Subject: piezos
Posted by Bill Thornton on Sat, 18 Feb 2006 22:37:06 GMT
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Hi All,I was browsing the web trying to gather info on using piezos with some wharfedale 5" units that were on sale on Ebay here in blighty and stumbled across PI speakers and then the forum. WHAT a revelation so much common sense in the voodoo world of hifi I have never before seen! I complement you on your straightforward, no nonsense designs! They remind me of the efforts by Goodmans, Tannoy etc in the fifties - good design based on science & experience. Now the bad news I am not about to buy Pi speakers but have built something similar to PI 1's in tiny cabs with the aforementioned Wharfedale 5" units and since there is more experience here with piezo's than elsewhere I have a question to ask :- Is there any mileage in stripping piezo's and doping the cones?

Subject: Re: piezos
Posted by Kim Schultz on Sun, 19 Feb 2006 12:27:18 GMT
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Yepp. It takes out some of the sizzlyness. And damp the horn with plasticine or wheaterstripping while you´re at it.

Subject: Re: piezos
Posted by Bill Thornton on Sun, 19 Feb 2006 19:24:23 GMT
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Thanks for replying Kim ,I am informed by Comet Spares that my order for2 Motorola KSN 1038's are in the post (I'll believe it when I see themthe original pair they sent were clones!) We live in (faint) hope!

Subject: Re: piezos
Posted by dB on Mon, 20 Feb 2006 00:12:59 GMT
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Hi Bill,Is that the same supplier of White Domestics in the UK?I didn't see any Motorola besides some no name woofers.By the way check this, from Wayne P. on this Forum:(http://www.audioroundtable.com/PiSpeakers/messages/6763.html)I always like to check the curves of response. If I (would) do alterations at home, in a speaker, I would like to measure

them afterwards. That's only my opinion.By the way I have a pair of clones from Europe made I don't know where, and they are the worst s?@$%& I have ever listen to. I have another pair and they are pretty good. Some factories, when you check their website don't even show the response curves. I am told they go out of busyness some of them.Best Regards

Subject: Re: piezos
Posted by Bill Thornton on Mon, 20 Feb 2006 00:38:19 GMT
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It is & It isnt -- Comet Spares are a separate entity with there own website etc and seem to be mail order only. And yes you wont find any mention of motorola piezos in their in line catalogue since I threatened them with the Sale of Goods Act. I am not sure if they ever had any at all, but they assure me they will send the goods I ordered and I have Emails clearly indicating Motorola KSN 1038 ,so we wait with baited breath ! Perhaps theyve scoured the world for a pair just for ME!!!

Subject: Re: piezos
Posted by dB on Mon, 20 Feb 2006 00:53:19 GMT
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You will get your money back...What will you do for a project after? You (will) need MiDs (freq.).

Subject: Re: piezos
Posted by Bill Thornton on Mon, 20 Feb 2006 00:56:39 GMT
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Well there's something in the post - God Knows what!By mids do you mean mid range drive units?

Subject: Re: piezos
Posted by Bill Thornton on Mon, 20 Feb 2006 00:56:57 GMT
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Well there's something in the post - God Knows what!By mids do you mean mid range drive

units?

Subject: Re: piezos
Posted by dB on Mon, 20 Feb 2006 01:59:50 GMT
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5"s you have are for mid-bass? Do you have enough mids (frequency)? In those twet's you have 105 dB SPL (I think). what are your plans.

Subject: Re: piezos
Posted by Bill Thornton on Mon, 20 Feb 2006 10:07:24 GMT
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The 5" units were originally fitted in wharfedale diamond speakers and are good for 50hz up to about 8Khz But I also have 2 10" speakers mounted under the stairs (were tight for space in this cottage!) that can act as a sub for the lower registers.If you wish to get the full story visit the DIY audio website and read the " My Little speakers " thread. P.s. the piezos arrived in the post and are the same as originally supplied (clones) but in fairness to Comet they were supplied to them as Motorola Ksn1038 by a firm called CPC (they are in their original packaging)So CAVEAT EMPTOR everyone!Its back to the drawing board. The speakers sound reasonable with the clones in ,I may just raise the x/over point and pad them down and try the doping & damping tricks.

