Subject: K-50 2 Back Panel Dimensions NEEDED

Posted by johnnyangel69 on Thu, 21 Nov 2013 20:45:00 GMT

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Hello Kustom Kats!

I just recently purchased a tuck and roll SC K-50-2 amplifier and it is missing the back panel. Can anybody here supply me with dimensions and proper cutouts for the back panel of a K-50 amp? I would be very grateful...

Thanks! Johnny

Subject: Re: K-50 2 Back Panel Dimensions NEEDED Posted by stevem on Mon, 25 Nov 2013 12:06:32 GMT

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You basically have the dimentions right there!

Measure where the back panel should fit and and shorten the height by 3/16" and the width by the same amount. This gap will compensate for the thickness of the T & C and the clearance gap to get the panel in and out.

Alot of times Home depo has small sections of 1/2" birch ply wood scraps on the shelf for sale, pick your self up a 2 ft by 2ft section and they can cut it for you to your needed size.

On line you will find Garys upholstery and there you can get the new covering you need for the back section.

You will need to drill new mounting holes in the new wood as locating and reusing the old ones in the cabinet bracing will be a pain.

May be someone on the site can chime in about the vent slots that these amps my or may not have had, if they had them, they will need to be cut in with a jig saw.

If the back did have the vent cut outs, they where trimed with a plastic, the orignal suff I have only found surplus, once again places like home depo sell stuff that can be used but its white in color and needs to be painted a dark gray to dirty black color.

Good luck on your restoration!

Subject: Re: K-50 2 Back Panel Dimensions NEEDED Posted by johnnyangel69 on Tue, 26 Nov 2013 23:53:07 GMT

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Thanks a lot for your reply. I do realize that my post may have confounded some with the same logic that you have used. Yes, I do (or will once the amp arrives) have the dimensions basically outlined by the amp cab itself. The K-50 back panels that I have seen do have 2 rectangular vents with rounded edges so I was hoping to have some dimensions on those (how far in from the sides and top and each other along with the basic measurements of the vents themselves). I have looked up the Zodiac Naugahyde and it appears that there are many places that sell the different

colors so refinishing that panel should be easy enough. I would like to get this amp as true to original as possible. I believe the tuck and roll on the amp is near perfect and I'm glad the back panels don't have any tuck and roll padding on them as that would be very difficult to duplicate.

Anyway, I do thank you again for your reply and I will update my progress once I get this project going.

Oh! If anyone can supply me with those vent dimensions that would be fantastic!

Cheers!

Johnny

Subject: Re: K-50 2 Back Panel Dimensions NEEDED Posted by johnnyangel69 on Sun, 08 Dec 2013 07:19:41 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Here are some pics of my Kustom K50 as I just received it a few days ago. It is a very cool amp with nice reverb and the trem/vibrato feature is very strong and musical. As you can see, the back panel is gone. I figure I will get started working on the back panel for it sometime this week. I will judge the oval cutouts by looking at pics of other K50 amps. I have a Kasino 4x8" speaker column that I bought years ago as a "parts" cab for speakers in case any die out in my Kasino Concert PA. The back of the column has TWO oval rings that I may end up using for the back of this K50 amp so that it will look original. I will be ordering some white/silver sparkle naugahyde and I hope to update the progress here.

Regarding speakers in the K50, I have read that the K50 mainly used Jensens, but mine has a 160hm KEI 12" speaker. I have also read that some K50 models used either 80hm or 160hm speakers. Does anyone have any information on why Kustom would use different ohms ratings for the same amp? Does an 80hm sound different from a 160hm in a K50 (louder, softer, more/less power)? Can an 80hm speaker be substituted for the 160hm if needed? I am guessing not as I thought that you aren't supposed to go "down" in speaker ohms rating...? Any thoughts or info appreciated.

Also, my K50 came with a red jewel light but I ordered a purple one as I have a K100 white sparkle bass amp with the purple jewel and the Kasino Concert PA that I have has one as well. I am certainly accustomed to seeing purple jewel lights on the vintage Kustoms. I have read on the forum here that some of the earlier amps may have used red jewel lights too. Normally, I like to

keep my gear as original as possible, but I had to get a purple jewel for the K50...red seemed wrong! haha!

