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Subject: MonoPi Experience-The Good, The Bad and The Ugly

Posted by [LuxmanLover](#) on Tue, 08 Oct 2002 16:02:38 GMT

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Well I couldn't wait any longer for my coils to show up from Solen, been a week already, gimme a break!...so I went back to plan "A" , wind my own. Since I couldn't accurately measure the value I did the next best thing....wound 2 spools of 15 guage wire to the approximate size of the MIA Solen Inductors. Since I sure they would be way off anyway I sped up the process substantial by winding them on the drill press. 5 minutes to set up, 30 seconds each to wind..lol.....ahhh precision.Soldered up the rest of the crossover and dragged the semi-completed 4Pi Pro into the house. In went the 2226H and fired it up, in magnificent MONO!!!!!!.....Well my first impression wasn't one of joy....I had a preconceived idea of how the 4Pi Pro would sound and this wasn't it. In my mind I thought that it would be some pounding "live sounding Raggae killer" speaker. And it wasn't so. After my initial disappointment I fiddled with the pre-amp and picked some different material....I threw in some Diana Krall to check out the vocal abilities of the 4Pi.....sat down with the gf (girlfriend) and gave it a critical listen. We were shocked ...much back and forth switching between the old system and my new MonoPi ensued. The detail and clarity of the 4Pi was incredible! While it lacked the pounding bass of my old 10" Peerless based speakers, it ("it" lol...isn't it suppose to be them) more than made up with sparking clear detail and bite in Diana's vocals. Well ok...try something else in went Creed.....it was good but not great Scott Straps vocals are rough at the best of times and on MonoPi they were no exception. In went Eric Clapton, Cocaine, WOW....we heard inflection in Erics voice like I had never heard before and so forward sounding it was like he was right there and the bass, it was great...not rumbly or thick just very detailed and POWERFUL. I had my rat shack Db meter beside us just to see how loud it really was, 85 whopping Db, but things in other rooms were bouncing and resonating.....to be continuedKelly

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Subject: Re: MonoPi Experience-The Good, The Bad and The Ugly

Posted by [Rider](#) on Tue, 08 Oct 2002 19:05:01 GMT

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Hi Kelly.What amp/preamp or receiver are you using. Wattage? Playing at what level?I find as much as it's the vocals that are rough there are differences in the quality of the recordings. The differences become very obvious as the quality of the system improves. I think as much as you start a good system with a solid design part of a good system is "adjustability" to try to compensate for differences in recording. They aren't all equal.Your DIY winding was good for a chuckle.Thanks,Grant.

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Subject: Re: MonoPi Experience-The Good, The Bad and The Ugly  
Posted by [LuxmanLover](#) on Tue, 08 Oct 2002 19:48:34 GMT

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I was using my D-150a Crown amp with a Luxman 1010 pre-amp thru an old Pioneer CD player. The D-150a is good for about 85 watts at 8ohms with I had throttled way back on both it and the pre-amp and still had lots of volume.Kelly

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Subject: Winding your own

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Tue, 08 Oct 2002 20:15:59 GMT

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Here are a couple of formulas that might help you when winding your own coils:Single layer coils  
 $L = NR^2 / (6R + 9X)$ where  
L = Inductance in microHenries  
N = Number of rotations in winding  
R = Radius of wire form  
X = Length of wire form  
This formula is for air core coils only and is accurate within 10%.  
Multiple layer coils  
 $L = 0.8NR^2 / (6R + 9X + 10D)$ where the above variables are used  
and  
D = Depth of windings in wire form  
This formula is also for air core coils and is accurate within 30%.

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Subject: Re: Winding your own

Posted by [Mover Dave](#) on Tue, 08 Oct 2002 20:48:58 GMT

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Hi there,If you really want to wind your own coils, this website will make it a lot easier.RegardsDave

[http://www.colomar.com/Shavano/inductor\\_info.html](http://www.colomar.com/Shavano/inductor_info.html)

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Subject: Re: MonoPi Experience-The Good, The Bad and The Ugly  
Posted by [Rider](#) on Tue, 08 Oct 2002 22:02:55 GMT

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85 watts !!!! You can probably hire your system out for house demolitions like George does ;-).Cheers,Grant

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Subject: The Very Good, The Bad and the Ugly.....  
Posted by [LuxmanLover](#) on Tue, 08 Oct 2002 23:09:38 GMT

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Never explained my overly dramatic subject line.The Good, obviously Waynes well thought design and fantastic sound.The Bad, the way crappy cd's sound on Pi speakers, Garbage in garbage out.The Ugly, My first vanier job....I'll post...you'll understand.Kelly

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Subject: Here's another  
Posted by [LuxmanLover](#) on Tue, 08 Oct 2002 23:54:12 GMT

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The problem with Shavano's site is that for any given value, it will give a different core radius...which cause a problem if you don't have access to a lathe or some other way to precisely make a core. If your out by more than a wires diameter it screws up the value of the inductor. And with out measuring equipment who really knows what they end up with. The link below is neat cause it will make core dia. anything you want. problem with it is that you can bump the dimensions substantially and not change the calculated value or worse change the dimension slightly and move the value by 50% ! So in the end I did like everyone else and bought them (loser) lololol or worse again...make your own to some whacked out spec till the real ones get here.Kelly<http://www.oz.net/~coilgun/mark2/inductorsim.htm>

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Subject: Re: Here's another  
Posted by [RJW](#) on Wed, 09 Oct 2002 00:26:54 GMT  
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How hard is it to make the correct diameter? Use your router or saber saw. Or am I missing something?Ron

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Subject: Maybe  
Posted by [LuxmanLover](#) on Wed, 09 Oct 2002 00:43:55 GMT  
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What you need to start the inductor is a dowel of Xdia. that is usually some weird non standard size. It needs to be exact length, parallel and all within thousands of an inch to work out right ...a bit beyond my means.Kelly