

## Packing an amp for shipment

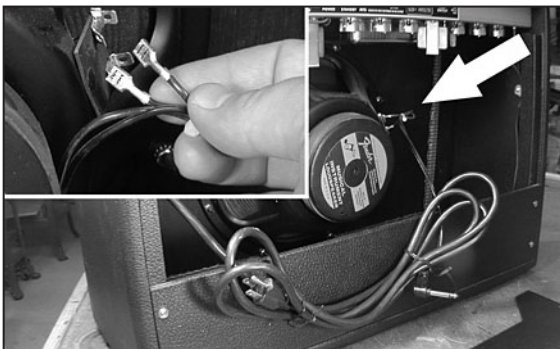
Amps are bulky and heavy, and it's not always easy to find a proper shipping box—and it's imperative that an amp doesn't shift around in its box. (If I buy an amp over the phone, I quiz the seller to be sure they know how to package an amp and are willing to follow my guidelines.)



Recently I shipped this Fender Vintage Reissue '65 Deluxe Reverb using a computer box. It was sturdy cardboard, and big enough to allow for protective padding all around the amp. Measure the amp, and don't stop box hunting until you find a high-quality, sturdy box.



Remove the back panel and remove the tubes. Number each tube so that the recipient can install them in their proper sockets. Roll each tube in plastic bubble wrap, tape them, and put them into a container. I used a half-gallon plastic ice cream container with crushed newspaper for padding.



Coil the power cord and tie it with twist-ties so that you can lay it in the bottom of the amp cabinet. Be sure to unplug the speaker leads.



Place a layer of bubble wrap over the speaker and fill the cabinet with crushed newspaper. Pack the container holding the tubes into the newspaper. Reinstall the back panel.



Cut some styrofoam into snug-fitting pieces that fit the interior of the box exactly. I used 2" thick pieces for the front and back of the cabinet, and 1" thick pieces for the top, bottom and sides.



This amp's ready to go, protected inside and out. Tape the box with fiber-reinforced tape and call UPS.