

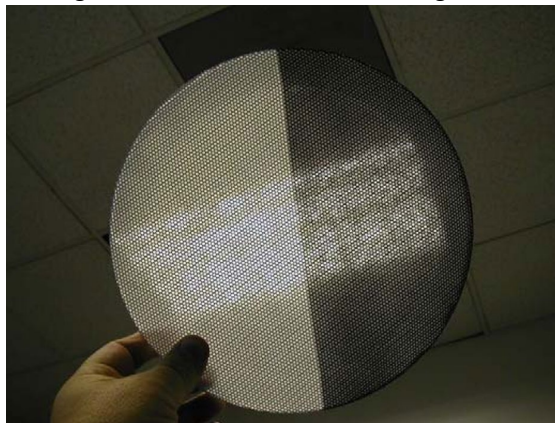


Painting HIPS Loudspeaker Cabinets

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HIPS (high-impact polystyrene) tends to accept a wide variety of paints.

1. Remove the grille. Mask the baffle of the speaker, including covering the drivers and ports, being careful that no tape comes in direct contact with the drivers. Also mask the wiring terminals on the back if that's an area that is going to be painted. *(See note below about silicon insert-point covers.)*
2. Clean the enclosure with a light solvent such as mineral spirits by gently rubbing the cabinet with a lightly dampened cloth. Let the cabinet dry completely. **Important: Do not use abrasives such as sandpaper or steel wool on the enclosure. Do not use gasoline, kerosene, acetone, MEK, paint thinner, harsh detergents, or other chemical. Use of these cleaners may result in permanent damage to the enclosure.**
3. Apply two or more thin coats of either latex or oil-based paints. Latex paints will tend to adhere better if an oil-based primer is used first. Application can be by rolling, brushing, or spraying, although skilled spraying tends to yield the most professional results.
4. The grille requires masking or removing of the logo. Then lightly spray paint it. If there is a backing on the grille, use enough paint to impart the color, but not so much as to clog the backing or fill the perforation holes in the grille, which would result in poor sound quality. In general, if you can see light through the grille when you hold it up to the light, it should be OK. Re-attach logo if it was removed.



5.

6. Seeing light through the grille

7. Re-assemble the speaker and test it for sound before installing. Make sure the grille does not rattle.
- *Note: If the cabinet has any silicon covers at the threaded insert points, it is sometimes advisable to remove these covers and mask the inserts before painting, and then re-install the inserts after painting (if the color is acceptable). The covers can be painted over, but paint tends not to adhere as well to the silicon material. Leaving the covers off (exposing the threaded insert points) tends to not look as professional.*