

Music From The Ether

MK-1 vers. 2.0

The MK-1 is by far one of the most successful DIY theremin designs out there. Unfortunately, in it's present incarnation it has become quite challenging to build owing to an increasing lack of availability of components such as ceramic compression trimmers in values usable for the tuning range of the oscillators, terminal strips, and especially passive components with long enough leads suitable for point to point wiring. There was also a problem with the original oscillator chassis dimensions in that it was too deep to fit on the oscillator shelf of an RCA AR-1264 style replica cabinet with enough space on the shelf to mount the aerial coils. Last but not least, many potential hobbyist builders who are perfectly at ease building an electronic kit with a printed circuit board are intimidated with the complexity of doing point to point hand wiring under a metal chassis.

Yea, I dig the "old school" point to point wiring as much as the next guy as it hearkens back to a time when there was a pride of craftsmanship amongst the manufacturers of electronic products, but so much for the warm fuzzy feeling of nostalgia. If we were to continue to keep this design alive it became necessary to do the obvious and design modern printed circuit boards to supplant the old style point to point wiring and using modern production components that are widely available from any of the major electronic supply houses. We also redesigned both the oscillator chassis and the power supply/audio amp chassis to accommodate the accessibility of the board mounted adjustment points on the oscillator chassis as well as redimensioning the oscillator chassis to accommodate the mounting of the aerial coils on the oscillator shelf. In addition to the new PC board set, we continue to offer our complete line-up of blank chassis sets, coils sets, and aerial sets. We also have available several "package deals" for builders which will provide a fair price reduction over the purchase of the separate individual parts. We hope that with these new refinements we have made it possible for most anyone who knows which end of a soldering iron to pick up will be able to DIY their own high quality tube theremin and keep the MK-1 design viable well into the future.

DISCLAIMER

(Otherwise known as legal stuff the lawyer made me tell you.)

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