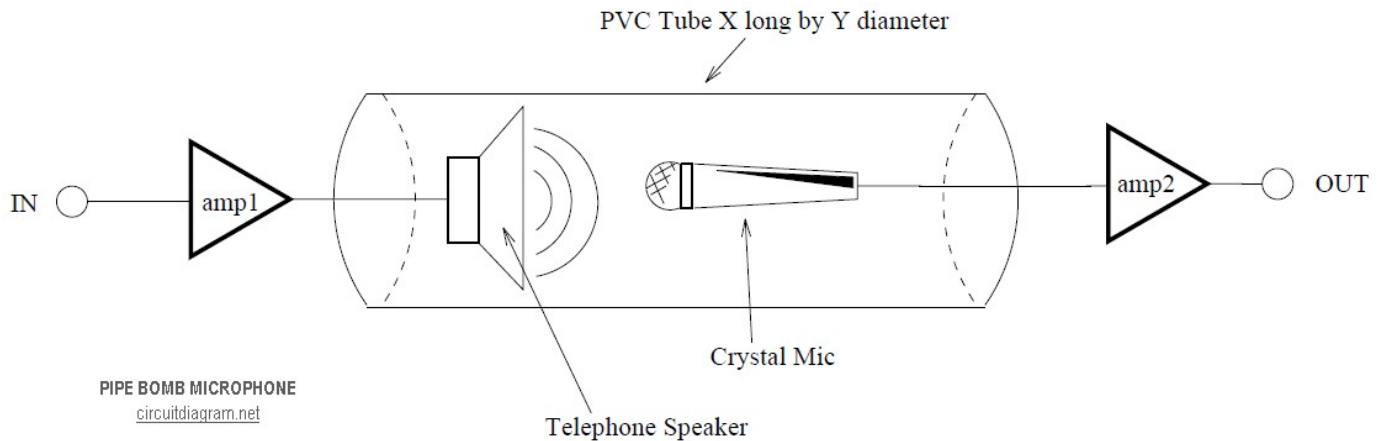


Pipe Bomb Microphone

Here the Pipe Bomb Microphone construction, designed by Jamie Heilman.

My own specifications for my prototype are X= 36cm, Y= 5.5cm. This imparted a quite high pitch tone but I prefer it.



The X and Y dimensions should be played with to generate the exact tone your seeking, also I chose a telephone speaker along with a crystal mic so I got the funkiest tone I could think of. A dynamic mic would limit the treble somewhat most likely make it sound less harsh. I'd be thinking about any mods made to this design (ie. stories, suggestions, etc.) so really feel free to e mail me.

The amps could be any old common op-amp construction that could drive a speaker or take a microphone input. I just made use of some surplus material I'd lying around to build mine. The finished object had all the circuitry inside the tube and the power supply on the outside, with one control for the gain of the speaker (microphone was at fixed gain).

Note, if you locate this in front of the amplifier and turn every thing up, without adding any dampening towards the pipe, it is going to feedback just like you won't imagine! You'll most likely wish to avoid this because it tends to hurt your ears. I put a bit of foam rubber in one end of the pipe and an old sock in the other to dampen feedback. I like to leave my alternatives open though, so I also didn't make this a permanent addition. My prototype is essentially a fuzz, as my guitar will overload the speaker quite easily and the tube just adds a bit of strange overtone and what I swear will be the smallest hint of reverb. Sounds wonderful though! Clean tones by way of a related set up would sound good too, but I haven't constructed one of those yet. Perhaps a larger speaker (4-5") and an old carpet pipe would probably add better characteristics for clean tones. Try altering the tube material also for a different tone, I almost used a little bit of gutter piping when I first made this, right now I wonder what it would've sounded like.