And, a final note and mention here for the new Kustom K200 Wineburst guitar that I just received today. Wow! What a beautiful instrument! I'm still in awe! Super slinky thin neck...gotta get used to that, but this baby does play nice. The pickups in this one look a bit different from most of the others that I have seen. The DeArmond Dynasonics that have the magnet dots as well as the adjustable pole pieces would have been my preference, but these pickups just have the adjustable pole pieces. The research that I've done shows the alternate pickups used in the later model K200s as NOT having adjustable pole pieces (or so I thought...perhaps I'll have to check again on that). Does anyone have any other info regarding these pickups? I do hope that they are original as stated by the buyer. They sure look the part. Anyway, I'm happy with this "wineburst" beauty and it also came with the red lined hard case with the KUSTOM by Bud Ross plaque affixed to it. I had never seen a KUSTOM K200 in person before, but sure am glad to have this beauty here with me now!

Longest post ever....

Subject: Re: K-50 2 Back Panel Dimensions NEEDED Posted by Kustom_Bart on Sun, 08 Dec 2013 09:25:53 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

With an 8 ohm speaker that is the max load so, you will get the most power from the amp by using a 8 ohm speaker. Try to get a Jensen C12N they sound the best and came stock in them for the most part. Not saying yours isn't stock, it could be a factory replacement. Lots of guys here have tried different things and the Jensen C12N sounds the best. You can use that single amp without the on board effects and use a multi effect unit in front of the amp and play any gig at about any venue that you want and never turn the amp past 9 O'clock. I have 6 of them and love them all

Subject: Re: K-50 2 Back Panel Dimensions NEEDED Posted by pleat on Sun, 08 Dec 2013 12:38:58 GMT

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The K50, will give you the full 25 watts rms output with a 8 ohm speaker. I agree with KustomBart, that the KEI 16 ohm speaker in your amp may be a factory replacement since Kustoms had the lifetime gaurantee on speakers. I use the K50 as my main amp, and I've tried JBL, EV, Celestion, Eminence, and always go back the the Jensen C12N. Regardless of brands, just be sure to use an 8 ohm speaker.

The back vent plates are the same as found on your Kasino PA columns.

Nice looking K200A guitar, but I'd say the pickups are not original to the guitar, in repect that the K200A models used the adjustable pole piece. The pickups in your guitar are the model that the K200B and K200C models used. The other odd thing I noticed is the bridge has the slanted ends which would be found on the earliest models. Later models the bridge ends were straight. I was working at a music store in the60's and 70's and remember when Kustom was closing out the guitar line. We bought 7 of the K200A guitars in wineburst and some had odditys. I just figured that kustom was using up all existing parts to complete a guitar. pleat

Subject: Re: K-50 2 Back Panel Dimensions NEEDED Posted by braud357 on Sun, 08 Dec 2013 13:29:41 GMT

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If you need the rear panel oval ports, I have 2 of them that I no longer need. Let me know! Philip Braud email braud357_2@yahoo.com

Subject: Re: K-50 2 Back Panel Dimensions NEEDED Posted by johnnyangel69 on Sun, 08 Dec 2013 15:57:55 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

pleat wrote on Sun, 08 December 2013 07:38The K50, will give you the full 25 watts rms output with a 8 ohm speaker. I agree with KustomBart, that the KEI 16 ohm speaker in your amp may be a factory replacement since Kustoms had the lifetime gaurantee on speakers. I use the K50 as my main amp, and I've tried JBL, EV, Celestion, Eminence, and always go back the the Jensen C12N. Regardless of brands, just be sure to use an 8 ohm speaker.

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Thank you for the information pleat! It is much appreciated. You guys are amazing and really making this forum a great resource for information and assistance! I would like to thank Kustom_Bart and braud357 for their input as well. braud357 has a couple vents he is going to

send to me! I am excited to get this amp back to original (semi-original) status!

In response to the K200 guitar, yes, it seems that everything is pointing towards this being the earlier version K200A model (the 4 dot fret markers, the slant bridge and the Bigsby). I suppose this may have been an early model that just fell somewhat behind the line of receiving the K200A pickups. I do wish this had them, but all in all it is a small caveat as this instrument is in VERY NICE condition otherwise. Incidentally, the serial number is 2580. Is there a date reference or guide to this number?

And here's a closer look at those pickups.

I am curious to peek under the hood to see if there may be a date code on the pickups or the tell-tale Rowe or Dearmond stamp/sticker...but, haven't done so yet. If they are not original to this guitar, they had better be vintage for the price I paid! Oh well, again, I really can't complain, but for future value and peace of mind it would be nice to know.

