
Rack For Using OT and A4 Live

Posted by cykranosh - 2013/02/27 09:53

I was thinking of getting a 10x4 rack (10 angled top and 4 front) case for using my Elektron boxes live (for easy travel).

<http://www.sweetwater.com/images/items/350/GRC10x4.jpg>

<http://www.sweetwater.com/store/detail/GRC10x4/>

Throw the Analog Four and Octatrack up top with 1U rack space between and 1U at the back (for cables).

Putting a power conditioner, MKS50 and vocoder the front spaces.

I'll be running the A4 into OT Inputs AB, MKS50 into the vocoder carrier in, vocoder into OT Input C and a keyboard into OT Input D.

I'll be running a stereo pair from the OT into a mixer, a midi cable from a thru box (from OT Midi Out) to my bandmates setup and the power cable from the power conditioner.

It's got to be better than this:

http://elektron-users.com/images/fbfiles/images/IMG_2861.JPG

Anyone have any sage advice, horror stories or general feedback on this possible setup?

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Re:Rack For Using OT and A4 Live

Posted by skab - 2013/02/27 10:47

I've been eyeing up the SKB Mighty GigRig.

<http://www.skbcases.com/music/products/proddetail.php?f=&id=217&offset=1&c=80&s=80>

It has 14U of horizontal and 4U of vertical with another optional 6U at the back. I was thinking of getting a 2U sliding tray to hold all my FX boxes in the vertical rack along with a power conditioner and maybe a midi patchbay. Not cheap tho :(

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Re:Rack For Using OT and A4 Live

Posted by cykranosh - 2013/02/27 11:23

Man, that GigRig looks awesome! But, \$550? I ... wonder if I could pull that off?

http://elektron-users.com/images/fbfiles/images/sku_view_image.jpg

Throw that on top of a table and be good to go. Though, I wonder about those casters? It looks like that bottom section with the casters come off?

But, \$550? :(

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Re:Rack For Using OT and A4 Live

Posted by skab - 2013/02/27 12:15

According to the blurb the cover can be fitted underneath to raise the whole thing up. I think the casters lock too. Yeah, but \$550..... Time to put in an eBay alert? ;)

Re:Rack For Using OT and A4 Live

Posted by cosmosuave - 2013/02/27 22:07

This is my rig that I use for studio and live, only drawback heavy... It may be big for your use but you should look for a rack with a slide out tray to put the OT and A4 on top section you could install a mixer and below the tray your MKS 50... Road case cost me \$440 cdn and they do custom work... BTW the case is sitting on top of a chopped rack when placed on a table for live use it is perfect height none of this hunched over shit while you play... I don't know how people can perform like that...

Rig contents...

AH mixer
RNC comp
Mbase01
Darktime
Midi Solutions thrubox
MDUW
DP/4
MKS30
Darkenergy 2x

http://cosmosuave.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/studio_cockpit.jpg

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Re:Rack For Using OT and A4 Live

Posted by udenjoe - 2013/02/27 22:52

http://store.roadreadycases.com/dyn_prodlst.php?n=0&k=154310

A friend uses road ready for one of his turntables. The case and latches are solid.

I must admit I've fallen in love with the case over the years. I set everything up when we DJ.

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Re:Rack For Using OT and A4 Live

Posted by cykranosh - 2013/02/28 06:49

Hunched over for hours? Yeah, I'd die! :laugh: I have a screwed up back, so that's part of the reason I was looking for a raised up angle case so I could stand up straight and still see what I'm doing.

How sturdy are the rack trays? Like, if I were to lean on it, would I be worried about it breaking? I guess I should go over to the Guitar Center and try to break one of their display models to see! lol

No sure how much we're going to be touching the mixer. I'm doing most of my volume control from the OT and A4 and my bandmate is doing his from the MnM. But, having it up and front like that might actually get me to use it more than just "plug it in, set the level and call it good."

Those roadready cases looks legit! The 10x4 look way more sturdy than the Gator one.

http://store.roadreadycases.com/dimg/thm/t400_d9a9713089f8819ba40223f58de51002.jpg

I wish Sweetwater carrier that brand, so I could pull the trigger on that (and some other needed things) with their power-of-satan-ez-pay-system.

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Re:Rack For Using OT and A4 Live

Posted by cosmosuave - 2013/02/28 22:59

With the mixer you can run the individual outs of the OT and A4 for more control... Plus add out board fx box and your gold baby... With it all in a case you just plug and play...

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Re:Rack For Using OT and A4 Live

Posted by skab - 2013/03/01 00:34

<http://www.123dj.com/cases/racks/123djthrs6u.html>

Looks tasty. Don't know about the build quality tho.

