

AURAL PLEASURE...

...begins with a quiet car. If you're the type who likes to LISTEN to music, rather than be assaulted by it, you'll need to shut out road and engine noise. A couple of pieces of brown bread will do the trick.

VERBALS & VISUALS: SCOTT MASSENGILL

So you've got the car looking good,

driving good, and now you want it to sound good. Not a problem. Just choose some of the best gear on the market and slam it in, right? Sure, you could do that, but it'd be a bit like throwing on a turbo without upgrading your engine's internals. It'll work, but think how much better it COULD be with forged pistons, high compression head gasket... you get the idea.

Likewise, music will sound great if you put together the right components. But part of hearing your music better involves blocking out the ambient noise

provided by your engine, your tires and the road. So before you go dropping big coin on an audio system, start with some sound dampening.

We ordered up some Brown Bread material from our Canadian neighbors, B-Quiet. Funny name, but this stuff works. We applied it to our Onyx Mobile Audio Project Civic hatch and were very happy with the results. For less than 20 pounds of extra weight, we've got more defined mid-bass, better imaging, more SPL (sound pressure level) and best of all, no rattles. Here's how we did it:



Here's what the stuff arrives in. Just a simple tube of sound eatin' bread love.



1. Start out by thoroughly cleaning the areas where the mat will be applied. We used DuPont Prep-Sol, but any good cleaner/degreaser will work fine.



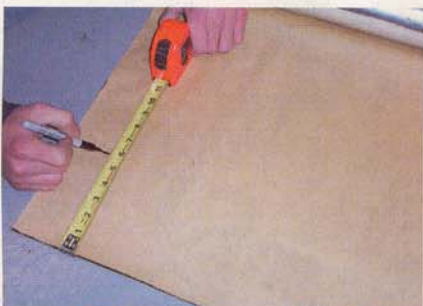
2. One of the most important and overlooked steps is getting things cleaned and prepped.



3. Check out how dirty these panels were.



4. The outer door skin seemed like a good place to start, so we made a few measurements.



5. We then transferred those measurements to the Brown Bread and carefully cut the material with a razor knife using a yardstick as a guide.



6. After we cut our pieces, we removed the backing to expose the adhesive and applied it to the outer door skin. To our surprise, we needed no heat to activate the glue. This stuff is really sticky.



7. We also applied a larger piece in the rear section of the door to help gain some much needed mid-bass.



8. The tranny tunnel is another trouble area. Rather than remove the factory material, we laid the Brown Bread over the top of it and doubled it up.



9. The rear strut tower, quarter panel, and inner fenderwell were next on our list. This step alone will help gain some SPL.



10. We applied the Brown Bread to the outer quarter panel skin, the inner fenderwell, and the strut tower itself. This made a huge difference considering Honda all but forgot about these very noisy areas.



11. When the subs were turned up, the whole back of this Civic rattled like crazy. We couldn't deal and started by removing the clips that held the wiring harness in place. To help keep track of the holes, make a template out of paper (we used the backing off the Brown Bread) and poke out the holes with a screwdriver.



12. After applying the mat (which once again required no heat) we marked the location of the holes, pressed them out and re-installed the wiring harness. Notice the holes that had been drilled in the spare tire well. Rather than apply more mat and add unnecessary weight, we filled them with silicone to keep water from getting in and damaging anything.



13. Last but not least, we dampened the back of the license plate. If you have subs in your car, the plate is probably making all kinds of noise. If you're going to annoy old ladies, do it with your subs and exhaust, not your rattling ass plate! 'Nuff said.

connect

B-QUIET
306/737-0099
www.b-quiet.com

ONYX MOBILE AUDIO
219/322-8602
www.onyxmobileaudio.com