

DRUID CREDENZA



SUMMERY [v1]



2004 - 2010

Druid Credenza was built to order. Only twenty pair were ever built. They look and sound amazing but required a sub for full scale music.

2004 - original Druid Credenza launched.

2007 - Druid Credenza Mk. 2 launched, incorporating nearly all the changes made in Druid Mk. IV.

HWD: 20" x 11" x 5" [51 x 30 x 13 cm]

Footprint: 12" x 8" [30.5 x 20.4 cm]

Weight: 26 pounds [11.5 kgs] each

[Marketing Notes Published 2007 @ Zu Audio]

Druid Credenza is designed for high fidelity home audio, office, and home theater use. It is a crossoverless, full-range single driver loudspeaker, complimented by a high output super-tweeter. They excel in dynamic realism, and are fully capable of recreating timing, tone, texture and natural stereophonic sound despite their space and size friendly design.

"It's not about audiophile agonizing. It's about living the dream of being surrounded by music anytime the mood strikes. It's about getting audio out of your hair, mind and sight to where it doesn't take over the house. To where it serves the inhabitants without ego or self importance. From hifi to high five. That's something you can actually live with; want to live with. It's exactly why the Druid Credenza is cool. As a smaller Druid, it goes new places; loses some bass; gains some apparent sparkle on the top; but otherwise paints with the same brush of course. Based on the lot we've previously penned on the Druid Mk. IV -- with two writers owning them at the time and weighing in -- this might be welcome news not just to our household. If so, what's your favorite color?" —Srajan, 6moons.com

For the full review please visit <http://www.6moons.com/audioreviews/zu11/credenza.html>

Because of the high efficiency of the Druid Credenza, and the very friendly 12 Ohm load it presents to the amplifier, users are able to explore a whole new world of amplifier possibilities. Inexpensive solid-state receivers will sound much better than expected on a pair of Druid Credenza speakers thanks to the easy 12 Ohm load; and with the Druid Credenza's high efficiency users of low powered amplifiers will have no problem mating with and driving them to very respectable levels; and as they also have high power capacity, those who really want to light up the house just need to match a solid 50 Watt or better—I'd recommend you do a bit of party-proofing before you light 'em up....

The Druid Credenza Mk2 builds on the original platform. Improvements in the musical quality of the Mk2 includes their ability to recreate recorded or engineered acoustic space. Reasons for the improvements in resolution are listed below. In addition, we also found a few ways to improve overall resolution and lower noise. Getting back to musical terms you can expect better articulation, and improved depth of space and texture, better contrast of tone and color, and a better sense of presence. We are confident you will be completely taken with the Druid Credenza and want you to try it for yourself, in your own home, and that's why we offer a full 60-day, 100% money back guarantee.



“Here’s something curious but valuable. Even more than 30 feet removed in the kitchen/living room, simply by leaving three hallway doors open, the sound remains remarkably convincing. It carries. I’m not sure why except that different speakers do this to very different degrees. Some sound very good in the room and seat for which you have aimed them but remain caged up in the room. Walk outside and the sound is instantly muffled and contained. Not here. That’s a nice side effect of the friendly credenza theme. You can walk the house and be about your non-audiophile business. You’ll still enjoy compelling tunes with good sound. In short, this is a music lover’s speaker for people to whom audio is stuff that does its job but otherwise is out of mind and certainly nothing to obsess about. To boot, the Druid Credenza’s unlimited finish options add a big artistic touch to become life-style accoutrements. That’s an oft underappreciated ingredient.

If you saw her smile, you’d get the Druid Credenza without reading farther. It’s got that Special Seal of Good Housekeeping Approval smack on the pointy phase-plug nose of its big happy driver. Even on lap-top flicks with black ensemble casts and their groovin’, fresh hip-hop, rap and funk soundtracks, the half-size Druids have enough bass balls -- with room lift I estimate an F3 of around 55Hz -- to telegraph the get-down party mood and put the moves on your pelvis. They don’t go lo-lo but are the antithesis of thin because as low as they do go, they do so with weight and fullness. That Itzhak Perlman comes across similarly convincing is testament to the fact that when harmonically developed tone, good microdynamics and superior time domain behavior join up, you can play anything. It’s when you add one of those ringy laser tweeters and lean plasticky mids that software selectivity becomes more and more vital. Then half the fun stuff in your CD library turns useless.

