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hand-made all-tube non-clone guitar amps

Amplifier Na 8

OWNER'S MANUAL

Models A8, A8HB and A8C



Model A8





Model A8C

I designed Amplifier No. 8 to give the gigging guitar player awesome rock tones at any volume level. It is a single-channel high-gain amp, with a unique ability to deliver stellar cleans and heavy overdrive without the need for channel switching. Construction is heavy-duty, meant for real-world use and abuse. Amplifier No. 8 is made with the highest quality components, USA iron, and true point-to-point wiring.

I sincerely hope you enjoy playing your new Amplifier No. 8 as much as I enjoyed building it.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS



READ, FOLLOW, HEED, AND KEEP ALL INSTRUCTIONS AND WARNINGS. WE MAY COME TO YOUR HOUSE FOR VERIFICATION.

- DO NOT REMOVE SCREWS ON BOTTOM OF UNIT. LETHAL VOLTAGES LURK INSIDE. BOO! CONTACT THE MANUFACTURER FOR SERVICE INFORMATION. SERVICE MUST BE PERFORMED BY QUALIFIED PERSONNEL, NOT YOUR COUSIN WHO WIRED YOUR BASEMENT.
- THIS AMPLIFIER IS CAPABLE OF PRODUCING HIGH SOUND PRESSURE LEVELS. YEAH! CONTINUED EXPOSURE TO HIGH SOUND PRESSURE LEVELS CAN CAUSE PERMANENT HEARING IMPAIRMENT OR LOSS. WHAT? USER CAUTION IS ADVISED AND EAR PROTECTION IS RECOMMENDED IF UNIT IS OPERATED AT HIGH VOLUME, WHICH OF COURSE IT SHOULD BE.
- WHEN POWERED ON, THE TUBES MAY BECOME VERY HOT, HOT ENOUGH TO BURN SKIN ON CONTACT. SO DON'T TOUCH 'EM. AND KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN AND PETS.
- DO NOT OPERATE WITHOUT SPEAKER OR OTHER SUITABLE LOAD CONNECTED TO THE SPEAKER JACK. AS DAMAGE TO THE AMPLIFIER AND YOUR REPUTATION MAY RESULT.
- DO NOT OPERATE NEAR ANY HEAT SOURCE, ESPECIALLY A SWEATY ONE.
- DO NOT OPERATE WITH VENTILATION OPENING(S) COVERED, AS THIS MAY OVERHEAT THE AMPLIFIER. DUH.
- DO NOT USE NEAR SPLASHING, FALLING, SPRAYING, OR STANDING LIQUIDS. AND DON'T EVER LET SOME FOOL SET HIS DRINK ON YOUR RIG.
- CLEAN ONLY WITH A LINT-FREE DRY CLOTH. DO NOT USE CLEANING AGENTS. WHO CLEANS THEIR AMP, ANYWAY?
- CONNECT POWER CORD ONLY TO A POLARIZED, SAFETY GROUNDED OUTLET WIRED TO CURRENT ELECTRICAL CODES AND COMPATIBLE WITH VOLTAGE, POWER, AND FREQUENCY REQUIREMENTS STATED ON THE APPLIANCE. THIS MEANS YOU.
- PROTECT THE POWER CORD FROM DAMAGE DUE TO BEING WALKED ON, PINCHED OR STRAINED.
 IF YOU SMELL AN ELECTRICITY LEAK, CALL THE AUTHORITIES IMMEDIATELY.
- UNPLUG THE APPARATUS DURING LIGHTNING STORMS, WHEN NOT IS USE OR FOR LATE-NIGHT SILENT OPERATION.
- REPLACE FUSE WITH CORRECT TYPE AND RATING AS INDICATED IN THIS MANUAL AND ON THE APPLIANCE. DO NOT STUFF WITH FOIL FROM YOUR CHEWING GUM.
- ONLY USE ATTACHMENTS, ACCESSORIES, STANDS OR BRACKETS SPECIFIED BY THE MANUFACTURER FOR SAFE OPERATION AND TO AVOID INJURY TO YOU AND MEMBERS OF THE AUDIENCE.

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

Tube placement, left to right (facing front of chassis):

V5 V4 V3 V2 V1 GZ34 5881 5881 6SL7 6SL7

Your amplifier is hard-wired for the correct line voltage for your region. The following data is for 120VAC line voltage.

Power: 120VAC, 60Hz, 1A

Fuse: 2A Slow Blow, Type 3AG, 1/4" x 1-1/4"

When replacing power tubes, always replace with a matched pair. It is not necessary to set the

FRONT PANEL CONTROLS AND FEATURES, Right to Left

INPUT Standard 1/4" guitar input jack.

DRIVE Sets the amount of gain in the preamp section. DRIVE incorporates an original BC Audio circuit that allows for a very wide range of rich clean to thick overdriven sounds. At low settings, the amp produces a nice, full clean sound. As you turn up DRIVE, the bass becomes increasingly tighter.

VOLUME Sets the overall loudness of the amplifier. At high VOLUME settings, the power tubes can be overdriven, adding even more rich harmonic complexity to the sound.

PRESENCE This control works in the amp's power section to adjust the amp's overall brilliance.

SPEAKER (on rear panel of A8HB and A8C) Standard 1/4" speaker output jack. Always use speaker cables - NOT guitar cables - to connect speaker cabinets, or damage to the amplifier may occur. Do not operate the amplifier without a speaker or suitable load connected, as this can cause damage to the amplifier.

FOOTSWITCH (A8HB and A8C only) If ordered with optional Gain Mod, the included footswitch plugs into this jack.

POWER/STANDBY Amplifier No.8 is equipped with a combination Power/Standby switch. To turn on the amp, move the POWER switch to the center STBY (Standby) position to allow the tubes to warm up. After a half-minute or so, flip the switch up to the ON position. To turn the amp off, simply flip the switch all the way down to OFF. There's no need to put it in Standby when shutting down.

Power Indicator Illuminates when POWER is set to ON.

Mains Input (on rear panel of A8HB and A8C) Standard IEC power inlet. Always use a proper grounded power cable. Your amplifier shipped with a Hospital Grade cable for reliability.

FUSE (on top of chassis of A8, on real panel of A8HB and A8C) Replace with same type and rating only.