
Subject: "New" 300-5 PA head
Posted by [fieldflower](#) on Fri, 26 Sep 2014 12:19:50 GMT
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Hi,

Long time no see...

Still have and use my 250-4 and cab, but yesterday added a 300-5 PA head to the collection. Haven't even fired it up yet, but looking for some info on the in's and out's of these things. The outside is in fair condition - handles and knobs all intact, but missing one metal foot and some tears in the TnR. And no stand. It has been rebuilt to swedish 230 V at some point, and by the looks of the (3 prong) cord it may have been a direct import when it was new.

Dating. It has serial number 106126. Does anyone know when it was made?

How does the anti-feedback knobs work? Is it 1 preset frequency per knob, turning the knob cuts more and more, and pulling the knob is on/off per frequency? Or is it working in some other way?

I see a footswitch jack on the back - what was the function of the footswitch? Reverb on/off? Anti-feedback on/off? Something else?

Also the lights in the blue buttons don't work. I guess it's the same type as in my 250 amp?

Not sure if the reverb even works on this thing - the handle on the back is missing. This leads me to my next question - how do You open this thing? I might just trial-and-error myself to wisdom on this one, but if You see the question within shortly..

/Peter

Subject: Re: "New" 300-5 PA head
Posted by [steven](#) on Fri, 26 Sep 2014 13:46:34 GMT
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fieldflower wrote on Fri, 26 September 2014 08:19Hi,

Long time no see...

Still have and use my 250-4 and cab, but yesterday added a 300-5 PA head to the collection. Haven't even fired it up yet, but looking for some info on the in's and out's of these things. The outside is in fair condition - handles and knobs all intact, but missing one metal foot and some tears in the TnR. And no stand. It has been rebuilt to swedish 230 V at some point, and by the looks of the (3 prong) cord it may have been a direct import when it was new.

Dating. It has serial number 106126. Does anyone know when it was made
The amp is a late 1973 made right at the end of the tuck and roll stuff!

How does the anti-feedback knobs work? Is it 1 preset frequency per knob, turning the knob cuts more and more, and pulling the knob is on/off per frequency? Or is it working in some other way?

The good fellow Kustom nut pleat may have info from the amps instruction booklet he can pass on to you.

I see a footswitch jack on the back - what was the function of the footswitch? Reverb on/off? Anti-feedback on/off? Something else?

Yes it's for the reverb on and off.

Also the lights in the blue buttons don't work. I guess it's the same type as in my 250 amp?

Yes they take the same GE 335 lamp.

Not sure if the reverb even works on this thing - the handle on the back is missing.

This leads me to my next question - how do You open this thing? I might just trial-and-error myself to wisdom on this one, but if You see the question within shortly..

The handle you speak of is to lock the reverb for transport and if that is broken off than the reverb will not work right

/Peter

Subject: Re: "New" 300-5 PA head

Posted by [fieldflower](#) on Fri, 26 Sep 2014 13:55:20 GMT

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OK, figured a couple of things out by firing it up and testing around.
Everything works fine - all channels, inputs and pots.

My ears told me there is a reverb in there, so I guess just the transport pad handle is gone.

The footswitch is obviously reverb on/off.

As far as I could figure out it's a single switch that's needed - tried with a TRS double footswitch, but couldn't hear any change when stepping on the other switch..

There is something rattling around in the amp so I guess I better open it.
Will start by trial and error, let's see how that goes...

Couldn't figure out how the anti-feedback worked.

I hear something happening when I pull and turn, but couldn't quite make out if it was different level cut on same frequency or same cut and changing frequency by turning...

Dating is still interesting. (I'm guessing 1976 due to the 6 in the last digit?)
And if anyone knows the light bulb specs for sure that's still interesting.

Subject: Re: "New" 300-5 PA head

Posted by [stevem](#) on Fri, 26 Sep 2014 15:19:12 GMT

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I posted the lamp spec, it is a GE 335.

The rattle you hear in the amp is like I posted, it's the muting cup that came off when the reverb lock handle broke off, and yes you will get some reverb with the broken parts in there but it will be limited.

If you want to date the amp to the tee than both the power transformer and the two big can type power supply filters will have a 6 number digit date code on them, the 4th digit is the year, and the next two are the week of production !