Subject: Re: K-50 2 Back Panel Dimensions NEEDED Posted by johnnyangel69 on Sun, 08 Dec 2013 16:04:35 GMT

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pleat wrote on Sun, 08 December 2013 07:38The K50, will give you the full 25 watts rms output with a 8 ohm speaker. I agree with KustomBart, that the KEI 16 ohm speaker in your amp may be a factory replacement since Kustoms had the lifetime gaurantee on speakers. I use the K50 as my main amp, and I've tried JBL, EV, Celestion, Eminence, and always go back the the Jensen C12N. Regardless of brands, just be sure to use an 8 ohm speaker.

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Thanks for the info! I am currently looking for a Jensen C12N...and of course extra points if it has a chrome dust cover! I do happen to have a 12" 80hm Eminence (with chrome dust cap cover!!!) that I pulled from a vintage Jordan amp (also 1960's-1970's solid state amp). I am going to swap out with this KEI 160hm to see/hear the difference. I think this speaker has a 1976 manufacture date...all the same, if it gives the amp more power and sounds and looks the part I'll use it.

Subject: Re: K-50 2 Back Panel Dimensions NEEDED Posted by pleat on Sun, 08 Dec 2013 16:35:21 GMT

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The serial number of the guitar places it at the end of the guitar building era. Bud said that they produced 3000 instruments with about 10% being the K200D bass model. Your guitar headstock is the longer horns, where the original 67/68 models have a shorter horn headstock. If you look at the big 69/70 catalog on this site, you will see all three model Kustom guitars. The K200C model has the short horn headstock with a 4 dot neck, the K200B has the longer horn headstock and is a two dot neck, the bodys and electronics are identical. The K200A also has the longer horns and 4 dot neck. Kustom added the K200C to use up earlier made K200A necks. Both the C and B models use the cheaper single coil pickups. Also the original guitars came with a rectanglular case, not the shaped case. If you remove the pickguard you might see some shiny solder joints indicating that the pickups may have been changed out. pleat

Subject: Re: K-50 2 Back Panel Dimensions NEEDED Posted by Kustom_Bart on Sun, 08 Dec 2013 17:22:29 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

The Jensen C12N should be black with a round magnet and a red and gold sticker. It will say in white lettering around the edge (where it would mount if mounting from the rear and not the front) It will give you the code telling you it is a Jensen and say C12N. I bet Pleat has a pic of one, if not I will dig and see if I have one.

Subject: Re: K-50 2 Back Panel Dimensions NEEDED Posted by johnnyangel69 on Sun, 08 Dec 2013 17:26:37 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

pleat wrote on Sun, 08 December 2013 11:35The serial number of the guitar places it at the end of the guitar building era. Bud said that they produced 3000 instruments with about 10% being the K200D bass model. Your guitar headstock is the longer horns, where the original 67/68 models have a shorter horn headstock. If you look at the big 69/70 catalog on this site, you will see all three model Kustom guitars. The K200C model has the short horn headstock with a 4 dot neck, the K200B has the longer horn headstock and is a two dot neck, the bodys and electronics are identical. The K200A also has the longer horns and 4 dot neck. Kustom added the K200C to use up earlier made K200A necks. Both the C and B models use the cheaper single coil pickups. Also the original guitars came with a rectanglular case, not the shaped case. If you remove the pickguard you might see some shiny solder joints indicating that the pickups may have been changed out. pleat

Good idea about the solder joints! For some reason I am just a bit leery to unscrew the pups as that small layer of felt(?) looks like it may just crumble apart if removed or disturbed in any way.

So, here's what I have for pics under the guard. Looks like all original solder joints to me. The pots look to be dated from 1968. My guitar came with the shaped case with red felt interior. So, I guess it's probably safe to say that I have a late model 200C with a 200A neck? Here are pics of the solder joints. What do you think?

Subject: Re: K-50 2 Back Panel Dimensions NEEDED Posted by johnnyangel69 on Sun, 08 Dec 2013 17:32:39 GMT

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Kustom_Bart wrote on Sun, 08 December 2013 12:22The Jensen C12N should be black with a round magnet and a red and gold sticker. It will say in white lettering around the edge (where it would mount if mounting from the rear and not the front) It will give you the code telling you it is a Jensen and say C12N. I bet Pleat has a pic of one, if not I will dig and see if I have one.

Yes, I am familiar with the Jensen speakers and codes and the labels. The trick would be to find one with the chrome dust cap cover as I don't think they all came with those. I do think the Kustoms look best when you can see that chrome "eye" inside of the grill cloth! I am keeping my eyes peeled. I do think this Eminence I have may just do the trick until I can find that Jensen. Although, this Eminence is an Alnico and not a ceramic. Does anyone have any thoughts on how the 2 different speaker types may compare (Alnico vs Ceramic) in terms of brightness, fullness, etc.?

