

Cakepan Chassis

Have your cake and chassis, too!

By Ken Bird

Building tube amplifiers has always required a good sturdy chassis to handle the heavy transformers and necessary drilling and hole punching for tube sockets and other components. The solution was always a Bud or Hammond chassis from the local parts jobber or mail-order house. Electronic parts jobbers have gone the way of the steam

locomotive, while mail order is more expensive.

I found an ideal source of aluminum chassis at www.wilton.com, which is a supplier of baking accessories for cake baking professionals and home based cake decorators. Their line of square baking pans, which are perfect for even the largest power amplifier chassis, is sold through local dealers found in most cit-

ies, and the variety of sizes will meet your most demanding chassis needs. These units are made of heavy $\frac{1}{16}$ aluminum construction but punch and drill easily, and have flanges for attaching bottom covers or feet if desired. After cleaning and applying a coat of auto primer, you can paint them or polish them to their natural finish. **Photo 1** shows two different sizes of the square pans in their "raw" format. **Photo 2** shows the amp chassis. The black chassis (left) is an 8" x 8" x 2" pan with a dual channel SE amp using a 6L6 in each output stage, and the "Red Hot Amp" (right) is built on a 12" x 12" x 3" and is a dual channel PP amp using a dual triode 6BX7 in the output stage. The pans offer a lot of real estate for the builder, and soon they will be baking up some good sound in my workshop. *aX*



PHOTO 1: Pans ready to be put to a good use.



PHOTO 2: Amp chassis.



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