Subject: Re: "New" 300-5 PA head

Posted by [tboomer](#) on Fri, 26 Sep 2014 15:45:21 GMT

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Not to hijack but that is great info Steve! I think my Charger is a 1970!

Subject: Re: "New" 300-5 PA head

Posted by [fieldflower](#) on Fri, 26 Sep 2014 16:00:25 GMT

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stevem wrote on Fri, 26 September 2014 17:19| posted the lamp spec, it is a GE 335.

The rattle you hear in the amp is like I posted, it's the muting cup that came off when the reverb lock handle broke off, and yes you will get some reverb with the broken parts in there but it will be limited.

If you want to date the amp to the tee than both the power transformer and the two big can type power supply filters will have a 6 number digit date code on them, the 4th digit is the year, and the next two are the week of production !

Hi,

Sorry, I must have been writing my follow-up post when You posted Your reply...

Great to hear the year and lamp specs.

The buttons were really hard to get to for changing the bulbs, so I doubt I'll be changing those. Unfortunately - I really like to have the lights glowing.

(I can change one of them, but the power button is cramped between the faceplate and the riveted inner wall protecting the power stuff.)

A little surprised it was 1973 - I thought they used the last digit for year.

But I believe You - 1973 it is. I don't really need more exact than that - happy with the year. If I

open it up again I'll check the power transformer and filters.
A little fun that it's the same age as my 250.

After figuring out it was the same way of opening as the 250 - screws from the bottom and slide out - I got more puzzled...

The rattling was one of the nuts for the reverb pan - good to get that one fastened.

But the reverb didn't have a transport pad (there are no holes at all on the backplate where a handle could go), and the outlet I thought to be the remains of the handle turned out to be an output or input jack.

The jack is plastic and looks new-ish, and the jack is not marked on the back, so I guess it's a mod of some sort. Now if I could only figure out what it's for...

Good news that the reverb is spick-and-span, but another mystery to solve...

There were 2 very thin leads coming from that jack, and they ended up somewhere in the middle of the board, right behind the reverb master knobs somewhere. Before entering the board they had some sort of 1/2 inch orange square plastic components.

I'm really not good at electronics, so I have no idea what those are, but suspect they are good clues to what the jack is likely to do.

I could trial-and-error the jack, but a little hesitant to try if it's a footswitch jack - not good shorting it if it's something that doesn't like being shorted...

Any guesses are most welcome!

There were some different types of hissing when I ran it - would be good to hear if it's normal or if I can improve in any way.

1. When cranking the master treble there was a high pitch hissing that was very noticeable. Not at all the same when raising the channel trebles, although both methods resulted in the same sound characteristics.

Overall a quite murky sound, so a cranked treble is required for the amp to sound "normal".
Something wrong overall making it sound murky? Or something with the master treble?

2. When cranking the reverb intensity above 9 o'clock there was a distinct hiss/hum.
It could be slightly changed by changing the reverb bass and treble, but the intensity knob made 95% of the difference.

At 12 o'clock it was annoying in volume.

The best reverb I get when going full on reverb bass and treble, keeping below 9 o'clock on intensity, and putting the channel reverb buttons at 12 o'clock or so.

Also I don't really understand what the master volume knob does...

It behaves more like a mid than a volume. When fully off it's still possible to play just fine, just with slightly less volume.

Subject: Re: "New" 300-5 PA head

Posted by [chicagobill](#) on Fri, 26 Sep 2014 17:35:24 GMT

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fieldflower wrote on Fri, 26 September 2014 11:00The buttons were really hard to get to for changing the bulbs, so I doubt I'll be changing those.If you are careful, you can pull off the blue lamp cover from the front of the amp to change the bulbs.

fieldflower wrote on Fri, 26 September 2014 11:00But the reverb didn't have a transport pad (there are no holes at all on the backplate where a handle could go), and the outlet I thought to be the remains of the handle turned out to be an output or input jack.It may be that the tank has been replaced and the transport parts have been removed. Does the open side of the tank face the back panel of the chassis?

fieldflower wrote on Fri, 26 September 2014 11:00There were 2 very thin leads coming from that jack, and they ended up somewhere in the middle of the board, right behind the reverb master knobs somewhere. Before entering the board they had some sort of 1/2 inch orange square plastic components.This may be an output or input jack to the reverb section. Like an FX loop, MAYBE. Any markings on the orange square components?