I have used some of the newer Italian made Jensens and they do a pretty good job overall and are much more economical than a vintage one.

Subject: Re: K-50 2 Back Panel Dimensions NEEDED Posted by pleat on Sun, 08 Dec 2013 23:11:05 GMT

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It's hard to say from the photo's but All the K200A and B model guitars the pickup wires are black. The K200C body came with a hanger tailpiece, not a Bigsby. The long horn headstock and shaped case and the serial number still place it towards the end of the guitar production. The pot codes of 68 isn't surprising. Kustom would buy in bulk, and could be a couple of years before they would need to reorder pots for the guitars and basses. I guess I'd be happy that you have a nice example of the Kustom guitar, even if the pickup is the mystery part of the equation. I personally tend to think that the PU's have been changed out.

I run one of the newer Jensen itialian made C12N in one of my K50's and sounds as good as my

Subject: Re: K-50 2 Back Panel Dimensions NEEDED Posted by johnnyangel69 on Sun, 08 Dec 2013 23:54:50 GMT

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pleat wrote on Sun, 08 December 2013 18:11It's hard to say from the photo's but All the K200A and B model guitars the pickup wires are black. The K200C body came with a hanger tailpiece, not a Bigsby. The long horn headstock and shaped case and the serial number still place it towards the end of the guitar production. The pot codes of 68 isn't surprising. Kustom would buy in bulk, and could be a couple of years before they would need to reorder pots for the guitars and basses. I guess I'd be happy that you have a nice example of the Kustom guitar, even if the pickup is the mystery part of the equation. I personally tend to think that the PU's have been changed out.

I run one of the newer Jensen itialian made C12N in one of my K50's and sounds as good as my other K50 with the original Jensen. pleat

Yeah, I'm happy with the guitar as is. If I get the urge later to inspect the pups I'll update my findings, but right now I'm just happy to have it and enjoying the playability and stylings of this K200! I achieved some progress today on the K50. I replaced the 16ohm KEI speaker with the 8ohm Eminence shown earlier. Wow! That really made a difference. I can hardly wait to have the house to myself to crank this baby, but first test really proves that the 8ohm is the load needed to achieve the power!

I also started on the back panel today. I had a custom (not Kustom) cabinet that someone had made for an old Danelectro amp. The empty cab sits in my garage. The back panel was the perfect piece of wood for me to use to retrofit the back panel for the K50. Three cuts later on the jigsaw and I have the outline ready. Now I'll wait for those back panel vents that braud357 is sending me before I trace the vents and make the cuts. Then I will paint the board flat black and install the naugahyde and then the vents. I'll update the progress. Cheers everyone!

Subject: Re: K-50 2 Back Panel Dimensions NEEDED Posted by pleat on Mon, 09 Dec 2013 01:56:51 GMT

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You can use one of the back vents from your Kasino cab and use it to trace for the opening. Having that done, when you cover the board with your silver material, you can then just cut the covering using the openings in the back panel as the pattern. pleat

Subject: Re: K-50 2 Back Panel Dimensions NEEDED Posted by Kustom Bart on Tue, 10 Dec 2013 07:34:51 GMT

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Looking good!

Subject: Re: K-50 2 Back Panel Dimensions NEEDED Posted by stevem on Tue, 10 Dec 2013 11:33:32 GMT

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The speaker is a 1976 Eminence made driver and the pots on the guitar date it to the 29th week of 1968.

I never new they used a low 100k value pot on those guitars!

Subject: Re: K-50 2 Back Panel Dimensions NEEDED Posted by chicagobill on Tue, 10 Dec 2013 17:35:33 GMT

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The 100K value may only be for the tone control.

Subject: Re: K-50 2 Back Panel Dimensions NEEDED Posted by johnnyangel69 on Wed, 11 Dec 2013 07:11:55 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Getting a little closer. I studied an online pic of a K50 back panel and guesstimated dimensions based on finding the center points. I cut out the vents today and added the SIX mounting screw holes (3 per left and right side). I only have an electric hand jigsaw, so my vent holes aren't perfect. A little more sanding ought to smooth it out a bit and it definitely "cleans up" with the vent trim. The trim was removed from the Kasino 4x8" cab I have. The vents from braud357 and the silver sparkle naugahyde have been ordered and so it's only a matter of days (I hope) before I can see this project through to completion. Here's my progress so far.

