Subject: Stoetkit arrived!
Posted by Wayne Parham on Thu, 03 Feb 2005 21:32:03 GMT
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I know this forum is mostly for homebrew gear, and maybe some of it will transition into standardized builds. But I have to put in a plug for the little Stoetkit. I just got mine today, and I'm going to try real hard to make time to build it in the immediate future, and to document my progress. So I wanted to brag a little bit about this amazing amp.
Stoetkit arrived!

Subject: Love the transformer covers
Posted by colinhester on Fri, 04 Feb 2005 04:29:55 GMT
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What a neat idea. I'm curious to see how well they fold and seam.....Colin

Subject: Re: Love the transformer covers
Posted by Wayne Parham on Fri, 04 Feb 2005 12:28:18 GMT
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I like those transformer covers too. I'll be putting an hour or two on the kit this morning, and I'll probably form those today. I plan to put them in a vice surrounded by two thin pieces of wood. That will make the bend nice and straight.This Stoetkit chassis was in my mind when I made the post about the chassis and transformer covers for Guinevere. It's a nice touch, makes 'em look like a million bucks. I think the biggest difference between the expensive high-end gear and some of the lesser cost options is aesthetics. Of course, quality iron and other components factor in too, but the high-end stuff all has polished chassis and transformer covers.

Subject: Re: Love the transformer covers
Posted by Manualblock on Fri, 04 Feb 2005 13:05:01 GMT
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Sounds like a lot of fun Wayne, those amps sure look nice. The high end stuff, and polished chassis; Hmmm, let me see; 4-5k for a pre-amp, I need to get into the polishing business!!

Subject: Re: Love the transformer covers
Posted by Wayne Parham on Fri, 04 Feb 2005 13:37:27 GMT
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You know, I think you're right.

Subject: Aesthetics
Posted by colinhester on Fri, 04 Feb 2005 14:49:27 GMT
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With Guinevere, I've been putting a lot of thought into the aesthetics. You're right about looks; it makes all the difference. When the pre and amps are done, I plan on this being a showcase item for the house. Our neighborhood is really into in-home entertaining, and I want to show this off in the worst way. I have a place in the hearth room already picked out - just don't tell my wife I got the base done last night. It is 4 pieces, joined with miter cuts, of pretty elaborate base/shoe moulding combo that we used in the kitchen in place of the standard toe kick. I got the copper top cut last week. One good thing about working with copper is that it can be scored and cut with a sharp utility knife. So, making a transformer cover out of "+" shaped piece, as in your kit, from copper seems to be a pretty attractive option. Again, I'm curious how it bends and seams. I know from expereice this is not a trivial thing to pull off and have it look right - you only get one shot per bend, and you have eight.Please keep us posted on how it's coming.....Colin

Subject: Re: Exposed Screws
Posted by GarMan on Fri, 04 Feb 2005 15:59:03 GMT
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Hey Colin,What are you doing to minimize the number of exposed screw heads on your top plate to keep it clean? I have no problems with exposed screws that are used to attach items on top of the plate (ie transformers, tube sockets, IEC connectors, etc). However, exposed screws that attach items such as solder strips beneath the plate really bother me. The screw head just sits there on the plate all by itself, like a pimple.Gar.

Subject: Re: Exposed Screws
Posted by colinhester on Fri, 04 Feb 2005 23:41:29 GMT
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Man, you're killing me. I hope I have enough holes (7) on the terminal strips that I can get away

with 3-4 strips all together. I'll try not to drill new holes, but simply use existing screws on the tube sockets or chokes.My copper is a little thinner than I would like, and I have some concern about the weight. With two trans and 2 chokes, we're looking at around 12-15 pounds. I do have a length of 1/4 x 1/4" copper l-channel that I'm going to solder on the bottom for support, so if worse comes to worse I can mount off of these as well. My biggest problem is keeping the other metallic materials from touching the copper. The different metals in contact will tend to corrode one, in this case the copper. I'm going to be very careful in the mounting process by using lots of nylon washers as spacers.....Colin

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Subject: Re: Exposed Screws
Posted by Skip Pack on Sat, 05 Feb 2005 00:32:50 GMT
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I've been watching this build with great interest, though I've gottoo many projects lined up to participate now. As far as the screws go,I like to use buttonhead screws where the head is visible. I've gottenthem in black oxide, and stainless, and I'm sure brass must be availablesomewhare. The little internal hex on a size six or eight screw doesn'tdetract from the nice rounded shape. You just coordinate the color withyour plate. Black oxide just about disappears on a black wrinkle paintedplate.Skip Pack

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Subject: Re: Exposed Screws
Posted by Manualblock on Sat, 05 Feb 2005 01:10:40 GMT
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Excellent!