fieldflower wrote on Fri, 26 September 2014 11:00When cranking the reverb intensity above 9 o'clock there was a distinct hiss/hum.
It could be slightly changed by changing the reverb bass and treble, but the intensity knob made 95% of the difference. If the tank has been replaced it may be mounted in the wrong orientation. If this is so, there will be more hum than normal.

fieldflower wrote on Fri, 26 September 2014 11:00Also I don't really understand what the master volume knob does...
It behaves more like a mid than a volume. When fully off it's still possible to play just fine, just with slightly less volume.Try pulling out on the knob. There is a switch that should allow the volume to go to zero.

If you haven't done it yet, go to the literature section and under the Other tab you will find catalogs for your amp with some basic information.

Subject: Re: "New" 300-5 PA head
Posted by [steven](#) on Fri, 26 Sep 2014 18:22:34 GMT
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To replace the bulb push the blue lamp cover off each switch from the inside of the amp.

To replace the bulb many times I slip on some automotive vacuum hose to both remove the old bulb and install the new one.
When you install the new bulb apply some grease to it so that it does not corrode to the socket .

The amp should have a blank reverb lock hole if the T shaped handle is missing!

All of the jacks on the amp sit 3/4 of a inch off of the bottom of the amp, left to right you have the reverb foot swt jack just to the right of the serial number plate, then the next two jacks right next to each other are the speaker jacks, the next jack two inches more to the right is the monitor output jack, a little more to the right of that and 4 inches above that should be the reverb lock handle

hole.

I do not know what you mean by a plastic jack unless one of the original metal ones have busted and was replaced.

The brown wire off of the first jack on the left is the reverb foot swt and goes up to the center front main board.

The orange wire off of the last jack goes to the output driver board ,there are 3 male spade terminals on the front left side of that board and the orange wire goes to that first left terminal.

The master volume in the fronts center control section should be able to cut the overall volume of the heads output to zero while not effecting the tone, if this is not then that main board likely has a problem!

Your hum issue when your turned up could be due to two things, 1) the wires are plugged into the wrong end of the pan, 2) and or the pan has been re installed the wrong way, the if the pan is still the original then the RCA jacks should face the bottom of the amp.

The way the pan should be mounted is to have its RCA jack marked as output be on the side of the Amp that is away from the power transformer and the choke that is right next to it .

Subject: Re: "New" 300-5 PA head
Posted by [fieldflower](#) on Fri, 26 Sep 2014 19:36:52 GMT

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Aha, being able to take the knobs off that way makes it more doable.

It may have been the way I did it on my 250, but that's some 7-8 years ago now...

(From reading my own posts from back then) it seems I used the electric shrink tube trick then.

OK, so bulb change is on again..

The back of the unit is not showing any holes that could have been for a reverb transport handle. There are the holes at the bottom for output, tape, monitor, footswitch.

There are the fuses.

And there is this one-off hole that seems to be a mod of some sort.

I initially thought it was a remnant from a reverb transport handle, but the placement makes me think not.

When looking into the amp from the front:

1. the left part of the back wall holds the reverb tank on, what seems to be, an original mounting thingy with nuts.
2. The right part holds the high voltage stuff which is in its own metal room, which is riveted to the back plate.
3. Inbetween these there is a 1,5" gap, and this is where this mystery hole/jack is. The hole is about 2/3 up on the back plate.

The jack is metal on the outside, but on the inside it's a plastic molded unit (not the open contact surface jacks that are used everywhere else in the amp.)

Have closed the amp up again, but will check if there is any printing on the square orange thingys

next time I open it.

The reverb pan has a full metal side facing into the amp - didn't check if it was open towards the back plate.

Next time I will definitely try to switch side on the reverb connectors and see if the hum changes. The wires are coming out on the right side for reaching the connectors, so I doubt it's wrong side up. Will check next time I open it. Or did You perhaps mean change so the part facing into the amp should instead face the back plate? Didn't pay attention if it's doable to swing it around that way...

The master volume certainly doesn't cut down volume to zero - it behaves like a trim volume or something.

Tried pulling on it, but it's not a push/pull. Only the anti-feedback are.