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Re:Rack For Using OT and A4 Live

Posted by TrondC - 2013/03/01 01:06

after too many shows performed with a heavy back angle I'm always bringing the original boxes that the elektron gear came with to elevate, as it seems that almost every table that you get for playing live on is not the right height. Been ages since I've done a live now, but next time I'm bringing out the pro-modular two.tier enc cheeks, it only takes a minute to mount the machines in their slots, but I would not transport them fully assembled...

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Re:Rack For Using OT and A4 Live

Posted by cykranosh - 2013/03/02 05:33

Decided to go for the SKB R106. It's cheaper, looks sturdier (and less ugly), about the same height, has two more rack spaces and I could actually find reviews online. Whether it's good or terrible, I'll definitely update here, in case someone else is looking later.

<http://www.buyfromchucks.com/images/products/large/1SKB-R106.jpg>

I had to order rack ears direct from Elektron, as Sweetwater and all the other retailers I looked at (while on my lunch break, lol) were either sold out or had horrendously long shipping estimates.

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Re:Rack For Using OT and A4 Live

Posted by we88 - 2013/03/02 14:29

I'd keep away from the Gator one. I had that exact same one and it never felt totally stable and the handle fell off in my hands once

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Re:Rack For Using OT and A4 Live

Posted by 11brassmonkey11 - 2013/03/07 18:26

That one looks great! I used SKB cases for my drums, always found them second to none, better than the gator cases I used too.

Keen to hear your views on it if you get time. I'm interested using something like this in the studio to sit on a table. :)

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Re:Rack For Using OT and A4 Live

Posted by cykranosh - 2013/03/09 15:16

Got the rack in today! But, still waiting on rack ears. :/ I ordered two sets (direct from Elektron) of the black ones on Friday and they shipped Tuesday morning. My roommate ordered (also directly from Elektron) a grey set on Tuesday night. His arrived today ... only it was a single black set. :(I was hoping my Friday was going to be racking up gear, instead I was forced to take solace in beer. :D

I will give it one thing, it's xbox huge!

http://elektron-users.com/images/fbfiles/images/IMG_2933.JPG

Once I get my rack ears in, I'll post a real review.

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Re:Rack For Using OT and A4 Live

Posted by cosmosuave - 2013/03/10 01:34

Needs some stickers... Elektron how come no stickers with gear purchases?

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Re:Rack For Using OT and A4 Live

Posted by cykranosh - 2013/03/11 06:02

On a related note, while looking for a video showcasing the hihats from the Machinedrum (trying to decide if I want that, a Vermona DRM1 or a Waldorf Rack Attack ... or something else?). I found this video of someone having a very similar setup to what I'm planning on having whenever my rack ears get here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WZrvne5vw7Q>

And a video of him actually using this setup:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TOqRjU2sRJQ>

I'm hoping the laptop shelf (AV8) can hold, and is the right height for, my minibrute. That would make life better.

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Re:Rack For Using OT and A4 Live

Posted by sugarratz - 2013/03/11 09:35

he has a nice set up right? does yours have that lower shelf? i might want one of these too

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Re:Rack For Using OT and A4 Live

Posted by cykranosh - 2013/03/12 08:40

sugarratz wrote:

does yours have that lower shelf? i might want one of these too

I have the 6U on bottom version. But, most of that is already spoken for (power conditioner, vocoder and MKS-50). I have 2U to play with (thinking either a chorus for the vocoder or another synth) and a rack shelf was going to be too shallow for anything fun, I think. I did get the laptop top shelf, which I'm going to put my MiniBrute on, I just hope it's stable enough for my aggressive aftertouch abuse. :D Thinking about getting a Machinedrum and putting it up there?

Still no sign of my rack ears. :angry: Can't really put this thing together without those. I'm a little annoyed that my roommate ordered after mine shipped and his got here first (they sent the wrong color and he ordered only one set, but, whatever).

Re:Rack For Using OT and A4 Live

Posted by heckadecimal - 2013/03/12 22:02

I had the Gator one. It was fine for what it was, seemed sturdy to me, but it still involved a lot of leaning over and I have a bad back too.

Re:Rack For Using OT and A4 Live

Posted by cykranosh - 2013/03/14 01:40

Got my rack ears yesterday and put everything together last night. Haven't turned it on yet. Once I get some use, I'll post my review of the rack.

<http://elektron-users.com/images/fbfiles/images/rack.jpg>

While moving it, I found that it's too heavy and large to carry it myself (due to back and arm injuries). My roommate lifted it fine, but remarked that it's pretty unwieldy and definitely a two person or hand truck item. It's really front heavy when closed up.

Re:Rack For Using OT and A4 Live

Posted by skab - 2013/03/14 04:14

That looks great!!

How about a trolley for moving it to gigs?

