

**ELECTRONIC KITS**

**YEBO ELECTRONICS AV DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM**

# AV on a budget

**D**istributed audio and video is more than likely the future of A/V. This, as there aren't too many of us – and by 'us' I mean your typical audio and video fanatic – who can't appreciate the benefits of decent quality A/V being sent around our homes.

The two most common problems with distributing A/V are, firstly, to do it properly it's probably going to cost a packet, and number two, if you cut corners, quality suffers.

Yebo Electronics has recently released a solution that might just suit quite a few of us who want a simple distributed A/V system.

This solution comes in the form of their Kit90S/Kit91S A/V distribution system that comprises a main distribution amplifier (the 90S), a remote receiver (the 91S), a power supply, wall mount boxes for both receiver and transmitter, with the transmitter box large enough to fit two transmitter boards, and naturally all the PC boards and components required to complete the projects.

Okay, so now you know what you get, but what do the kits do?

What they do is to transmit stereo audio and video over Cat 5 cable – just like those expensive distribution systems – to up to three separate zones in your home. By using their own electronics and design, and making these available in kit form, you get a simple, distributed A/V system at the fraction of the price of name brands.

Before you even contemplate assembling an electronics kit you do need a few key pieces of equipment. You won't get anywhere without a good soldering iron – and my trusty Magnum temperature iron is one of the best investments I've made, a decent multi-meter (mine is auto ranging), some tools, and naturally good quality solder.

Assembling the two boards is reasonably simple.

Yebo supply good instructions that are simple to follow, the PC boards are well marked so there's no guessing where components mount, and even if you've forgotten what the colour bars on resistors stand for, all you need do is refer to the relevant instruction page.

You could of course do what I did, and this was to double-check each resistor on your metre before simply inserting and soldering them to the boards. This is a little time

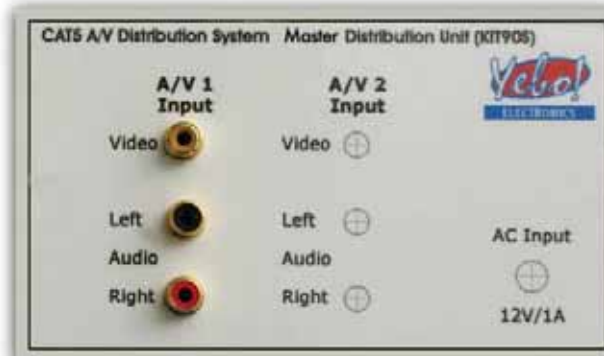
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**VERDICT**  
If you're handy with a soldering iron and you want to distribute audio and video to a few zones in your home, then this Yebo Electronics kit is for you.

**PRICE**  
Kit 90S Main distribution amplifier .....R399  
Kit 91S Extender Remote Unit .....R299

**SUPPLIED BY** Yebo Electronics  
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**WEBSITE** www.fort777.co.za



consuming, but I'd rather be sure now, than have to find and desolder a resistor later.

In all, populating and soldering the two PC boards took no more than a couple of hours – in my case spread over a few weekends – but you could probably complete the kits in one sitting.

As things turned out, my taking a long time to complete the Kits – and apologies here to Yebo for taking all this time – turned out to be a good thing.

The reason for this was that in between receiving and finishing the kits, I installed a video camera with built in microphone onto the outside wall of my house.

This camera used simple RCA connections for transmitting audio and video, but was supplied with only a few metres of cable. Knowing that I had the Yebo kit, I mounted the camera, cut off the RCA plugs, joined them to some Cat 5 cable that I ran through the ceiling, and finally used the plugs I'd cut off on the other end of the Cat 5 cable. These plugs were then connected to my television.

The resultant image was at best a little fuzzy, particularly when compared to image quality prior to attaching around 30 metres of cable. There was also a discernable reduction in audio level and probably quite a bit more noise too.

After completing the kits, and taking them past a friend of mine to check that I hadn't made too many mistakes – there were one or two – I returned home and began installing the transmitter close to the camera's connections.

Next I placed the receiver close to my television, attached the power supply to it (this can be by the way be connected to either transmitter or receiver) and plugged everything in.

Once set up, video and audio quality was markedly improved, and were probably just as good as they had been when I first tested the camera.

What this meant, was that I now essentially had a distributed A/V system in my home that was capable of delivering both audio and video with minimal loss.

Now you may remember that I said that you could connect three receivers to each transmitter. This meant that in my case, I could buy separate receivers and connect these to the single

transmitter. This would mean that I could display audio and video not only on my main television, but also on another in a separate rooms.

Overall, the Yebo Kit could be the solution for not only enthusiasts that want to add an extra zone or two to their homes, but could also be a cost effective answer to custom installers who want to get their clients in to Distributed A/V without having to install bigger (and admittedly fancier and with more zones) systems. An infra red option is under development too and when this arrives, it will add even more to system flexibility.

**Joel Kopping**