I guess there could be a connection between the mystery jack and the odd behaviour master volume (and possibly hum)...

Edit: The inside of the amp is in very neat condition. The original schematics were still in there. And the suspected mod parts were neatly soldered and the orange thingys glued to stay put. It gives me a sense of some level of professionalism from the one who has altered it. But it's hard to say what this person wanted to achieve, and what he was willing to sacrifice to get it...

Subject: Re: "New" 300-5 PA head
Posted by [pleat](#) on Sat, 27 Sep 2014 00:50:16 GMT
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The master controls. Three anti-feedback pull on push off. The master section is Bass-Volume-Treble and the master reverb section Bass-Intensity-Treble.

The anti feed back is divided into three sections A-B-C or bass mid and treble. Depending on the feedback, if it a low rumble, then pull on the A feedback control and rotate it until the low rumble is eliminated. If the feedback is high pitched, the use C and sweep the control until the feedback is gone. It's basically a three band sweepable EQ.

I'd start with all feedback controls off, set all rest of the master controls to 12 o'clock. The master volume should bring the amp to dead quiet with the control off. Not sure what going on with your amp.

Once all the channels are set and you find the overall mix needs a little more bass, it's much easier to grab the master bass control to get the tone you want. Same with the master reverb controls, they provide a quick overall tonal change. The poor tone of the reverb tank and hum might be the tank is a replacement or was mounted backwards causing the hum.

Towards the end of the T&R kustom amps just before the hard tolex covered amps came out, Kustom was not using the reverb lock anymore. Too many reverb springs would get trapped

behind the locking disc and when unlocked would break the spring clip at the transducers.

I use clear plastic tubing for an Aquarium setup. Just the right size for the bulb, and it also works great for guitar control pots that need to be removed from a F hole or thin hollow body guitar.

pleat

Subject: Re: "New" 300-5 PA head
Posted by [stevem](#) on Sat, 27 Sep 2014 01:03:49 GMT
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Thanks PLeat!

Subject: Re: "New" 300-5 PA head
Posted by [fieldflower](#) on Sat, 27 Sep 2014 08:31:19 GMT
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OK, then I get the anti-feedback. Fixed cut and sweepable frequency.
And good to hear that there were reverbs without transport pads.

Think I better start investigating the mysterious extra pot.

The more I think about it the more I believe that one to be a factor in all the oddities with weird master volume, humming reverb, and possibly murky sound (if that one isn't due to testing only through my 250's 215 cabinet - I guess the PA may be voiced differently to be more suited to voice and horns?)

The final test would be to unsolder the leads where the mystery jack meets the regular circuitry...

But I'll start with some other tests.

Any complementing things You'd recommend to this list?:

1. Putting in a TRS adapter to see what happens when the jack is engaged, but no connection.

No change - move on.

Quiet = effects loop or similar

Other... depends on how...

2. Plug in speaker.

I don't really believe it's a speaker out due to the puny leads, but good to test before plugging in more sensitive stuff...

If it seems to be a speaker out I guess I'll just remove it...

3. Start testing around with external effects and stuff.

Test if it's perhaps a tape out that's somehow affected or not affected by the master volume.

Subject: Re: "New" 300-5 PA head

Posted by [stevem](#) on Sat, 27 Sep 2014 11:13:27 GMT

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If you can take some pictures of these jacks and pots and where the wires off of them go to the boards we can save a lot of time and conjecture as what is going on with that K300!

Subject: Re: "New" 300-5 PA head

Posted by [fieldflower](#) on Sat, 27 Sep 2014 15:50:19 GMT

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stevem wrote on Sat, 27 September 2014 13:13 If you can take some pictures of these jacks and pots and where the wires off of them go to the boards we can save a lot of time and conjecture as what is going on with that K300!

Good idea, will do that as soon as I get to taking it apart again.

My back just broke down (again), so lifting it down from up on the 250 rig will be out of the question at least today...

By the way is there any way of posting images here direct in the forum?

I see the Insert image button above, but don't get how it works...

Subject: Re: "New" 300-5 PA head

Posted by [stevem](#) on Sat, 27 Sep 2014 17:30:28 GMT

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I do not think you can post right to the forum ?

