

NEW GEAR

EXCLUSIVE



ESSENTIAL SPEC



PRICES

Clear (6"-20")
£13.25-£24.95
Coated (6"-20")
£13.75-£25.50

CONSTRUCTION METHOD

12mm single-ply, clear or coated

IN-BUILT DAMPING

No

SIZES

6"-20"

CONTACT

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EVANS G-PLUS COATED HEADS

From £13.25 If you're looking for ample tone and durability, the new Evans G-Plus range might be the answer. Jake Stacey gives you the 'heads' up...

They must be putting something in the water over at Evans HQ; that, or the downturn in the US space program has left the engineering challenging fill their spare time. Evans's new G-Plus range of heads follows the wildly successful EC1, EC2 and EC Resonant heads, aiming to build on their popularity with a thinner, single-ply head. Will it work?

Build

Probably the most striking thing about the recent Evans products was their move to a translucent coating for their new textured heads. Looking like a frost-covered window on a winter's morning, these coated G-Plus heads feature the same semi-opaque coating as the EC1 and EC2 but utilise a proprietary 12mm single-ply, which aims to satisfy players that prefer the sound and feel of a single-ply but need the durability of a twin-ply head.

Hands on

The thicker material was immediately obvious, with the heads feeling more resistant to the 'finger-tap' test before they were mounted on the guinea-pig kit - a birch kit with thin, undersized shells and 10", 12", 14" and 16" toms - chosen to test the versatility of the heads. Immediately the G-Plus heads were easier to tune than 'usual' single-ply heads - the extra weight of the head dampens any unwanted overtones, while producing a clear, warm tone devoid of the plastic 'thwack' you sometimes get with twin-plys. You have to go some way before you find any displeasing sounds, the heads seemingly remain happy across a broad tuning range.

On the smaller drums, the heads sing with a level of sustain the right side of 'bong' and a warm, rounded tone that makes your drums sound like a fortune has been spent on studio trickery. On the larger toms, the thicker film enables you to tune lower before wrinkling and higher before choking, while the initial

attack is subsumed by a throaty rumble and that perfect sustain. The G-Plus heads took a thrashing with no complaints - not even a dent or chipped coating, whereas the two-ply heads they replaced were pitted. This bodes well not only for their longevity but also for the cash in your wallet!

Verdict

It's not often I come across a product that's a clear cut above, but the Evans G-Plus heads are a revelation. Offering the combination of a warm, open sound without the nuisance of excessive ringing sustain, ease of tuning and durability, the G-Plus is a fantastic head for the gigging drummer. It cuts through in a live situation and gives you an almost pre-EQ'd studio quality sound - not the dead, 'schlub' of pre-dampened twin-ply heads, but a full, rounded tone that makes your drums sound great. **A**

Rating ★★★★★