

Re: Audio Tachometer for 2 stroke engine

Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.electronics.design/2005-04/msg04784.html>

- *From:* John Larkin <jlarkin@xx>
 - *Date:* Tue, 26 Apr 2005 09:49:41 -0700
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On 24 Apr 2005 09:59:04 -0700, "BobG" <bobgardner@xxxxxxx> wrote:

>Oh you old guys are just full of crap. A 50 cent electret mic in a
>plastic bag and an opamp preamp into an edge detect on a pic would work
>just fine. Just measure the period of the zero crossings of the pops
>and log the max values into eeprom every second or so. You near
>Orlando? I'll help you with this project no prob.

I used electrets in a fan-failure application. We made a vacuum-formed fan tray with little notches for the electrets to be near the fan blades; these were bare-motor, unenclosed fans, so we got close. I found that the electrets saturated easily with this much pressure blast. That was OK with me, because I bandpass filtered (MF-10s) the signals to determine fan failure. But for a wide-range measurement, I'd suggest a low-sensitivity dynamic mic or something less likely to saturate. Saturation will lower ambient rejection, so you might wind up measuring the RPMs of the Harly that's passing you.

Agree that there should be plenty of signal, and processing should be simple; no FFTs or anything like that.

Sounds like more experimenting, and less talking, might be in order here.

John

• *References:*

- ◆ [Audio Tachometer for 2 stroke engine](#)
◇ *From:* Mook Johnson
- ◆ [Re: Audio Tachometer for 2 stroke engine](#)
◇ *From:* BobG

- Prev by Date: [Re: Battery Powered Lawn Mowers - All Junk - Why?](#)
- Next by Date: [Re: Battery Powered Lawn Mowers - All Junk - Why?](#)
- Previous by thread: [Re: Audio Tachometer for 2 stroke engine](#)

Re: Audio Tachometer for 2 stroke engine

- Next by thread: ***Re: Audio Tachometer for 2 stroke engine***
- Index(es):
 - ◆ ***Date***
 - ◆ ***Thread***