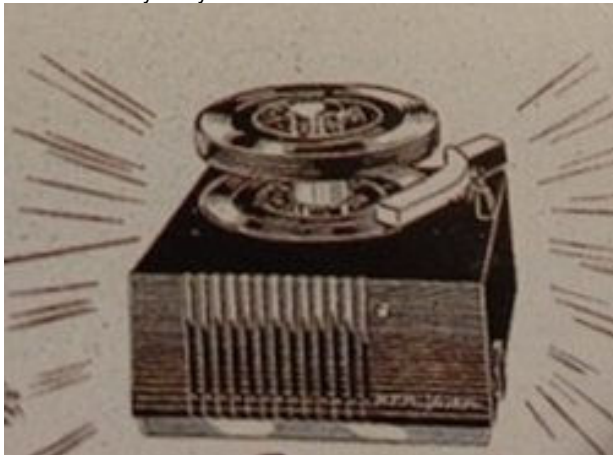


45rpm Phono Gazette

Is this the earliest 9EY3 player?



Very Early 9EY3 shown next to later 9EY3



Early 9EY3 advertisements also show louvers extending to the bottom of the case

By Phil Vourtsis

The model 9EY3 is one of the 45 phonos introduced in 1949. The early production models utilized the rotating record shelves and separators that were prone to jam in records which were not exactly made to spec. Early models also had the tonearm rest molded as part of the Bakelite cabinet. This rest was later removed from the top and the function was moved under the motorboard. The earliest cabinets had the front louvers running all the way to the bottom of the cabinet. This also appeared only in the earliest advertisements for the player. You would think that the serial number on the player would be useful to gauge the age of the player but unfortunately I understand that the serial numbers were thrown into a barrel and then the workers would pluck one out. So the serial number is not sequential. Last time I inquired about this player I was the only one who had one. Has any one else out there found one?

Restoring 7HF45 cabinet



7HF45 case before restoration



7HF45 case after restoration

By Phil Vourtsis

Model 7HF45 was introduced in 1956 and is considered one of the best sounding 45 players. Improvements in the cartridge and amplifier were obvious when played through the woofer and tweeter contained in the wooden case. So what can we do about the tired looking case after almost 60 years. Not all cases can be renewed. It depends how bad the damage is. Deep scratches and missing veneer are tough to fix and this case did not have these problems. I used Howard's Restor-A-Finish followed by Howard's Feed-N-Wax. The Restor-A-Finish blends out minor scratches. It also eliminates white heat rings, water marks, color fade, oxidation and smoke damage in one step. Warning! This stuff really smells bad so you must do your work outside or open all windows if inside. The Feed-N-Wax contains Beeswax and Orange Oil to penetrate and polish the wood.