Subject: Re: K-50 2 Back Panel Dimensions NEEDED Posted by braud357 on Wed, 11 Dec 2013 11:34:33 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

According to UPS tracking, you should receive the vents Friday. Are those vents plastic?? The

ones that I am sending you are metal.

Subject: Re: K-50 2 Back Panel Dimensions NEEDED

Posted by johnnyangel69 on Wed, 11 Dec 2013 20:19:20 GMT

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Yes, the vents on the back of the Kasino column are plastic. I'm happy to have the metal ones though and hopefully they used the same dimensions.

Subject: Re: K-50 2 Back Panel Dimensions NEEDED Posted by braud357 on Thu, 12 Dec 2013 00:22:08 GMT

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Johnny, they appear to be the same - the plastic was probably a cost-cutting feature used on the Kasino amps

Subject: Re: K-50 2 Back Panel Dimensions NEEDED Posted by johnnyangel69 on Sun, 15 Dec 2013 07:17:18 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

braud357 wrote on Wed, 11 December 2013 19:22Johnny, they appear to be the same - the plastic was probably a cost-cutting feature used on the Kasino amps Yes, they are the same size. They arrived yesterday and I'm very happy to have them. Thank you very much!!!

The silver sparkle naugahyde should arrive sometime soon. I will update the progress!

Subject: Re: K-50 2 Back Panel Dimensions NEEDED Posted by johnnyangel69 on Sun, 15 Dec 2013 07:53:25 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

pleat wrote on Sun, 08 December 2013 18:11It's hard to say from the photo's but All the K200A and B model guitars the pickup wires are black. The K200C body came with a hanger tailpiece, not a Bigsby. The long horn headstock and shaped case and the serial number still place it towards the end of the guitar production. The pot codes of 68 isn't surprising. Kustom would buy in bulk, and could be a couple of years before they would need to reorder pots for the guitars and basses. I guess I'd be happy that you have a nice example of the Kustom guitar, even if the pickup is the mystery part of the equation. I personally tend to think that the PU's have been changed out.

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pleat

Just did a search on EBay and found these New Old Stock Dearmond Dynasonics (used on Martin GT-7 guitars) that are showing grey pickup wires...for what it's worth.

Subject: Re: K-50 2 Back Panel Dimensions NEEDED Posted by johnnyangel69 on Tue, 17 Dec 2013 06:45:14 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

New progress updated. The Silver Zodiac Naugahyde (ZD26) came in today. I painted the back panel black and let it dry before adding the naugahyde. I added an extra 2" on each side of the wooden back panel and cut it out with scissors. I stretched and stapled and got one of the oval cutouts done before running out of staples. If only I knew where those extra staples were! The oval vents will definitely clean up the look and give it an original feel. Here are some pics of the progress. I'm not sure how long it takes for the silver naugahyde to achieve the yellowed status of the original (or how many cigarettes that took)...? Not an exact match given the age difference, but I mainly wanted a back panel to protect the speaker and give this amp a more traditional look. Almost finished!

Subject: Re: K-50 2 Back Panel Dimensions NEEDED Posted by stevem on Tue, 17 Dec 2013 11:24:36 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Looking good there!, now just get a spray can of wrinkle finish paint from a auto parts store to redo the vent and your golden!

Subject: Re: K-50 2 Back Panel Dimensions NEEDED Posted by johnnyangel69 on Thu, 19 Dec 2013 15:11:47 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Here it is...

Subject: Re: K-50 2 Back Panel Dimensions NEEDED

Posted by Kustom_Bart on Thu, 19 Dec 2013 16:14:19 GMT

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VERY NIIIICE!

Subject: Re: K-50 2 Back Panel Dimensions NEEDED Posted by carlc on Thu, 19 Dec 2013 17:47:04 GMT

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Looks good!

Subject: Re: K-50 2 Back Panel Dimensions NEEDED Posted by johnnyangel69 on Thu, 19 Dec 2013 17:52:44 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Thanks guys! Special thanks to braud357 for sending me those black metal vents!

I just ended up spraying the vents with the matte black paint I had for the inside black panel. Overall I'm happy with the results and want to thank all of you who helped me out along the way! Happy Holidays!

Subject: Re: K-50 2 Back Panel Dimensions NEEDED Posted by braud357 on Thu, 19 Dec 2013 18:07:08 GMT

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Looks good! --- Glad I could help you out!