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Subject: argg! paint(?) flaking from H290's  
Posted by [Sam P.](#) on Mon, 30 Sep 2002 13:11:35 GMT  
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what the heck is up with this...I don't recall painting them! Sam

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Subject: Re: argg! paint(?) flaking from H290's  
Posted by [LuxmanLover](#) on Mon, 30 Sep 2002 15:18:34 GMT  
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One of mine is doing the same thing....not even mounted yet!Kelly

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Subject: Re: argg! paint(?) flaking from H290's  
Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Mon, 30 Sep 2002 16:19:56 GMT  
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Wow - That sucks!! wonder why they would paint those things in the first place?

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Subject: to hide the swirls from the vinyl records  
Posted by [Sam P.](#) on Mon, 30 Sep 2002 19:26:29 GMT  
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they melted down to make them with :( I asked the folks at E if the chips were toxic...if they say they don't paint them, I'll chalk it up to a blown fuse in my memory. It looks like "lack of adhesion" where the inside corners are, like maybe the surface coating "shrank" after application, and pulled away from the (improperly prepared?) surface slightly. Sam

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Subject: Re: argg! paint(?) flaking from H290's  
Posted by [replay](#) on Mon, 30 Sep 2002 21:31:51 GMT

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the last 2 pairs i purchased looked worse than product coming out of china. paint flaking, remnants of plastic stuck in the throats and round pencil eraser sized indentations around the frame. my new horns from bill martinelli are great on the other hand. i'll post photo's tomorrow.cheers,george

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Subject: Another vote for the Martinelli's  
Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Tue, 01 Oct 2002 01:28:38 GMT

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Yeah, many of mine have those "round pencil eraser sized indentations" around the leading edge too. They must be injection mold riser holes. I've considered filling them to improve cosmetics, but I've never actually done that. The two-hole mount pattern is easy to use, but the three-hole pattern is difficult. You have to remove the throat plate and remove some material, in some cases. And debris is often present in the throat, but that's easy to sand smooth. When making fully assembled speakers with this horn, I always touch up the throat if debris is present. But none of these things is as annoying to me as the thin edge for mounthing. That has always been difficult. Now I see that the stock we get here in America is the same as you get in Canada. It's a good sounding horn and the price is right, but it does have its share of problems. Personally, I used to always use the Peavey CH-3's for larger speakers, but so many preferred the H290's that

used the H290's, but most of the rest used the CH-3's. Both are good sounding horns, and I like 'em both. But mounting was easier on the CH-3's and I always thought they looked better in large speakers. So I agree with your assessment 100%. If you really want a great horn, go for Martinelli's. Martinelli wood horn

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Subject: reply from E

Posted by [Sam P.](#) on Tue, 01 Oct 2002 18:47:51 GMT

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"I am sorry to hear that you are having problems with the finish on your horns. Indeed we have experienced some instances where the finish was flaking off of the product, but were unaware that any of the items in question made it out to consumers. We noticed the problem with a batch we received approximately 2 years ago and thought we had destroyed all of them. In any event, according to the manufacturer, there was a problem with the compatibility of the paint with one of the components in the plastic material. We've had one other incident since then, but think the problem has since been corrected. Personally, I think that the finish was coming off because the surface of the horns were very slick. On behalf of Eminence, we would certainly be glad to replace the products for you. At the same time, it might be less trouble for you to simply lightly scratch the surface and repaint with some spray paint of your choice. This might eliminate the need for removing the horn and switching the compression driver to the new horn. Again, we will be happy to replace the items in question if you so desire. I cannot say if the paint would be harmful to a pet or human if ingested, but as with most paints, I would not recommend it. Once again, I apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused you, and will be glad to send you replacements upon your request. Please let me know how you prefer to proceed." Well guys, they ARE painted from the factory. E is committed to standing behind their product, but as he says, painting them again myself is less trouble than returning them and installing a new pair. Guys with H290's laying around that are flaking should send them back, that way E will be reminded the problem still exists. I still think they are a bargain, and I knew I should have sanded them and put a better finish on them from the start, which I will now do:) Sam

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Subject: Re: reply from E

Posted by [bmar](#) on Tue, 01 Oct 2002 22:46:45 GMT

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Hi Sam, I would just comment that if there is an adhesion problem between the paint and the properties of the plastic from that batch run. Two things you should think of if you don't sand through the existing paint. The new paint will fall off when the rest of the old paint does. If E had problems getting the "right" paint to adhere to that batch run. It may be a challenge to find a better paint to replace it. There are good paints and surface preps for plastic. Sounds like a better idea to let them replace them for the long term. Just some thoughts, Bill

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Subject: figured I would sand  
Posted by [Sam P.](#) on Wed, 02 Oct 2002 10:57:35 GMT  
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the front enough to remove the last traces of molding marks, and do the same to the horn interior. I'd like to try some flat black "duck blind" paint...might adhere well enough to their plastic if it stays on kayacks and stuff OK(it does!). I look at this as an opportunity to open them up, and rewire them for biamping, or at least throw a pair of altec 909 HF's in them for a listen:) Samwife says paint the H290's with "mahogany" spray paint, might look OK against the natural birch...

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Subject: Decoupage  
Posted by [JLapaire](#) on Wed, 02 Oct 2002 13:43:05 GMT  
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Photocopy some nice wood grain, color (stain) it, cut and glue it on, seal it, sit back and admire. Maybe suck down a couple cold ones while they dry for perspective. John

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Subject: Can you stay between the lines?  
Posted by [BillEpstein](#) on Wed, 02 Oct 2002 13:54:03 GMT  
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Do you have the 64 color box?Crayola or Prang?

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Subject: hah, wife expressed her interest  
Posted by [Sam P.](#) on Wed, 02 Oct 2002 14:59:22 GMT  
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in my vintage quad gear by COLORING a rare(one of a kind?) vacuum tube decoder schematic with a crayon while she traced the signal flow thru the matrix/logic. I calmly stated in a firm voice, "put down that red crayon" and "step slowly away from that book". I offered to scan her a copy to "color", but the fun was gone for her...she had only wanted to color the 30 year old diagram so I could see it easier. Remedy, don't try to explain any more techno details to the crazy lady with the crayons. Don't put the rear speakers near her chair either, they'll suddenly become cup/candle holders:( Sam

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Subject: Re: hah, wife expressed her interest  
Posted by [bmar](#) on Wed, 02 Oct 2002 19:37:47 GMT  
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Ha! In my house a speaker has to double as some kind of end table! with the main speakers growing taller. I got the "your just going to make those damn things so high, I can't put anything on the top are'nt you" past 5 years Ive been using marine spar varnish on coffee and end tables or anything that seems like a drink or a plant would sit on. It held up well for all the wooden boats in the water and its great when someone forgets a coaster too. Bill

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Subject: Horizontal Surface  
Posted by [JLapaire](#) on Thu, 03 Oct 2002 10:37:00 GMT  
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A little give and take is important in any relationship. I came home one day and found freshly-watered plants on top of my freshly-finished Theater 4s and just had to be thankful for having had a chance to rub in all those coats of tung oil.BTW, while my decoupage suggestion

above was slightly tongue-in-cheek, the thought occurred to me that maybe I should ask her; given a large speaker, what form she'd like it to be in. My guess is that it would have a nice horizontal surface for plants and doodahs. John

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Subject: Re: that's the second choice!  
Posted by [bmar](#) on Thu, 03 Oct 2002 20:33:21 GMT  
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If I asked my wife what form she would like the next speaker in. I'm quite sure the answer would be, a suppository. I give the horizontil surface a close 2nd!