Subject: Re: "New" 300-5 PA head

Posted by [fieldflower](#) on Sat, 27 Sep 2014 18:07:17 GMT

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OK, then I'll figure something out - facebook or put it somewhere accessible.

Subject: Re: "New" 300-5 PA head

Posted by [fieldflower](#) on Tue, 28 Oct 2014 17:23:15 GMT

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Now I've gotten around to testing and taking photos of the mysterious jack.

If anyone can figure out what it does I'd be a happy camper!

You can click the photos to get them bigger.

I recommend using shift-click so they pop up in a new window, or otherwise they replace the forum and it'll take some clicks to get back.

Mystery jack from outside (the one on the top just above the power cord):

Mystery jack from inside (shield is connected in the jack end, but not used for anything in the other end of the cable):

First lead connect point (the one coming from the yellow thingy):

Close-up on yellow thingy:

Second lead connection point (the one coming from the same kind of yellow thingy):

From a distance showing both connection points:

I also did some more testing:

1. Plugged in the speaker. No output.

Didn't really think it was a speaker jack, but good to test so not to fry the headphones.

2. Inserted a male-male mono adapter.

No noticeable change to volume or tone.

When touching the tip it cracked LOUD, so I didn't dare to try shorting it.

3. Plugged in headphones and got a clear tone on one side.

Only dependent on channel volume, not master volume.

Thinking maybe it's a line out jack that someone put in there, and since it's non-dependent on master volume it feels sorta likely to be a reason why master volume doesn't go down to nothing.

Thought about something else - when powering off it cracks off really LOUD.

Not at all like my 250 which sorta "PffwwwWHOMP".

I guess it could also be related - if there is any sort of soft shutdown it can be sideswiped by a mod like this...

Any ideas or suggestions appreciated!

(Considering just de-soldering the jack leads, but wanted to hear with You guys first..)

Subject: Re: "New" 300-5 PA head

Posted by [stevem](#) on Tue, 28 Oct 2014 23:27:33 GMT

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It looks like someone wired in a tip, ring, sleeve Jack as a effects send and return patch, the

yellow things are blocking caps.

I have to look at a schematic to figure out if it s the tip or the ring that is the send, so I will have to get back to you!

Subject: Re: "New" 300-5 PA head

Posted by [fieldflower](#) on Wed, 29 Oct 2014 12:53:01 GMT

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stevem wrote on Wed, 29 October 2014 00:27It looks like someone wired in a tip, ring , sleeve Jack as a effects send and return patch , the yellow things are blocking caps.

I have to look at a schematic to figure out if it s the tip or the ring that is the send, so I will have to get back to you!

Aha, using chassis as zero so only 2 leads are necessary.

I will try to get a Y-cable and see how it ends up.

Do You see if/how this mod could cause the effects I've mentioned?

I'm thinking if the stopper caps allow some backflush perhaps that could explain the slight volume when master volume is zero..?

(Why oh why did I sleep during electronics class..??)

Subject: Re: "New" 300-5 PA head

Posted by [stevem](#) on Wed, 29 Oct 2014 17:36:24 GMT

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I need to pull my k300 apart over the week end to look at that part of the circuit!

Subject: Re: "New" 300-5 PA head

Posted by [fieldflower](#) on Wed, 29 Oct 2014 20:10:08 GMT

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stevem wrote on Wed, 29 October 2014 18:36I need to pull my k300 apart over the week end to look at that part of the circuit!

Wow, thank You!!

Come to think of it I actually had the original wiring diagram wedged into the amp.

Not sure if I can find the spot where the wires come in, but I could sure try.

Subject: Re: "New" 300-5 PA head

Posted by [stevem](#) on Thu, 30 Oct 2014 10:18:08 GMT

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Just for the sake of checking out what happens if you a TRS cable or even a unterminated Jack,

plug it in and see if it changes the volume level.

Subject: Re: "New" 300-5 PA head
Posted by [fieldflower](#) on Thu, 30 Oct 2014 16:45:34 GMT
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stevem wrote on Thu, 30 October 2014 11:18 Just for the sake of checking out what happens if you a TRS cable or even a unterminated Jack, plug it in and see if it changes the volume level. I did plug in a TS male-male adapter.
When plugged in no change in volume or tone.
When touching the Tip on the other side of it it cracked like h*ll!

