ly not that old. :-) Here's the other PVC

reference I have with some differenttechniques:Also here, for the more whimsical or projects to makefor kids:http://www.t-linespeakers.org/projects/sampson/index.html
Laying Pipe with Audio Leggo

Subject: Re: Great site
Posted by colinhester on Fri, 15 Oct 2004 19:11:23 GMT
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Thanks again for the great link. As for finding larger PVC tubes, you might want to check out a commercial plumbing supply store. Better yet, if there is new construction where you live, ask the contractors to keep an eye out for you. You'd be amazed what $20 and a beer will get you. It got me abot $5k worth of landscaping and some new friends....Colin

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Subject: Sonutubes R Us : Re: Great site
Posted by lon on Fri, 15 Oct 2004 19:32:31 GMT
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I've wondered where to get the good stuff as far as Sonotube goes.The stuff at Home Depot in USA is pretty flimsy and looks like it would need bracing just to stand up. On the center of a circle thing, I was considering getting some MDF pre-cut 'table tops' and at Home Depot but I haven't foundthe right dimension-- either too big ot too small to begin with.

Subject: Re: Sonutubes R Us : Re: Great site
Posted by colinhester on Fri, 15 Oct 2004 19:59:55 GMT
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You might try a craft's store. I've seen wood pine circle in various diameters there before. Couldn't hurt to call around. As for the sonotube being flimsy, I had the same concern when I looked at them. I think, however, once you get a top and bottom on, they should be fine without the need for internal bracing.What kind of woodworking tools do you have? I've seen homemade jigs for bandsaws that are used to cut exact circles. Also, it might sound silly, but concrete is pretty easy to work with and the forms are easily built. With a little practice, one can get a glass smooth finish. My wife and I played with concrete for a while; we are trying to make our own kitchen counters tops. We got to where we could lay 3' x 3' sections with simple forms and basic tools to almost a mirror finish. Concrete can also be colored rather easily to give some rather intersting effects.....Colin

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Subject: Re: Sonutubes R Us : Re: Great site
Posted by lon on Fri, 15 Oct 2004 23:58:21 GMT
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My tool collection is pretty meager. A hacksaw works to cut down PVC pipe. An electric hand drill and drill guide can make straight pilot holes and a few hole saws mounted inthe drill chuck can do cutouts for up to 4" drivers. I also own 4 clamps. :-) The most versitile tool I got was a generic RotoZipor 'spinsaw' ($30 on sale) which comes with an assortment of add-ons to cut larger circles (though sometimes not ver true), willtake 3/8 shank standard router bits to do various depth of cut rabbets and chamfers for driver holes. I'd ratherhave a good router though. Add a few screw drivers and that's about it. Up tilrecently I had an arrangement for a fellow whom I solda table saw to (an estate sale) to cut wood, but I havelost communication w/him so I'm back to 1.) looking for a new cutter or 2.) exploring the use of a sawboard (seecraftsmen section here.)
I am not a home owner. I'm 57 and live in a one bedroomapt. So even if I could afford good tools I couldn'tuse 'em.

Subject: Re: Sonutubes R Us : Re: Great site
Posted by colinhester on Sat, 16 Oct 2004 01:40:13 GMT
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Lon, Please refresh my memory: What size sonotube are you looking to cap? Maybe (no promises) I can help you out. This is something I've been wanting to do for some time, and maybe you can be my inspiration. BTW, I live in Cincinnati. Any chance you're form these parts?....Colin