Again, people fi. It’s what the Druid Credenza is on about to deliver handsomely. It zuits. The full-size Druid hasn’t been in residence for too long to be certain. On an educated guess based on memory, the stumpy Druid seems just a bit more diffuse in the upper bass/lower mids while simultaneously more open on top. The latter could be pure psychoacoustics. Less bass makes the same treble seem more. Or the crossover values on the 1st-order tweeter hi-pass might have gotten slightly massaged. The former means it doesn’t slam as hard as the tall boy. In either case, personal ownership of first their Druid Mk.IV, then the Definition Mk.1.5, presently the Definition Pro -- with extensive accompanying reviews -- has unintentionally turned me into a quasi Zu spokesman. That’s all I’ll say on the DC subject then. Let some other guys chime in with their blow-by-blow accounts to spread it around. I’ll close with the obvious. Contented is the audiophile with the happy wife.” —Srajan, 6moons.com

For the full review please visit <http://www.6moons.com/audioreviews/zu11/credenza.html>



Druid Credenza Original vs Mk2 Changes and Features

Super-tweeter Changes:

Complete remanufacture of tweeter driver with the removal of all shims, gaskets and screws. Ferro-fluid is removed from voicecoil gap. Polyurethane bonding and the removal of all voids and shims on tweeter top-plate waveguide / voicecoil frame. Complete bonding of composite phenolic dome diaphragm suspension to driver top-plate. Repositioned / enhanced voicecoil / gap alignment. Dynamic alignment process of voicecoil and gap to ensure correct tone and shove (pre PU adhesive set). Reflow voicecoil lead-in pots with high quality lead-free silver bearing solder (RoHS). 0.5% or better matching for quality of tone and efficiency. 160 hours minimum factory burn-in post network termination.

Super-tweeter High Pass Network Changes:

Simple two component (Cs + Rs) network. Kimber Kap 1.0 uF now featured in place of the Solen based network. New top performing Mills resistor with revised values. Reduction of termination joints by two-thirds. Direct connection of capacitor, resistor, FastOn, via cold-forged and sealed termination. FastOn terminals are now terminated using the solderless Amp crimping process. Dramatic reduction of solder joints. In fact, the voicecoil lead-in pots are all that remain. 0.1% matching.

Full-range Driver Changes:

Improvement in cone and cone binders. Improved assembly tolerance. 0.5% or better matched pairs.

160 hours minimum factory burn-in, as we've been doing, but this time we kit and batch them to burn-in with the matched super-tweeter assembly. Also using some new music James selected for good, well rounded, musical appreciation.

Changes are the direct result of lessons learned with the research and engineering of our Zu / Denon phono pickup, like removing all possible voids and removing or controlling resonance on plates, we've created a dramatically improved tweeter. All the above listed tweeter changes reduce resonance by more than 30 dB comparatively and spread the Q by an octave; together changes also yield very tight batch tolerances—80% of the batch measuring within 2%.

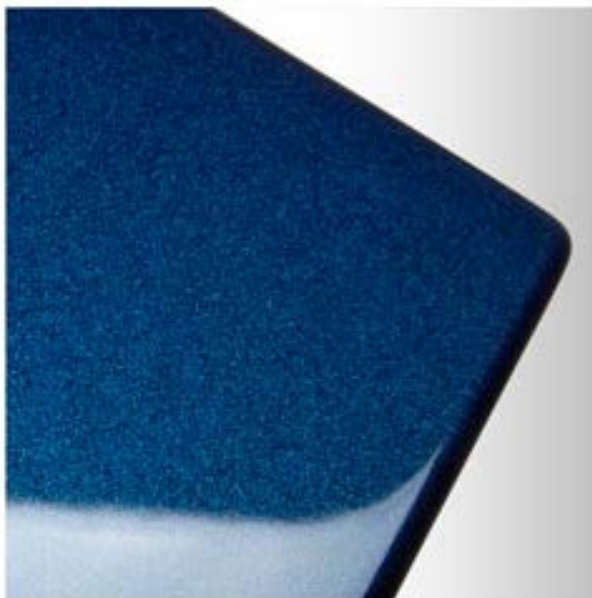
There are not a lot of changes to the full-range drivers, the majority of the improvements can be attributed to refined processes, batching, testing, matching, and QC to ensure identical sound between channels. These changes were not possible when we were doing small runs. Now that we are batching 100 units at a time, or greater, we are able to hit these pretty fantastic tolerances. We have also improved the binders used in the paper cone and now have about as consistent a product as can be had.