Subject: KSN 1038
Posted by dB on Mon, 20 Feb 2006 20:57:55 GMT
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I checked the "real" Motorola/CTS KSN1038 for 96-97dB SPL (>3K5) on Wayne P. webpage, on this forum. Also "Piezo Loudspeaker" Mod.s on this webpage (http://melhuish.org/audio/DIYBX16.html). Don't "fry" them...Best Regards

Subject: Re: KSN 1038
Posted by Bill Thornton on Mon, 20 Feb 2006 23:35:07 GMT
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Yes I had visited this site before and I had already determined to sling 6 or so ohms across the piezo and cross them conventionally at either 3K or 4k actually adding about 0.68Mh to the 5" to stop things getting to bright in the upper mids and then padding down the tweetertill it all smoothed out (if at all!)But now it looks like these clonesmay not be anything like the originals and I could be on a wild goose chase. Still as I say, apart from being a bit " shouty " in the upper mids they dont sound that bad! but then again I am the wrong side of 55and they old tin ear is beginning to take its toll.Incidently ,I emailed this CPC outfit and asked them for a response graph & surprise ,surprise the girl there says she will fax me one. If it looks anything like aKSN1038 Ill report back!

Subject: Re: KSN 1038 - "To" Buy Obsolete Products
Posted by dB on Tue, 21 Feb 2006 00:27:00 GMT
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Hi,I can show you a list of 6+ websites (a ring, because they are all connected) distributors in Europe and World with parts made in China (and others) as an example. The graphics they show are "can't read" frequency response graphics that were originaly furnished by Motorola (or just copied). You are losing time. I give you an example to buy 15.000 of that such items from.Buy Obsolete Products here(http://www.freescale.com/webapp/sps/site/overview.jsp?nodeId=01098400786959705928692666 1)another (one) example of this service in Europe(http://www.vdmais.kiev.ua/about_E.asp)I prefer to stay with an old style cone tweeter from West Germany, that you can find the curves for (some don't).RTO cone tweeter here (http://www.elfa.se/elfa-bin/setpage.pl?http://www.elfa.se/elfa-bin/dyndok.pl?lang=en&vat=0&dok=9752.htm)Best Regards

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Subject: Re: piezos
Posted by Kim Schultz on Wed, 22 Feb 2006 08:34:50 GMT
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Check out these measurements I made of some different piezo a while back.The MPT-100 is a KSN-1038 clone, and as you can see, it isn´t as smooth.BTW, the KSN-1177 is still my overall favorite, I think it sound more natural than the KSN-1038.

Subject: Re: piezos 1177
Posted by dB on Wed, 22 Feb 2006 11:17:09 GMT
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Hi,Maybe the parts, materials and engineering are better. (or just copies are not so bad if a clone)Regards.

Subject: Re: piezos 1177
Posted by Kim Schultz on Thu, 23 Feb 2006 06:39:21 GMT
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No, the KSN-1177 is not a copy, it´s a genuine CTS part.The copy of that would be MPT-177, and I haven´t tried that one.There is some obvious differences between the KSN-1038 and the copy MPT-100 frame (see picture)The copy doesn´t have the same quality to the material, and the horn is a bit longer. RegardsKim

Subject: Re: KSN 1038 - "To" Buy Obsolete Products
Posted by Bill Thornton on Fri, 24 Feb 2006 13:28:32 GMT
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Yes ive just about given up and Ive told them (comet) that there getting these things back.But Ive decided to stick with piezos and have changed to the 1165 since Ive discovered that its a wide dispersion job45deg in both planes. In this situation where the speakers have to be hung on rods high up in the corners of the room there may be a distinct advantage to using them. after all frequency response off axis is a joke in most tweeters ,even expensive ones.Incidentely I can get these kn1165 sourced from Monacor I believe for 3.00 Pounds each locally.wish me luck.

Subject: Re: KSN 1038 - "To" Buy Obsolete Products
Posted by Bill Thornton on Sat, 25 Feb 2006 22:44:18 GMT
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Ive just had a further email from CPC (Farnell group - quality component supplier If I remember rightly)to say ,I must paraphrase here as Corporate lawyers forbid me to post what they actually sent!!, thatMotorola no longer manufacture Piezos but that CTS do and use the factories and plant -ex motorola. Their catalogue will be amended in the next addition (august 2006) to reflect this change but the product willbe manufactured to the same specification as the original KSN1038.I must have done some good then !!! Hah Ha seen any pigs aloft lately?