I realize I should have tested a TRS, but I was so hooked on the idea it must be mono connection since the shield of the cable doesn't end up anywhere, not figuring out the chassis itself could be the ground of the connection...

Will try this next time I get a chance, most likely during the weekend.

Subject: Re: "New" 300-5 PA head
Posted by [chicagobill](#) on Thu, 30 Oct 2014 21:19:50 GMT
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Looking at the photos, the blue wire is connected to C13 which is connected to output of the reverb drive circuit. The red wire connects to an unused input/mixer resistor R42.

So whichever contact of the jack is connected to the blue wire tip or ring, that is a signal send. The contact that is connected to the red wire is a signal return.

This is based on the photos and the board layout image. You should double check the connections, as the ends of the yellow cap wires are not clearly visible.

Subject: Re: "New" 300-5 PA head
Posted by [stevem](#) on Fri, 31 Oct 2014 10:33:52 GMT
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So it would look to be that this is a attempt at a parallel effects loop.

Subject: Re: "New" 300-5 PA head
Posted by [fieldflower](#) on Fri, 31 Oct 2014 19:16:43 GMT
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I'm a little tempted to simply cut both sides before the yellow thingy and see what happens.

I much rather have the original function than an effects loop.
And if it solves the oddities of the amp - even better.
If I want new-fangled gizmatrix I can play through modern equipment.

Subject: Re: "New" 300-5 PA head
Posted by [stevem](#) on Fri, 31 Oct 2014 23:11:18 GMT
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just snip it out on the board side of those yellow thingies!

Subject: Re: "New" 300-5 PA head
Posted by [fieldflower](#) on Sat, 01 Nov 2014 11:45:28 GMT
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Cut off the extra leads close to the board.
All oddities still there though...

- Still sort of murky sound.

If I go past 50% on master bass/treble I get a little hum/hiss. I think it's on pretty normal level for a -73 amp, but if cranking the treble to 100% it's a little annoying.

Channel bass/treble I can turn all the way up with no added hum/hiss.

With master bass/treble at 50% and channel bass/treble at 100% I get the normal open sound I would have expected around 50% on all tone knobs.

Is it just so that these amps are a little murky so they wouldn't hiss out of the big horn speakers? How does Yours sound?

Edit: Tested with microphone, bass and acoustic guitar, and perhaps it isn't so murky sounding. I have tested on electric guitar before now and may have had the "bright" sound in mind... With these other instruments 50% bass/treble was actually a good starting place.

- Master volume still doesn't make sound go down to zero.

In fact with channel volume on 50% or so the electric guitar get really loud with master on 0.

Of course if I put master volume on 50% as well it gets REALLY loud.

- Reverb is humming if I put master reverb intensity past 10 o'clock.

No change in hum tone/volume regardless of master reverb bass/treble.

No change in hum when putting channel reverb at 100%.

I tried changing the reverb connectors, but they were clearly the right way from the beginning.

With master intensity on 10 o'clock, bass and treble at 100%, and channel reverb at 100% I get a clear pretty saturated reverb (a little more than needed for most guitar/vocal/etc)

- When I power off the amp the crack out of the loudspeaker is LOUD.

I'm afraid to blow the speaker from this sound, so (apart from testing if it's still there) now I remove the speaker lead before switching off.

Is that the way these normally behave? My 250 makes a lot softer sound on power off.

I'm a little surprised the oddities didn't go away when removing the mystery jack. I can't see any other signs of modifications in the amp (apart from the re-done main power change to european 240 Volt, but that looks to be done in exactly the same way as on my 250. On the back side I can even see remnants of the same sticker I have on my 250, indicating it was done professionally. I believe both were imported to Sweden brand new by the same music reseller back in the day.)

But at least now I have the blue lights functioning.

Subject: Re: "New" 300-5 PA head
Posted by [stevem](#) on Sun, 02 Nov 2014 12:23:57 GMT
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Well the loud crack at power down would lead me to take a educated guess that you have a leaky bypass or coupling cap.

If you can read a schematic which we have for the amp on this site and you have a voltmeter you can check out voltages around the 40 volt and 12 volt power supply rails and the same at the same time check the voltages around all the caps i posted about.