Re:Rack For Using OT and A4 Live

Posted by cosmosuave - 2013/03/14 20:14

I bought a fold up dolly for mine... Works like a charm. . What are you doing for cable management?

Re:Rack For Using OT and A4 Live

Posted by cykranosh - 2013/03/15 06:39

I've got a heavy-duty hand truck (that's horrid yellow! totally matches the MicroQ) for carting around everything. My old boss borrowed it for playing some SXSW gigs and got it back today. Good to go there.

For cable management, I'm just using super cheap zip ties I got from newegg or fry's or somewhere. I tested them out as far as removing them goes, and a razor slices right through them. I wouldn't use heavier duty zip ties, it'd be overkill and cutting them that close to cables is not great.

I'm kinda stuck on what to do about the power bricks and the midi thru box. I don't want to put in velcro or double-sided tape, but, I also don't want them floating around all willy-nilly.

I've been busy and haven't had time to try out this setup (before I play live with it in two days ... dumb idea). But, tonight should be non-stop til I pass out. I'll have a better review tomorrow or Sunday (after the show).

Re:Rack For Using OT and A4 Live

Posted by anselmi - 2013/03/15 14:01

cykranosh wrote:

<http://elektron-users.com/images/fbfiles/images/rack.jpg>

this glass of beer makes me extremely nervous....dry:

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Re:Rack For Using OT and A4 Live

Posted by skab - 2013/03/15 14:46

Elektron-fu..

<http://elektron-users.com/images/fbfiles/images/image-a130d85894715f51eb8f3e4786371469.jpg>

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Re:Rack For Using OT and A4 Live

Posted by sugarratz - 2013/03/15 19:45

i always wanted a combo case with its own bar great thinking!

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Re:Rack For Using OT and A4 Live

Posted by Tarekith - 2013/03/15 22:33

What about the audio cables for the A4? Looks like there's no room to plug those in?

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Re:Rack For Using OT and A4 Live

Posted by poonti - 2013/03/15 22:48

skab wrote:

Elektron-fu..

<http://elektron-users.com/images/fbfiles/images/image-a130d85894715f51eb8f3e4786371469.jpg>

http://elektron-users.com/images/fbfiles/images/kb2_17.jpg

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Re:Rack For Using OT and A4 Live

Posted by cosmosuave - 2013/03/15 22:54

Fir cable mgmt I used this stuff and it is great... Got the idea from Tarekith... Tje link is from Canada but you should find something in the states... Also amother site I love for misc stuff

dealextreme.com

Cabke wrap <http://www.cabletiesandmore.ca/SpiralWrap.php>

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Re:Rack For Using OT and A4 Live

Posted by cykranosh - 2013/03/16 02:48

Tarekith wrote:

What about the audio cables for the A4? Looks like there's no room to plug those in?

I put the rack ears on the Octatrack on upside down so that it would sit high up off the rack face and I could put it right next to the Analog Four. I did that so that I could easily reach both trig sets for muting.

http://elektron-users.com/images/fbfiles/images/IMG_2975.JPG

What I shouldn't have done, after plugging everything in and realizing it, was buy angled cabled. I had originally planned on putting both flat and leaving 1U between them, in which angled cables would have been legit. But, after finding it was too far apart, I rethought my layout and decided on the staggered approach. I can get my hands in there for the knobs on the A4, even with it being butted up against the OT. So, far me, this layout is great.

sugarratz wrote:

i always wanted a combo case with its own bar great thinking!

anselmi wrote:

this glass of beer makes me extremely nervous....dry:

I was so paranoid with that beer sitting on the rack. :D I carefully put it up there, took the picture and carefully took it off. Worst idea ever!

skab wrote:

Elektron-fu..

<http://elektron-users.com/images/fbfiles/images/image-a130d85894715f51eb8f3e4786371469.jpg>

SECRET TECHNIQUE IS SECRET! I studied for years to be shown such a safely guarded technique!

<https://dl.dropbox.com/u/581070/Photo%20Mar%2015%2C%202%2046%2044%20PM.jpg>

cosmosuave wrote:

Fir cable mgmt I used this stuff and it is great... Got the idea from Tarekith... Tje link is from Canada but you should find something in the states... Cabke wrap <http://www.cabletiesandmore.ca/SpiralWrap.php>

Yeah, that'd definitely have been the better option. I don't like the "permanence" and wastefulness of zip ties. But, it's what I had on hand.

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Re:Rack For Using OT and A4 Live

Posted by cykranosh - 2013/03/17 23:59

Played live with the rack last night. Here is my review-type thing.

The bad:

Because of the layout of everything in the case. it's really front heavy. So while carrying it by the handles, it has to also be held to make sure it doesn't tip forward and become more unwieldy. It also weighs a ton. My bandmate picked up a 10Ux4U "Road Runner" case (the Guitar Center knockoff of Road Ready), which is made of wood, had a power amp in it (and a power conditioner and a Monomachine and an MS2000), and that felt lighter and more manageable. Don't be fooled by the plastic!