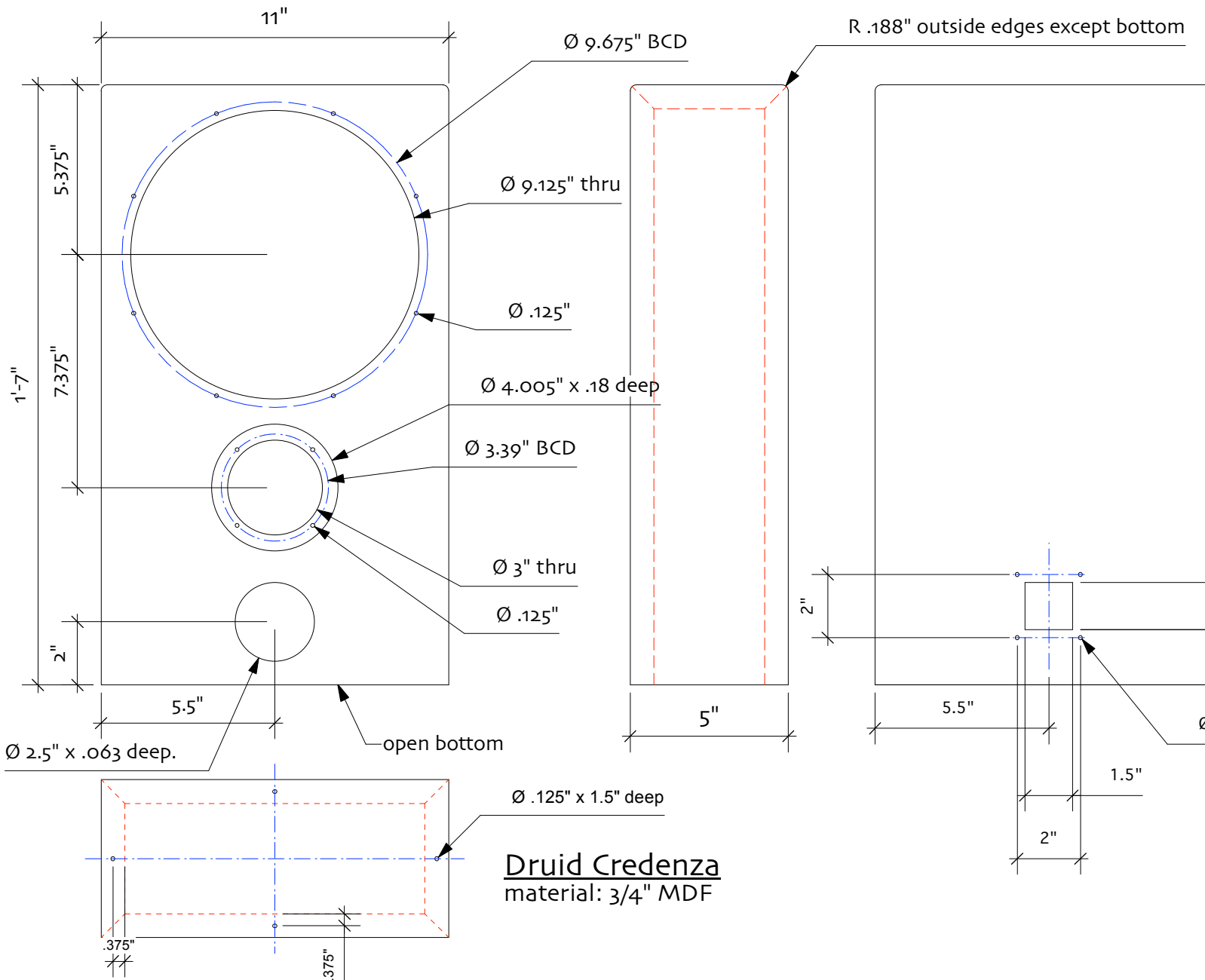
Druid Credenza Mk2 loudspeakers also feature CNC machined from billet aluminum 6061 super-tweeter lenses. 6061 billet aluminum driver reinforcing 1/4" deep trim rings. Machined from billet aluminum binding post plates, machined serial numbers, machined driver motor components and input lugs. Other features include our Zu B3 silver alloy internal cabling, cold forged terminations for the highest possible conductance and fidelity between interconnecting terminals; CNC machined cabinets featuring an MDF core and composite shell; and the highest quality finish and finish tolerance in the business. One look, or listen to a pair of Druid Credenza Mk2 loudspeakers will convince you that they are without question a world-class product made with the highest possible care—learning that they can be yours for a very approachable price is flat out bitchin.

