Subject: Spades for Heresy speaker connections
Posted by Shane on Sat, 01 Jul 2006 02:36:41 GMT
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Well I have my Heresy's set up in the living room as best as I can get them positioned without getting CARA(??). So I'm headed off to Wally world to get a spool of Royal Cable. I don't want to change the vintage speaker connectors on the back. I hate changing cosmetic things like that. Not my style. Besides, these aren't going to be getting plugged in and out all the time. So does anyone have some recommendations for some decent spades that will fit in the vintage connector on these?

Subject: Re: Spades for Heresy speaker connections
Posted by Manualblock on Sat, 01 Jul 2006 19:12:53 GMT
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Why use spades at all? Just another connection to muck up the sound. Why not use bare wire? Up here Radio Shack has 50 ft of the top line Monster Cable with pin connectors already terminated; just right for vintage stuff on sale; normally 59$ marked down to 17$. I bought two sets. Have you checked at all in the Shack? It's a phenomenal deal.

Subject: Re: Spades for Heresy speaker connections
Posted by Shane on Sat, 01 Jul 2006 22:23:10 GMT
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Which part number was it? The only thing that bothers me is that I have some 18ga stuff on them now, just bare wire wrapped around the screw, and it just smushes it all over the place. If I go any bigger it's going to be worse I think. The terminals are pretty close together. The spades would have to be at the largest 1/4", and that's an issue too.

Subject: Re: Spades for Heresy speaker connections
Posted by MWG on Sat, 01 Jul 2006 23:29:23 GMT
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My McIntosh gear has the same problem and I found some nicely made spades that fit the small terminal blocks and you can use bare wire, banana plugs or pins in them. I got them off of E-bay. Made in Hong Kong and I paid about 14.00 for 8 of them.

Subject: Re: Spades for Heresy speaker connections
Posted by Shane on Sat, 01 Jul 2006 23:35:09 GMT
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Like these?
connectors

Subject: Re: Spades for Heresy speaker connections
Posted by MWG on Sun, 02 Jul 2006 01:33:30 GMT
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Yep, those be them. They are well made and fit the narrow terminal blocks just fine. I ordered some banana plugs and made my own interconnects.

Subject: Re: Spades for Heresy speaker connections
Posted by Manualblock on Sun, 02 Jul 2006 17:49:17 GMT
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Yeah; thats why they use pin connectors. Here's the smaller part number but they are selling fast;2782751thats for the 10 ft model; list 29$ I paid 8$. Thats already terminated with pins.I swapped out Aeon Bi-Wire and it sounds just as good.

Subject: Rat Shack cables
Posted by Shane on Sun, 02 Jul 2006 20:22:51 GMT
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I ran up the road to the local Shack and picked up a set of the 10' pairs. Decent cables I guess. Got the home and am questioning the connections on both the speakers and amp. Neither the speakers or amp have what you would call 5 way connectors. Just a small screw sticking out. I just slid the pins up against the screw and tightened it down on both. But the connections seem kinda weak and I hate to tighten them down anymore for fear of breaking the screws off.

Subject: Re: Rat Shack cables
Posted by Manualblock on Mon, 03 Jul 2006 12:11:56 GMT

Ohh; I thought you had the old style vintage pin connectors like on the Altecs. The wire is still good sounding so what I would do is just take a pair of snips and cut the pins off. Then twist the ends of the wire tightly and form a hook to run under the screws. For the 8$ it's still a good deal even without the pins; and you can save the pins for when you end up with a standard connection.I would also clean the screws with contact cleaner first. Thats what I do in that situation and it works good.If you figure two 10ft sections of Monster Cable at 8$ thats 40c a foot. Still not bad.Or you could purchase one of the crimp style ring connectors from the shack; that should cost about 50c for a little package. Then crimp the wire into the ring connector and place that under the screw. The last thing is there are some vendors who sell vintage spades. Cheap. I think AES has them for a couple bucks a set.

Subject: Re: Rat Shack cables
Posted by Shane on Mon, 03 Jul 2006 12:53:02 GMT

I think what I"ll do is just put them back in the package and set it aside for use in another speaker project later on. Have been thinking about some of Jim's dipoles or some the single driver PAWO's that Akhilesh has. I'll just run and get a spool of Royal and try to find some decent ring or spade connectors to terminate with.

Subject: Royal Cable to the rescue!
Posted by Shane on Tue, 04 Jul 2006 01:18:10 GMT

Ran some 12' pairs and just twisted the heck out of the stripped ends and was very careful tightening them up. Hooked them up and was listening to some Diana Krall "Live in Paris" when the wife came in and sat down. She goes "hey, those sound way better than the ones you just had on there. Everything sounds more "right"". If she notices a difference, then there is one. They definitely sound different, better to my ears as well. Part of that is probably due to the pin connectors vs. the bare wire I'm sure. The hell with the spades. Thanks everybody for the suggestions, though!