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Early Road Glide Grill Issue And Easy Fix

From Road Glides inception, till sometime in 2004 model year, the stock speaker grills have a "flaw" which can, and will cause <u>ANY</u> speaker to fail in time. The issue is the speaker sits flat on the back side of the grill, but the opening the speaker plays through, is not as big as the speaker itself. As the speaker moves back and forth, it hits the grill and will cause any speaker to fail. The speakers "surround" will tear and make the speaker sound very bad and have far less bass output. Figure 1 below shows the early Road Glide Grill, this particular one came off a 2004 model bike. The "problem" area is highlighted with white arrows. Figure 2 shows the "fix" HD started using since sometime in model year 2004. The grill in figure 2 has a raised ring which the speaker mounts to, and allows the surround of the speaker to go back and forth without rubbing.





Figure 1 Figure 2

The easiest fix is to get the new style grills from HD (part# 77021-98B and 77022-98B). If you ask your dealer for replacement grills for a pre-05 Road Glide, to our knowledge, HD will ship the new style. New grills are a great way to fix the sun drenched or "whited out" grill cloth most guys see when they are riding older FLTR's!

Some people have filed down the area in figure 1 highlighted with the white arrows which works OK, however the reduction in material causes a poor seal between the speaker and grill which can cause a noticeable reduction in bass output. A simple fix for this is a section of closed cell foam tape in the filed down area to re-seal things.

If Hogtunes knows a pair of speakers is going to be installed on a 2004 or earlier Road Glide, we cut "shims" out of 1/8" abs plastic which works well as a fix for the older grills.

If you're reasonably handy, you can print the template below and use it to make your own shims. We've found that "make your own" gasket material (minimum 1/8" thick) from a local auto parts store works great.

HOGTUNES Shim After printing place your speaker onto Template to make sure it is 100% the same size as the speaker.



Fits all HOGTUNES 0914/0902-AA