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Subject: Magnet wire ok as speaker wire?  
Posted by [Frnak Mena](#) on Tue, 14 Feb 2006 12:29:33 GMT  
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Hi all.I have a Bottlehead/Pi tube system: Foreplay II > Paramours > Theater 4 Pi and want to know if it's ok to use 20 ga magnet wire as speaker wire. I plan to run 8 twisted wires (4 strands to each speaker terminal) per speaker run with a length of 3 ft from amplifier to speaker. I seem to recall a post in the archives that magnet wire was not ok but can't find the reference. Can some one clarify this for me?I've tried to find that Royal Cable speaker wire (mentioned by Mr Epstein) at the local Walmart but they don't seem to carry it here in Ontario (Canada). Any suggestions for a replacement? I've also tried to find solid core magnet wire but the thickest I can find is 20 ga.Cheers.Frank Mena

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Subject: Re: Magnet wire ok as speaker wire?  
Posted by [jimbop](#) on Tue, 14 Feb 2006 13:41:33 GMT  
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I can't comment on the magnet wire questions, but I'd like to hear more about your system and it's performance. I have a pair of Wright Sound 2A3 amps, and have been considering either the Pi Theater 4 or the Audiophile 7. One concern is how well the 2A3's can drive a 15" speaker.

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Subject: Re: How well 2A3's drive 15" speaker  
Posted by [Frnak Mena](#) on Tue, 14 Feb 2006 14:15:14 GMT  
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In my system the 2A3's are easily driven with the Theater 4 pi's. With the Paramours & Foreplay II it is a relatively easy load for the speakers. I can't comment on the Wright's since I have not heard them with Theater 4 pi's nor know much about them. Perhaps Wayne may comment. I suspect they may be similar. In my system the sound fills the room easily. They can easily get very loud if that is desired and fill the whole house with music. The best I can describe it is a "live" performance in your listening room, but with my case the "richness" of a tube system. One of my favourite CD's is Diana Kralls earlier work (the newer stuff doesn't grab me as much), a tribute to Cole Porter, the title escapes me, but every time I listen to the trio, it's like I'm in a club listening. Neat stuff.CheersFM

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Subject: Re: Magnet wire ok as speaker wire?  
Posted by [Matts](#) on Tue, 14 Feb 2006 15:32:56 GMT

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try it out- you might be surprised. You can actually use one strand per connection and get good sound. Experiment a little. I got some wire at Walmart in the regular audio section (before I knew it Bill's reco was in auto section), made by Phillips in China, and am using that over Cat5 cables and magnet wire....

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Subject: Re: Magnet wire ok as speaker wire?

Posted by [Frnak Mena](#) on Tue, 14 Feb 2006 16:45:22 GMT

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Thanks Matts. I did go over the automotive section of Wallmart & didn't see it in the two stores I went to. I did see your Philips wire & will give that a try after the magnet wire.Cheers.FM

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Subject: Re: Magnet wire ok as speaker wire?

Posted by [colinhester](#) on Tue, 14 Feb 2006 17:05:05 GMT

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Look for Royal Cable in the automotive section at Wal-Mart. It comes in oragne or yellow jacket, depending on gauge. Also, the Royal Cable lable is not obvious at first glance, so look at the package carefully. If you cannot find any, email me.....Colin

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Subject: My system exactly!

Posted by [Garland](#) on Tue, 14 Feb 2006 17:51:12 GMT

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Heavy metal up-graded Paramours with 76 drivers, Transformer output(parafeed) Foreplay I, Theater 4's and 24awg (I think) magnet wire bi-wired speaker cables. I use single runs and get great sound. I understand that with lower power (ie.2A3's) there is plenty of copper in these thin wires for the signal to flow. Bass responce is much better than with my old Audioquest hoses and dynamics are great as well. As for other 2A3 amps driving my Theater 4s I have less experience but I feel my parafeed Paramours out powered (subjective dynamics) my EL-84 PP Heathkit amp(17WPC) and another higher powered SE amp that was not parafeed and will go unidentified to maintain friendship. Parafeed amps do the bass/ macrodynamics thing very well with proper tuning of the choke and output cap. FWIW, I'm just gearing up to evaluate Bill E.s recommended Royal able and will post comments in the future.G.

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Subject: Is Royal Cable available any place other than Wal-Mart?  
Posted by [Patrick Kopson](#) on Tue, 14 Feb 2006 19:10:01 GMT  
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If not, my system will never see it.

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Subject: I'm with ya, man!  
Posted by [Garland](#) on Tue, 14 Feb 2006 19:59:35 GMT  
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Our firm is currently designing a huge art museum for Alice Walton in Bentonville Arkansas and there is alot of joking and asides going on about Walmart etc as you can well imagine. G.

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Subject: Re: Magnet wire ok as speaker wire? \*\* from where \*\*  
Posted by [j.luis cruz .](#) on Tue, 14 Feb 2006 20:33:29 GMT  
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when yours gentleman speak about magnet wire I must understand wire stripped from a electric motor repair shop .thanks

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Subject: Re: A Kindred spirit!  
Posted by [Bill Epstein](#) on Wed, 15 Feb 2006 00:43:03 GMT  
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All For You; Impulse IMPD-182The best of her catalogue. Her piano work here is first rate and, as much as I enjoy her using her voice as a rythm instrument, she really flat-out sings on this one, too.It's become chic to make disparaging comparisons to Diana vs. Billie and Ella and other singers.Fact is, she's a musician who sings. Same can be said of Alison Krause who's voice often get's shrill but can really convey a lyric. When she's fiddlin' tho', not even Jerry's Dobro can compete.

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Subject: Re: "It's 8 O'clock Wal-Mart shoppers, time ta beat yer kids!"  
Posted by [Bill Epstein](#) on Wed, 15 Feb 2006 00:48:37 GMT  
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Nothing to be afraid of. Thing I luv about Wal-Mart is that you meet so many Bluegrass fans there.

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Subject: Re: "It's 8 O'clock Wal-Mart shoppers, time ta beat yer kids!"

Posted by [Matts](#) on Wed, 15 Feb 2006 04:01:56 GMT

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I rarely go to Wal-Mart cause I don't have one close, but so many Bluegrass fans can't be all wrong! Most of us have enough stuff inside ourselves that we don't need to go far to find a good cause to fix!

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Subject: Re: Magnet wire ok as speaker wire? \*\* from where \*\*

Posted by [Frnak Mena](#) on Wed, 15 Feb 2006 12:15:15 GMT

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The stuff I'm referring to is described as follows: "21 Gauge Mag Wire (Cryo Treated Version)  
The CCC 21 awg is 21 gauge, Continuous Cast Copper premium internal hook up wire (magnet wire). It has EC solid stranding, red soldron insulation and is available in clear only. 125m crystal length, 99.9999% pure."I'll get it from Take Five Audio (you can google them) since they are close to where I live. I do not have any affiliation with them. I'm sure you could order the same stuff from Micheal Percy Audio in the States. Cheers.FM

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