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Subject: is fir better than MDF for bracing?  
Posted by [ray99](#) on Sat, 25 May 2002 10:21:28 GMT  
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also why is the brace size suggested 1X2? Would a little wider brace deaden the cabinet more or would it adversely affect the sound? Is the idea to keep bracing until when you rap the cabinet with your knuckles you just hear a thunk instead of a hollow sound? thanks.Ray

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Subject: Re: is fir better than MDF for bracing?  
Posted by [steve f](#) on Sat, 25 May 2002 10:40:42 GMT  
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Hi Ray,I prefer to use either mdf or baltic birch for bracing cabinets. the individual braces can be made larger, or even in different configurations. The only downside is that you must adjust the cabinet internal volume to account for the larger braces. When the cabinet sounds "dead" to the rap test, the bracing is good.Take care,Steve

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Subject: Internal bracing  
Posted by [Paul C.](#) on Sat, 25 May 2002 15:46:17 GMT  
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I like to run a diagonal brace across the back panel, and a diagonal brace on both sides. I glue and screw these in on edge. I also tie the back panel to the front, using a 1x4, usually near the top edge of the woofer hole. The woofer really shakes! The sides of the front panel, each side of the woofer hole, are usually well supported by the side panels. Ditto the bottom of the woofer hole. But the top of the woofer hole is weak, as usually there is cutout for a mid or high horn or other driver, and more distance to the top of the speaker box. The front to back brace really strengthens the box and helps stop resonances.If a speaker box is large (I had spkrs previously the size of the 4 Pi Theater, 36"x24"x18") I use a 1x4 brace mounted on edge diagonally on the back panel.My boxes are STRONG. No buzzes, no vibrations.I do not use MDF but for indoor, home stereo speakers. For PA and other MI use, birch cabinet ply only.

