
Subject: Please! Can anyone help me with my Kustom Commander Combo?

Posted by [Anonymous](#) on Fri, 10 Jan 2003 13:56:54 GMT

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Unfortunately, it makes a crackling sound that seems to be activated by lower frequencies

sometimes even temporarily eliminating the crackling, but eventually the problem returns and I shelve it for another few years until I have the money to start the cycle all over. The crackling can occur at very quiet volumes, and can be reduced-but not eliminated-by turning the bass knob all the way down. The crackling can get worse, rendering the amp useless. The crackling will increase with the bass and volume. Anyone familiar with the Commander will know that there is a

right channel. I recorded myself playing guitar until I got some crackling and listened back to the tape. The crackling occurs simultaneously in the head and the speaker. Is this a common problem? Can anyone help me? I do not fix amps but can anyone tell me what direction to steer my next repairman? I do not want to give up on this amp, but I already spent nearly \$600 in repairs over the years for an amp I paid \$200 for. I am in the Western New York area and would even be willing to drive a reasonable distance if I could be assured that someone familiar with the Commander knew how to fix this problem...and for good! Help! Email: aspirin789@yahoo.com

Subject: Re: Please! Can anyone help me with my Kustom Commander Combo?

Posted by [steven](#) on Fri, 10 Jan 2003 19:11:37 GMT

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Hi. The only way to trouble shoot this problem is to begin to narrow it down. Take it to a known good tech. He should be able to find a way to put a outside signal into the driver and power amp section and confirm there being ok, that leaves only the preamp section to be the source of the noise. If it is a vibration generated noise it should be rather easy to track down. or if it is a intermittent thermal problem, than some freeze spray and a hair drier should find the bad component. I live a hour north of NYC, if you can remove the head section from the combo and send it to me I can look at it for you. [steven smagnotti@altel-av.com](mailto:steven_smagnotti@altel-av.com)

Subject: Re: Please! Can anyone help me with my Kustom Commander Combo?

Posted by [Anonymous](#) on Tue, 16 Mar 2004 17:54:32 GMT

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I have had Kustom Kga65 now almost two years. It's fantastic amp but the problem is same kind very disturbing. it doesn't help if I put volume to lower level or decrease bass. I believe that the problem is overheating in some component(s), because when the amp is cold it doesn't do that

cracking sound. Well, I took the amp to my tech today and hope he will find the cure. I will let you know the problem asap!
ps. My guitar is Yamaha ae2000 jazz guitar

Subject: Re: Please! Can anyone help me with my Kustom Commander Combo?
Posted by [KustomBlues](#) on Tue, 30 Mar 2004 19:29:38 GMT

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Guys, check the solder connections on the big orange drops.....

Subject: Re: Please! Can anyone help me with my Kustom Commander Combo?
Posted by [steven](#) on Thu, 08 Apr 2004 12:01:57 GMT

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Hi. I have never seen the inside of that model, but I bet it uses moldex white plug in connectors to go inbetween boards. have your tech tighten up the female pins with needle nose pliers, and give them a shot of NON- lube style contact cleaner. A true thermal problem in the output stage will trip the thermal breaker and cut the A\C to the power supply. He should check the wires that come off the bias diode mounted inbetween the output transistor. It goes in a little clip with thermal grease. with the amp out of the case and acting up get some coolant spray from radio shack. Spray it around the board components and connectors and you will find the basic area where the problem lies.

Subject: Re: Please! Can anyone help me with my Kustom Commander Combo?
Posted by [4stringdrive](#) on Wed, 08 Feb 2006 17:00:49 GMT

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Hi:
My cousin has a Commander doing the same thing you described. We checked for loose wires and loose solder connections and found none. Did you ever get your amp fixed properly? What was the culprit causing the problem? He installed a new set of speakers and it didn't help a bit. A barred "A" chord seems to cause the most static/buzz while a regular "E" chord seems OK. Anybody have any ideas?
Thanks
Dave
4stringdrive

Subject: Re: Please! Can anyone help me with my Kustom Commander Combo?
Posted by [steven](#) on Wed, 08 Feb 2006 17:41:27 GMT

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The most normal culprits are what I put in a previous post. Another thing it might be is the crimp

connections on the speaker spade lugs. Any good tech should be able to get it fixed with an oscilloscope by stepping through the circuits.
