furniture, they too qualify as examples of the "three-part invention" that is the true equipment cabinet. A number of producers have entered this area; some (such as Furniture Craftsmen of Grand Rapids) distribute more or less regionally, Others (such as Drexel) sell more nationally. Some (such as Rockford) sell heavily in high-fidelity outlets. A list of such manufacturers is appended to this article.

Yet another aspect of the changing face of high fidelity is the entry into the furniture field by several component manufacturers, either as distributors for cabinets produced by other organizations, or with products made by their own facilities. Thus the new Audax/Omni units offered by Rek-O-Kut (which can serve as individual cabinets or as building blocks for room dividers and wall units); the River Edge line offered by British Industries (which features the handy chair-side equipment cabinet); the expanding lines recently announced by Heath; the new striking cabinets and room divider systems sold by Allied Radio. While qualifying easily as housing for audio equipment, these units all show the influence of fine cabinet-making in styling and finishes. Similar advances are apparent in do-it-yourself furniture, from the preassembled but unfinished models (such as the new Stereocraft line) to the completely knocked-down, to-be-assembled kit available from a number of producers.

Related to the equipment cabinet is the record storage unit. With more, and bulkier, equipment being used, and more records being bought, many designers simply have given up trying to provide space for both equipment and records in the same cabinet. Conceivably, some of the space "left over" in many cabinets could be used for a limited number of records, but the collector whose library approaches the sixty to seventy mark (and no end in sight) would do well to consider some sort of record storage unit. Many types are being made, from skeletal units that display the records to furniture-styled cabinets that file them away. One such line is offered by Kersting Manufacturing Company. A useful notion is served by the kind of record cabinet that can be expanded with a matching add-on unit. These are available in ready-made form as well as in kit form (from Lafayette and Radio Shack).

High-fidelity sound in a visually pleasing setting is now an actuality. The audiophile is finding himself as interested in details of cabinet structure, finish, joining, and so on as he has been in frequency response, distortion, and channel separation. In fact, the well-designed cabinet is itself something of a component—and certainly one that can contribute much to the pleasure of music in the home.

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Descriptive List of Cabinet Manufacturers

Acousti-Craft, 14122 Aetna St., Van Nuys, Calif.—comprehensive line of equipment cabinets in various styles, sizes, and woods.

Allied Radio Corp., 100 N. Western Ave., Chicago 80, III.—same, including some in kit form; new shelf-cabinet line.


Artizans of New England, Box 206, Rt. 7, Brookfield, Conn.—comprehensive line, some in kit form, various styles, sizes, and woods.

British Industries Corp., 80 Shore Rd., Port Washington, N. Y.—new "chair-side" equipment cabinet; other River Edge

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