The neutral:

We have three angled rack over front rack "mixer" racks. One is my setup, one is my bandmate's setup and one is the mixer. We take up an entire 6' table in just rack gear (the table is too big to have either of our trunk lids close, so a shorter table is needed for "legal" reasons ... but we couldn't fit our gear on a shorter table). That doesn't even include keyboards, mic stands or guitar stands. So, from what I've personally seen and what I've read, we're gonna have too much gear for a standard "just shove the DJ in the corner" kinda setup. We're using more room than when we had everything out on the table, but, it takes almost no time to setup and there is no rat's nest of cables.

The good:

Obviously, setup was insanely quick. Open up the back, feed a few cables out each side's cable ports and plug them in.

Done. Other than stands, a keyboard and a mic, it was all "in the box." Once we decided to pack up, we had everything back in our cars in about 15 minutes. We fit all three racks (and some stands and other random things) in my Focus hatchback. Put the 6' table and pa speakers in my bandmate's focus hatchback. Two small cars and good to go!

The fantastic:

The SKB rack is sturdy as all hell! I was leaning on it pretty heavily during both sets (more so on the second set, as I was rather tired). It always felt sturdy (and I'm not a small guy). The 10U over 6U was the perfect height! Not too tall and to make my arms tired and not too short as to have me bent over all show. I'm 6' and the table the rack was on is about 3' and I had no problems, but, my bandmate is 6'3" and has several inches shorter rack and had no problems. So, I guess as long as the gear is at least a foot above the table height, good to go.

The staggered Elektrons:

I had zero problem with this setup. I had all the access I needed to the knobs on the Analog Four, with was butted up next to the front side of the Octatrack. The OT didn't feel strange being about an inch above the A4. Really easy to use setup like that.

If anyone has any questions, I'll answer them. Seriously, I recommend a case like the. It's one of the best non-instrument music gear purchases I've ever made.

http://elektron-users.com/images/fbfiles/images/IMG_3098.JPG

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Re:Rack For Using OT and A4 Live

Posted by sugarratz - 2013/04/16 20:19

got it now and everythings plumbed in
i love this box http://www.elektron-users.com/images/fbfiles/images/IMG_0399-3d7a6b198db7dffd8d3548314cf45f0.jpg

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Re:Rack For Using OT and A4 Live

Posted by MK7 - 2013/04/17 04:08

@sugarratz: what's the product. id of your rack please? looks like a good choice, more space for small machines than in the skb r106 rack, except when installing additional pull-out rails etc.

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Re:Rack For Using OT and A4 Live

Posted by dimi3 - 2013/04/19 14:56

I put this together...

not a case but 2 device table top stand.

anodized aluminum.

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Re:Rack For Using OT and A4 Live

Posted by dimi3 - 2013/04/19 15:08

dimi3 wrote:
I put this together...

not a case but 2 device table top stand.

anodized aluminum.

some reason I could not upload the image in my first post...

http://elektron-users.com/images/fbfiles/images/dual_rack.jpg

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Re:Rack For Using OT and A4 Live

Posted by marcel videla - 2013/04/20 05:22

TrondC wrote:

after too many shows performed with a heavy back angle I'm always bringing the original boxes that the elektron gear came with to elevate, as it seems that almost every table that you get for playing live on is not the right height. Been ages since I've done a live now, but next time I'm bringing out the pro-modular two.tier enc cheeks, it only takes a minute to mount the machines in their slots, but I would not transport them fully assembled...

regarding the short tables.... one gig, a guy had some 1/2" PCV pipe and it was the right diameter to attach to the legs, so we cut (4) 8" length pieces. Within half a minute the table was at right height. So if you gig a lot where they have these 6ft tables, maybe can add some PVC pipe in your backpack. That shit cost like a dollar for one 10ft pipe, you'd only need 32"es....

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Re:Rack For Using OT and A4 Live

Posted by sugarratz - 2013/04/21 12:31

should have included this

Odyssey-FZGS1002-Flight-Zone-Glide-Style-Ata-Combo-Rack-10u-Top-Slant-2u-Vertical

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Re:Rack For Using OT and A4 Live

Posted by tiego - 2013/05/01 22:07

.Not exactly a rack system. Can have all wired up , ready to fold/unfold (need more angled jacks though)
need tiny fx unit now, like a good reverb delay unit, "pedal format"
any suggestion appreciated by the way (eventide excepted)

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Re:Rack For Using OT and A4 Live

Posted by tiego - 2013/05/01 22:12

aah image size again http://www.elektron-users.com/images/fbfiles/images/guncaseliverig_mini.JPG

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