Subject: Cabinet Help
Posted by SteveBrown on Fri, 19 Apr 2002 18:41:40 GMT
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Well, I'm about dive into these pi things... I'm planning on the Thermionic 3pi and I'm wondering about the woodworking. I've made lots of other speaker enclosures but I find consistent problems. Maybe it's because I'm too focused on making furniture, rather than an enclosure. I'd like to use a nice hardwood finish (Plywood or veneer). Here are my concerns and I'd love to get your helpful hints:1. hardwood plywood is very expensive, one miss cut and it's big $. If I use plywood I'll have to put a miter on the corners. I have a table saw but somehow I never get those miters to come out just perfectly. Help?2. If I go MDF with a veneer, I've had some problems with bubbles under the veneer (paper backed applied w/contact cement). It always looks flat after I roller it, but the bubbles appear after a day or two. Help? 3. Overall, which do you all prefer and why? 4. Last, from a design standpoint, I'm kind of thinking about maple around the sides and walnut for the baffle. Thoughts?Thanks for the help.Steve

Subject: Till E.  help this guy out!  (nt)
Posted by replay on Fri, 19 Apr 2002 22:27:22 GMT
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nt

Subject: Re: Cabinet Help
Posted by mhammill on Fri, 19 Apr 2002 23:13:55 GMT
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I find it less expensive, easier, and quicker, to use hardwood ply with solid wood corners of the same or even a different species. Making the corners by gluing and clamping 1x4 or 1x6 and then triming to 1/4-1" edge pieces with the table saw, then finish with a trim bit on the router after assembly. You can use a round over bit for a radius if you like and the corners won't damage as easily as mitered ones can. Besides my table saw tilts towards the fence so its no good for miters. I love the evolution fence I have but my saw is hammered, I want to get one of thoose rigid 2424 saws that has the tilt away blade then I will build a larger table and mount a router plate in it.All I

need is more time and money.LaterMike H.

Subject: Re: Cabinet Help
Posted by BillEpstein on Fri, 19 Apr 2002 23:44:01 GMT
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I have to confess to being less than knowledgeable on veneering, but two things come to mind. The bubbles are either out-gassing from the adhesive in which case releasing the gas with a pin and then rolling should work; or, you aren't putting two coats of glue on the veneer and substrate and therefore not getting a complete bond. Especially at the edges.There is a recommended vendor,(on the Asylum) tape-ease (www.tapease.com) that sells NBS backed veneer that's supposed to eliminate the glitches and the owner said to be very accessible and helpful on the fone.Iron-on veneer tape has worked well for decades to hide the plywood edges and eliminate the need to miter.As mhammill suggests solid edges are a great alternative too and you might try leaving the edgeing corners proud of the casework for an architectural look which also hides any inconsistent joints. Dowels add visual interest as do splines.I'm thinking of  extending the front baffle 3/4" beyond each of the sides and rounded over with a piece of brass glued into the coener ceated by the transition from the back of the baffle piece onto the side piece.Maple and Walnut, excellent contrast. I mix a lot of Maple and Honduran Mahogany. In fact the Ten Pi's will be that with perhaps Bubinga accents.Hey George, you and Greg want to come by and dust the L.R. after? I'll buy the beer.By all means create audio furniture and show us the result!

Subject: Re: Cabinet Help
Posted by SteveBrown on Sat, 20 Apr 2002 01:08:00 GMT
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Thanks for the advice! It sounds like you're suggesting putting banding on the exposed plywood edges and then using butt joints? I've seen that done with some bookcases and other furniture. You also said, "you might try leaving the edgeing corners proud of the casework for an architectural look" I'm not sure I follow this one. Can you expand on this a bit? Last, if I do decide to miter the cornes, I seem to remember that there are router bits that can do this, and some that even make locking joints, any experience using these? Are they accurate?Thanks!Steve

Subject: Another point to wory about.
Posted by Erik from Holland on Sat, 20 Apr 2002 07:56:56 GMT
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If i would buy a nice plywood sheet with fineer, i would have another problem. If you would make a joint connection, the only way to let the fineer reach eachother in the edges is to make a cold diagonal joint.Otherwise, the fineer would stop a few millimeters for the edge, depending on the type of joint you choose.So, whats best, first make a enclosure and fineer it later, or buy a already finered sheet?Greetingzzz, Eirikr.

Subject: Re: Cabinet Help
Posted by mhammill on Sat, 20 Apr 2002 10:55:10 GMT
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I've seen those miter bits work well with a table mounted router with a good fence, nice clean joint. I don't know if I would try it with just a guide for my final finish on a miter.

Subject: Re: Another point to wory about.
Posted by bmar on Sat, 20 Apr 2002 20:17:45 GMT
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A few simple ways that you could do it would be to use fineered ply for the sides and have that come up to a 25mm square solid wood for the corners.use fineer ply and glue an edge fineer on all edges before assemblingand finally, just fineer the whole box after you build it from MDF.there are lots of ways. none are better than the other. do what is easy for you and also what you have tools to use.ciao