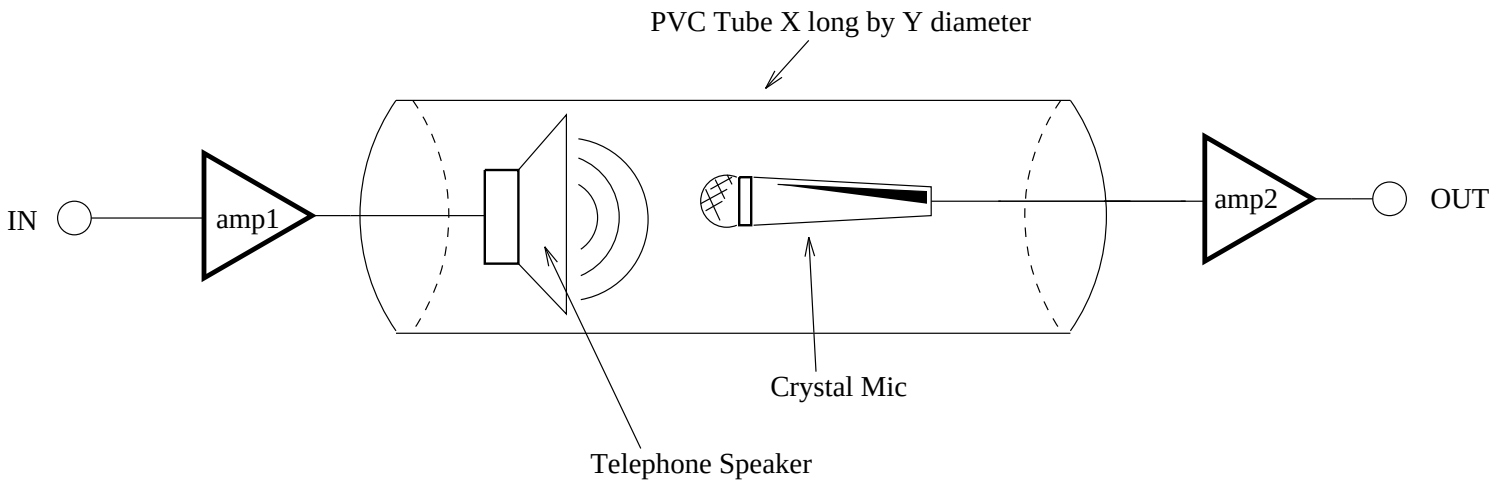
THE PIPE BOMB



My dimensions for my prototype are X= 36cm, Y= 5.5cm. This imparted a pretty high pitch tone but I like it. The X and Y dimensions should be played with to create the exact tone your looking for, also I chose a telephone speaker and a crystal mic so I got the funkiest tone I could think of. A dynamic mic would limit the trebel somewhat probably make it sound less harsh. I'd be interested in any mods made to this design (ie. stories, ideas, etc.) so feel free to email me. The amps can be any old simple op-amp configuration that can drive a speaker or take a mic input. I just used some surplus stuff I had lying around to make mine. The end product had all the circuitry inside the tube and the battery on the outside, with one control for the gain of the speaker (mic was at fixed gain). Note, if you place this infront of your amp and turn every thing up, without adding any dampening to the tube it will feedback like you wont believe! You will probably wish to avoid this as it tends to hurt your ears. I put a bit of foam rubber in one end of the tube and an old sock in the other to dampen feedback. I like to leave my options open though, so I also didn't make this a permanent addition. My prototype is basically 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 is the tiniest hint of reverb. Sounds great though! Clean tones through a similar set up would sound good too, but I haven't built one of those yet. Perhaps a larger speaker (4-5") and an old carpet tube would add better characteristics for clean tones. Try changing the tube matierial also for a different tone, I almost used a bit of gutter piping when I first built this, now I wonder what it would've sounded like.

Jamie Heilman 11/93
n9343176@cc.wwu.edu