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Subject: New Member Question  
Posted by [GmcGmc](#) on Tue, 24 Dec 2013 12:58:57 GMT  
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Hello Everyone,

As of yesterday, I am the proud owner of a Kustom Charger combo bass amp. Sounds great, and appears 200 watts. Can anyone help me determine year of manufacture?

Model #: 28-B  
Ser.#: 92600

Charger 200-0216-00

The only thing "wrong" seems to be the pilot light not working. Thanks in advance for any info.

MerryChristmas!

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Subject: Re: New Member Question  
Posted by [steven](#) on Tue, 24 Dec 2013 15:06:40 GMT  
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Hello, welcome to the place and happy holidays to you and yours also!  
If you unscrew the jew lens on the pilot lamp you can access the lamp.  
To remove it, push it in and spin it a half turn left or right and it will pop out, its spring loaded a little.  
You should see a number on it that you can use to reorder some from a company like Mouser electronics, or Newark electronics.

By the amps serial number it looks to have been made between Jul and Dec of 1972.  
To confirm this you can find a date code on the amps speaker frame(mounting lip) or magnet.  
By 1972 most amps for bass use with a standard speaker will have a CTS made driver whose first 3 code digits should start with 137. The next digit will be year and the next two the month of that year.  
Guitar amps got a KEI labeled speaker for a standard driver, and their dating can be tricky.  
Enjoy your new baby!

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Subject: Re: New Member Question  
Posted by [GmcGmc](#) on Tue, 24 Dec 2013 15:29:45 GMT  
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Hey Steven

Thank you very much for your response, 1972.....that's really cool

Oh yes, I plan to enjoy and use this amp. As much as possible!

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Subject: Re: New Member Question

Posted by [chicagobill](#) on Tue, 24 Dec 2013 16:11:56 GMT

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Happy holidays to you all!

The Charger is rated at 75 watts RMS, so 150 watts peak power output.

The pilot lamp is not in a jewel mounted holder, but in one of the square blue ones. If you remove the chassis from the cabinet and open up the top cover, you can replace the bulb in the holder. The bulb is a miniature screw base lamp, number 335. It is the same lamp that is used in all of the metal front series amps.

Best of luck with the new amp.

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Subject: Re: New Member Question

Posted by [GmcGmc](#) on Tue, 24 Dec 2013 16:23:02 GMT

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cool

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Subject: Re: New Member Question

Posted by [kustomoholic](#) on Tue, 24 Dec 2013 17:57:13 GMT

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Congrats on the Charger...Great combo!!! I have a Kool black one...shiny textured naugahyde vs the usual Flat finish nauga.. Usually will come with a CTS driver tho I have seen them with a JBL D140F. I had one in the 70's that I put a EV SRO15B into it that sounded great tho my current one came with an aftermarket Crate Eminence driver which I swapped for an ALTEC 421A which I feel is the best sounding of all the drivers I've experienced in the Charger. The CTS is a fine driver for an OEM, I use mine in places that are small venues with no complaints. never had a problem with this amp model since I started using my 1st in 1976.

ENJOY

Craig

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Subject: Re: New Member Question

Posted by [GmcGmc](#) on Tue, 24 Dec 2013 19:04:43 GMT

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Kustomoholic, and chicagobill,

Thanks for sharing your knowledge on the amp. Yeah mine is black and looks incredibly cool. Compared to what I was playing out of before (don't ask), this thing sounds absolutely great. Probably is OEM, didn't get much info from previous owner. I paid \$200 and it came with casters and original cover, so I feel like I got a pretty good deal considering for that price I could not find something that would sound this good. Or look this good for that matter.

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Subject: Re: New Member Question  
Posted by [GmcGmc](#) on Tue, 24 Dec 2013 19:09:03 GMT  
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By the way, can anybody point me to some reading materials on these Chargers? History, who played them, etc.? I'd like to educate myself on them, and found it a bit hard to search this site.

Thanks and enjoy the Holidays!!!

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Subject: Re: New Member Question  
Posted by [kustomoholic](#) on Tue, 24 Dec 2013 22:31:24 GMT  
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You got a nice deal on it with cover.... guess I don't have to tell you where to get a cover... Most go for 300 plus especially in a non black nauga... Theres a charcoal one on Ebay for 399 or so that's really nice. I paid more than that for mine (300) but they don't come up that often or didn't 7 years ago when I bought it. I missed a blue one a few years ago... I love blue sparkle naugahyde that was in Massachusetts for a great price. If yours has a speaker with an aluminum dust cap it may have a JBL or Altec in it which makes it worth considerably more than a CTS model.

Good luck  
Craig