
Subject: Few questions about replacement speakers
Posted by [RickBlacker](#) on Sun, 27 Sep 2009 15:57:22 GMT
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I have a couple questions here.

My amp puts out 60 watts... I was looking at some replacement speakers, some were 15 watts, some 12 watts, some 60 watts, some 75 watts.

What is the affect of using a watt of speaker that does not match up to the watt that your amp puts out? Does it harm anything? From my understanding, you should put a watt of speaker that is not higher than the watt output of your amp right? I could be wrong on that.

Also... I find that my tone is rather thin with my affects pedals. I'd like to thicken up the sound for some better midrange and lower end response.

I know that JBL was suggested. I dont have anything against JBL at all, I'm just wanting to get other suggestions so I can compair and try to find the best for what i'm looking for out of my amp.

I'm really wanting to get a nice growly 80's rock sound.

Subject: Re: Few questions about replacement speakers
Posted by [rodak](#) on Sun, 27 Sep 2009 17:31:25 GMT
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I think speaker and amp power(wattage) ratings are one of the most misunderstood topics around. Amp power ratings generally specify a max THD(Total Harmonic Distortion) rating, which means the amp can produce x number of watts without distorting the signal more than y%. Most any amp, however, can be pushed well beyond it's rated output...IF you don't mind additional distortion. Using high-output pickups, a heavy-handed technique, and some effects boxes can all push an amp into higher output and associated heavy distortion (and not necessarily a pleasant or desirable distortion). Speaker ratings are power HANDLING capacity. In theory, your speakers should be rated at or above your amp's rated output, assuming also that the impedance is correct (8 ohms worth of speakers presented to an amp with an output rated for 8 ohms, etc). But speaker ratings aren't necessarily hard and fast, either. Feed a speaker a pure square wave signal, at a power level well below it' rating, and many will be damaged. So it's possible to take an amp rated for 10 watts, feed it a heavy, high-level signal, plug it into a speaker rated for 50watts, and blow the speaker.

From what I've heard and read(I'm by no means an expert), some speakers are just made better and are more robust than others. A 100watt JBL may handle a particular signal just fine, while a cheaper Eminence may fry with the same input. In general, you get what you pay for. I don't know how well the current brands stack up. Back in the 60s, Altec and JBL were the premium brands, CTS and Jensen were the more pedestrian brands.

It's probably a good idea to get speakers rated at least as much as your amp is rated for, but keep

in mind your own personal playing style. If you're playing light jazz in a coffee shop, those 12 watt speakers may do just fine. If you're playing heavy metal in a large club, you probably ought to go for 2(or 4!) of those 75watt jobs.

Probably the most important factor, and the hardest to quantify, is how the speaker "sounds". You can get a lot of advice here and elsewhere, from people who've tried out various brands. Ideally, you'd want to A/B compare several brands and models in person using your amp and guitar/bass in a live performance situation, but that's not likely to happen. A good place to get some expert advice is tedweber.com. Ted Weber builds his own speakers. He seems to be pretty well-respected for his knowledge of all things speakers, and could probably make some recommendations if you describe your situation. His speakers can be a bit pricey, though, but I believe they're probably very well made and reliable.

Or, you could just get a couple of Eminence Delta 15's and be done with it

Subject: Re: Few questions about replacement speakers

Posted by [pleat](#) on Sun, 27 Sep 2009 17:55:58 GMT

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Rodek gives some great advice. When I was in retail, we sold kustom, fender, peavey, EV and JBL. JBL published a pamphlet on the effects of too little wattage and the amp driven beyond it's capabilities will destroy a high quality speaker. It's been years since I've read it, but agree that an amp that produces too little power will fry a JBL. One customer bought a Peavey Pacer 45 watt RMS single 12 amp. He bought the JBL K120 speaker for it and proceeded to blow two speakers in one weekend. I look at the RMS wattage of the amp, and if it's a 50 watt RMS and has two speakers in it, I'll get two 25 watt speakers and wire them in parallel so that each speaker is taking 50% of the power. Make sure that the total impedance of the speakers matches the impedance of the amp. I like this arrangement for a couple of reasons, the cost is cheaper and the speaker cones move a bit more giving some color to the sound.

Besides if you blow one, it's a cheap fix. I've been using the cheapest Jensen MOD series speakers and they sound great to my ear and with my processors just have a fat full sound to them.

I have the 12" version in my K50, the 10" versions in my K150SC 2x10. I have yet to cook any of these speakers.

Don

Subject: Re: Few questions about replacement speakers

Posted by [RickBlacker](#) on Sun, 27 Sep 2009 18:16:59 GMT

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What is the RMS wattage of the K100C-8? I was told that it's a 60 watt amp. Is that the same thing or something different?

Subject: Re: Few questions about replacement speakers

Posted by [pleat](#) on Sun, 27 Sep 2009 23:57:35 GMT

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All the kustom amps were rated at a peak power rating which is double the RMS wattage give or take a few watts. The K100-8 would be a 50 watt rms amp.

Don

Subject: Re: Few questions about replacement speakers

Posted by [RickBlacker](#) on Mon, 28 Sep 2009 23:49:21 GMT

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I think i've found my replacement speakers.

[http://www.eminence.com/guitar_speaker_detail.asp?model=RAGI
NCAJUN&speaker_size=10&SUB_CAT_ID=4](http://www.eminence.com/guitar_speaker_detail.asp?model=RAGI
NCAJUN&speaker_size=10&SUB_CAT_ID=4)

Subject: Re: Few questions about replacement speakers

Posted by [Jc](#) on Tue, 29 Sep 2009 04:48:09 GMT

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These might be an interesting option:

[http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=16036
5879867&fromMakeTrack=true&ssPageName=VIP:watchlink:top:en](http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=16036
5879867&fromMakeTrack=true&ssPageName=VIP:watchlink:top:en)

jc

Subject: Re: Few questions about replacement speakers

Posted by [musicdorian](#) on Wed, 15 Aug 2012 06:30:12 GMT

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With all due respect, I've been using a Peavey Pacer with a JBL K120 in it, for 30 years, and have had no problems. I've even used it with pedal steel guitar, which should put a pretty good load on the speaker. What I suspect is that your friend drove the amplifier hard enough to start clipping the waveforms (putting out something like square waves, effectively DC through the coil in the speaker, creating a heating element.) I believe that the reason that I have been able to use a K120 loaded Pacer, for decades, is because I didn't drive the amp into saturation. I've used this amp when playing with loud bands, but never have I driven the amp "full out." You can use a Pacer with a K120 and it will work just fine, even run loudly for a few hours. Just don't run the thing with the volumes fully clockwise.