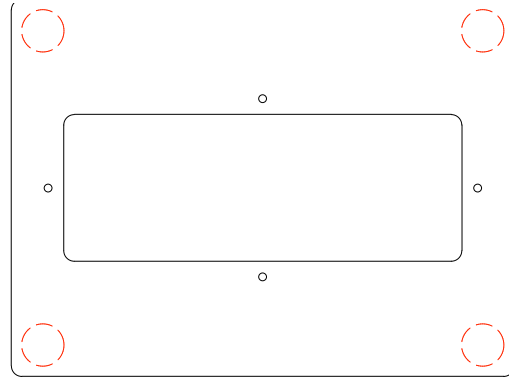
Manufactured by us in Ogden, Utah—USA. Like everything we do.



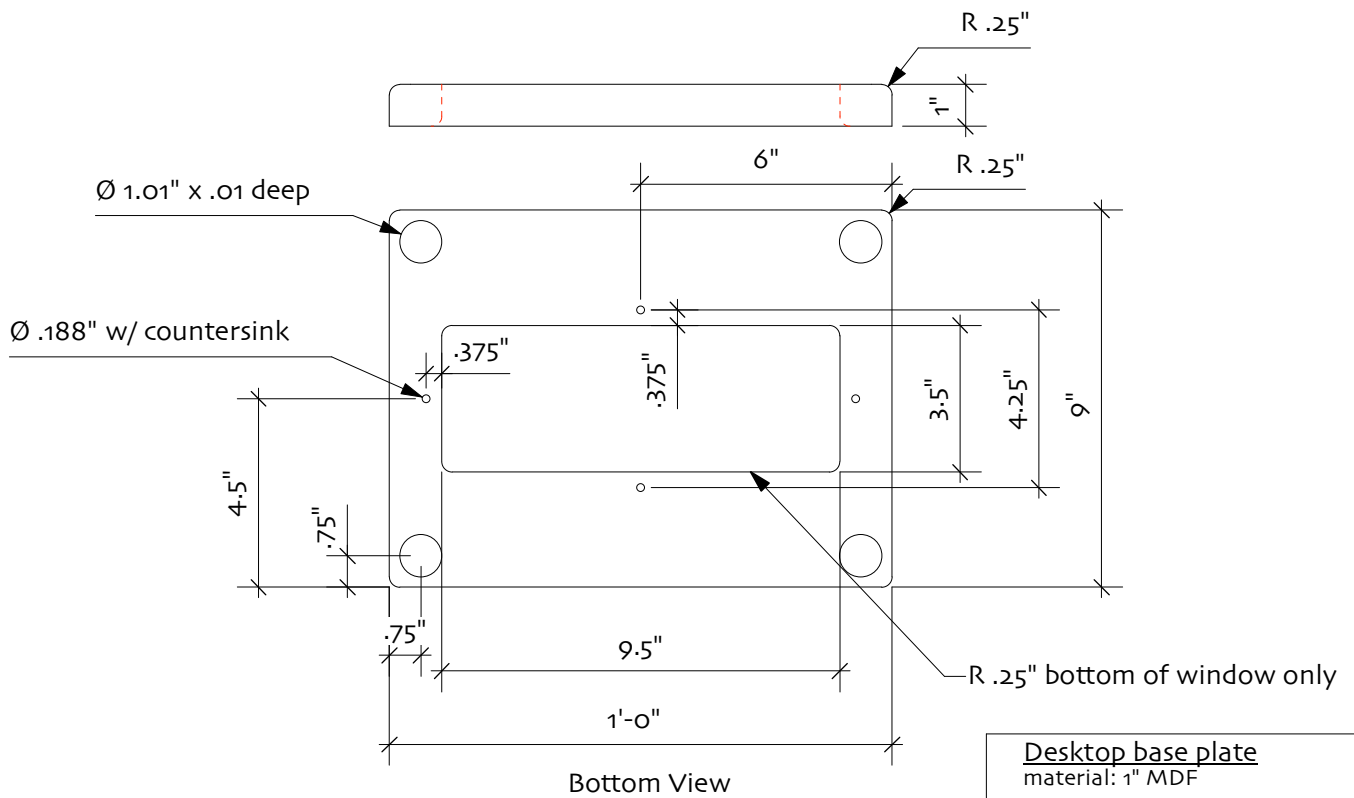








Top View



Bottom View



ZU AUDIO
Ogden, Utah, USA

DESIGNED AND MADE BY US