Also if you do have a voltmeter set it for dc volts and hook it across the speaker and if at turn off that voltage crack is over 25 volts than I would unhook the speaker when shut the thing off!

Subject: Re: "New" 300-5 PA head
Posted by [fieldflower](#) on Sun, 02 Nov 2014 13:19:47 GMT
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I actually have the original schematic still inside the amp. But I have limited confidence in my schematic reading skills.

Can surely measure on the right spots if I get help in finding them, but won't be able to find them myself.

(Should take the amp to my dad - he's really good at electronics.)

Will check the power level on the speaker on power off though.

Do You think a leaky bypass or coupling cap could cause the other oddities as well? Thinking mostly about the master volume thing.

Subject: Re: "New" 300-5 PA head
Posted by [stevem](#) on Mon, 03 Nov 2014 11:18:30 GMT
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At this point I would give it a lift over to your dads for TLC, and yes the electrolytic caps used in these amps do go leaky and or fully short out!

Subject: Re: "New" 300-5 PA head
Posted by [bpmadsx](#) on Mon, 15 Dec 2014 14:55:16 GMT
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I would love to have one haha

Subject: Re: "New" 300-5 PA head
Posted by [fieldflower](#) on Sun, 24 May 2015 19:50:11 GMT
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A little update, and some more stuff to dig into...

I haven't managed to take the PA to my dads for a checkup yet...
But I by coincidence happened to buy another one today, but one that's missing the whole wooden box with the TnR, and in a little worse shape at that.

Only one of the fuse holders had a fuse, but it was a 2A instead of a 3,15A.
But when scavenging the other PA for fuses to try it out I saw that one of those were actually shot.
(When putting them back afterwards I put in the 2A fuse instead of the broken one and then power-up pop was milder than the pistol shot bang from before.)

The new one then fired up.
Of course the blue lights didn't work, but I have bulbs left from before so that's fine. The buttons were in fine condition, so those should work once replaced.
But it had a thunderous humming I didn't like a lot. Seems to be a bunch of pots with corrosion, with the master bass pot the king of them all. After massaging that one for a while and avoiding the worst areas it calmed down a little.

The reverb doesn't seem to work. Full on reverb on both master and channel didn't produce any reverb at all. It looked ok on the inside, the little that can be seen.

Is it normal for a non-functioning reverb to simply not change the sound at all, or should it be expected to produce hum/weaker signal/etc?

What could be wrong with it?

This PA is also one of the later models that doesn't have the transport pad thingy.

I guess the first I should check is the foot switch jack so it's not shorted in some way so it doesn't turn on...

Missing a couple of knobs, and some of them are much too easy to pull off.

This one also had the problem of not cutting the volume down to zero when putting the knob at zero.

But then when fiddling with that the master volume made a "click" and then it was really silent...

Trying the same on my first PA - of course it clicked down to zero too...

So the mystery of the no-real-zero-volume is resolved...

Feels a little bit stupid, but it's the first click-to-zero pot I've seen on these.

Both PA's produce a rather loud cracking sound from the speaker on power-off, but I'm pretty sure

it's mellowed somewhat in the first one - perhaps due to replacing the shot fuse..?
But the first PA now is a lot nicer on power-on. It's much more of the soft thump+reverb sound that I get from my K250.

The plan for the first one is still to take it do my dads and check it up.
The TnR on the bottom is badly torn, so I'll fix that up.
And then it's pretty much done.

The plan for this second one is to

1. Clean/affix all jacks, try to smoothen up the pots with massage and cleaning alcohol, replace the bulbs and the fuses. = Get it working. Perhaps with some of dad's TLC.
2. See if I can find the reason for the reverb not working (and fastening it - it's hanging on 2 bolts now). = All functions working.
3. Cleaning it up real good on the front and back plate, replacing the knobs (probably all of them with brand new).
4. Build a new wooden box and make my own TnR, most likely with zodiac naugahyde (having a really hard time choosing colour).
5. Build a couple of 4x12 speaker columns (I will bug You for measurements later) and make them matching TnR.
(The TnR making is very much depending on if the wife's sewing machine can stand sewing in naugahyde...)

It would be such amazing fun to not only resurrect the new PA but make it complete and shiny.
We'll see how far I get...

Long post, but I had to let out some excitement...
