

**Piezo Disks, Audio Schematics and a Condenser Mic: you are getting this page for the download because <http://www.lemurie.cz> has made a direct link to my material at that website. Notice that my site has no ads. I have asked them to change their site - they have not. So, navigate to [www.west.asu.edu/rlerman](http://www.west.asu.edu/rlerman) or [www.sonicjourneys.com](http://www.sonicjourneys.com).**

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The schematics and diagrams here are provide the basis for sonic investigations using piezo disks and mics along with the construction of practical preamps and flexible compact audio mixers.

The diagram for making a 'plinky' describes the process for soldiering a piezo disk and attaching to it harpsichord wire which when plucked or heated will release an astonishing array of sounds. By choosing to not attach the small pieces of harpsichord wire to the disks, one will make a very sensitive contact microphone.

Piezo disks are available for many sources and have the virtue of being inexpensive, rugged and sensitive. They are incredible contact devices--they're use is limited only by imagination, and ingenuity. They may be taped to any surface--use care when attaching to instruments so as not to damage finished surfaces.

I have used them for more than thirty years to amplify (in live performances) and/or to record:

- |                                |                                 |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| automobile antennae            | raindrops                       |
| bamboo                         | plants                          |
| barbed wire fences             | skateboards                     |
| bowed bamboo tubes             | slinkys                         |
| bicycle wheels                 | snowfall on grass mats          |
| boat gunwales                  | spider webs                     |
| bridges                        | toys                            |
| burning adhesive on metal tape | trees                           |
| cactus thorns                  | tuning forks through steel wire |
| credit cards                   | voices through paper etc        |

The condenser Microphone is small, fairly rugged and good for putting inside of small objects, guitars, violins, etc. When using them inside of instruments, I strongly advise to keep the levels low--just a bit above line level can be very effective. The diagrams and schematics may be freely shared. I would appreciate the acknowledgment when they have proven useful.

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