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Subject: Your most disappointing buy?

Posted by [Augustus](#) on Wed, 19 Jun 2019 12:19:17 GMT

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I'm usually fairly happy with the audio/visual gear I buy, but after trying two sets of bone conduction headphones, I realize that type just isn't for me. There was so much hype surrounding these headphones, but I couldn't get used to wearing them. Over the years, what's been some of the most disappointing gear you've run across?

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Subject: Re: Your most disappointing buy?

Posted by [Rusty](#) on Wed, 19 Jun 2019 14:04:51 GMT

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A DAC for my cd player. It was an attempt to maybe make the cd sound I was loosing interest in more compelling. It was a flop. Wanna buy a DAC?

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Subject: Re: Your most disappointing buy?

Posted by [Leot55](#) on Tue, 25 Jun 2019 19:23:43 GMT

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The first GoPro I bought was a downer. I actually bought it for my kids and the short battery life meant they grew tired of it in no time. The latest GoPro Hero is much, much better. The video is more stable and the battery lasts much longer.

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Subject: Re: Your most disappointing buy?

Posted by [Augustus](#) on Sat, 29 Jun 2019 11:34:51 GMT

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Rusty wrote on Wed, 19 June 2019 09:04A DAC for my cd player. It was an attempt to maybe make the cd sound I was loosing interest in more compelling. It was a flop. Wanna buy a DAC? Ha, I'm going to have to pass. Throw it up on Craigslist and see who bites. Did it just not work as well as you thought it would or was the music itself just no longer interesting to you so the DAC served no purpose?

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Subject: Re: Your most disappointing buy?

Posted by [Rusty](#) on Sat, 29 Jun 2019 14:22:37 GMT

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I was loosing interest in cd sound because it sounded rather, for lack of any better analogy, 2 dimensional. Bass in particular seemed to have no depth. I just liked my vinyl sound better. The

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dac was a sort of last ditch effort to see if this technology was all it was touted on audio forums. It didn't seem to change the character of the sound that I was hoping to improve. Maybe dac's have improved since I tried the one I have. I've heard some of the streaming digital which I think sounds much improved. I just haven't made any commitment to invest in the hardware to use it. My turntable is unchallenged.

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Subject: Re: Your most disappointing buy?  
Posted by [gofar99](#) on Sun, 30 Jun 2019 02:44:32 GMT  
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Hi, A rather different thing. A Transcriptor Saturn Turntable. Unfortunately the seller didn't pack it well enough and it was damaged in transit. We adjusted the price and that actually was a good deal. Still having to glue the plinth back together in one corner and obtain a new dust cover mad it less so. Still a reasonable cost. The real bumner is the tone arm. It has the Vestigal one and it is a genuine, gold plated PITA to set up. The end result is that I keep it around for eye candy only. It is performance wise 5th out of the 5 turntables I have.

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#### File Attachments

- 1) [Saturn With Cover 2.jpg](#), downloaded 459 times
  - 2) [Transcriptor Moving.jpg](#), downloaded 363 times
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Subject: Re: Your most disappointing buy?  
Posted by [Rusty](#) on Sun, 30 Jun 2019 14:07:38 GMT  
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Is that similar to the Transcriptor turntable used in the movie Clockwork Orange? I remember when I first saw that film, that turntable seemed to epitomize distinctly the "future" of analog reproduction. I'd thought it might of been crafted as a prop for the film only.

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Subject: Re: Your most disappointing buy?  
Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Sun, 30 Jun 2019 14:40:50 GMT  
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It's damn cool looking, that's for sure!

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Subject: Re: Your most disappointing buy?  
Posted by [gofar99](#) on Sun, 30 Jun 2019 16:28:19 GMT  
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Hi, That's the one.

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Subject: Re: Your most disappointing buy?  
Posted by [Augustus](#) on Wed, 03 Jul 2019 15:24:44 GMT  
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Fancy! That turntable is gorgeous, gofar99. Since that one isn't a favorite, which two turntables top your list?

A disappointing audio/visual purchase I made a few years ago was a Smartphone Projector kit that I bought for my nephews. I didn't expect much, certainly not to watch a whole movie with it, it was just a fun thing for us to do together. They can work a smartphone, but they aren't good with tools or measuring so I thought a kit would work best. Well, they learned some basics that day because the kit I ordered came with complicated, poorly written instructions, and the finished project didn't work. In the end, we wound up making a few different projectors out of the odds and ends I had lying around. Of course, none of the projectors were amazing, but they did actually work and the boys learned a few things.

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Subject: Re: Your most disappointing buy?  
Posted by [gofar99](#) on Wed, 03 Jul 2019 16:04:39 GMT  
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Hi, An Empire 598 and a diy ex Dual 701 with custom plinth, arm power supply.

#### File Attachments

- 1) [598 at angle.jpg](#), downloaded 276 times
  - 2) [701 Feb 2017.jpg](#), downloaded 322 times
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Subject: Re: Your most disappointing buy?  
Posted by [Rusty](#) on Wed, 03 Jul 2019 17:34:00 GMT  
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Cool looking tables. That Empire especially. I bought one off of ebay once only to send it back in the pieces it arrived tragically. Is that an Origin modified Rega arm? I see you also have some of those vibration control pads used for appliances and such. But found repackaged and sold accordingly as audiophile grade, produced in the lab, with secret proprietary materials taking years to develop. Bet you bought a carton of them for less than what the audio grifter's ask for a couple.

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Subject: Re: Your most disappointing buy?  
Posted by [gofar99](#) on Wed, 03 Jul 2019 20:23:37 GMT  
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Hi, Yes it is an Origin Live Arm. They use parts from the Rega factory and do their magic on them. The vibration pads were about 22 cents each so I bought about 40 of them. I don't know if they do any good or not, but then they probably don't do any harm either. The Empire and DIY have adjustable feet inside that I added. It makes it a lot easier to get them level. I actually have the OEM Empire cover and even the user manual that came with it. Since the photo I have swapped the cartridge for a Grado Sonata II. A good match for the arm tracking at 1.5 gm. The DIY one has a Jelco 370H arm and I swap cartridges regularly. Usually it has a Dynavector Ruby Karat 23MR-RS. An AT33PTG II is next in line. BTW it was a challenge to get the OL arm on the Empire. The OEM arm is about 8.5 inches and the OL 9.5. A bit of metal work was needed on both the deck and underside. It came to me without the OEM arm.

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