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hand-made all-tube non-clone guitar amps

Amplifier No. 9

OWNER'S MANUAL

Models A9 and A9L



Amplifier No. 9 is a simple yet highly flexible 45 watt non-Master Volume amp. Stripped to the bare essentials – no tone stack or channel switching – its simple and straight-forward circuit lets your fingers do the talking. Construction is heavy-duty, meant for real-world use and abuse. Amplifier No. 9 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. 9 as much as I enjoyed building it.

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

Tube placement, left to right (facing the rear):

V1	V2	V3	V4*	V5	V6	V7
6SL7	6SL7	6SL7	6SL7	KT66	KT66	GZ34

*Model A9L only

Your amplifier includes a Line Voltage selector behind the rear panel. The following data is for 120VAC line voltage.

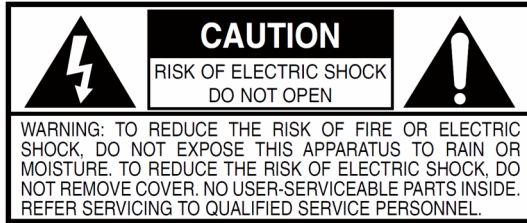
Power: 120VAC, 60Hz, 2A

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

H.T. Fuse: 500mA, Type 3AG, 1/4" x 1-1/4"

When replacing power tubes, always replace with a matched pair and check and adjust the bias. For detailed information on setting the bias, have your amp technician contact BC Audio.

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 IN 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.

FRONT PANEL CONTROLS AND FEATURES, Right to Left

INPUT Standard 1/4" guitar input jack.

NORMAL VOL & BRIGHT VOL By mixing Bright and Normal Channels, you can dial in an infinite variety of mellow to cutting tones. Both channels are active at all times.

BOOST & Boost Indicator BOOST sets the amount of additional gain when engaged by the included foot switch. When engaged, the LED indicators on the front panel and the foot switch will light. When no foot switch is plugged into the FOOT SWITCH jack, the BOOST is engaged.

PRESENCE & DEPTH These controls work in the amp's power section to adjust the amp's overall brilliance and low-end thump, respectively. You may hear some scratchiness when rotating PRESENCE and DEPTH. This is normal.

POWER & STANDBY When powering up, switch POWER to ON while leaving STANDBY in the OFF position to allow the tubes to warm up. After a half-minute or so, flip STANDBY up to the ON position. To turn the amp off, simply flip both switches down to OFF. There's no need to put the amp in standby mode when shutting down.

Power Indicator Illuminates when POWER is set to ON.

REAR PANEL CONTROLS AND FEATURES, Left to Right

FOOT SWITCH Standard 1/4" jack for the included foot switch (depending on installed options).

Effects Loop (Optional) SEND LEVEL, SEND jack, RETURN jack, RETURN LEVEL and TRUE BYPASS switch are the interface to the powerful fully tube-buffered effects loop. For best performance with guitar pedals, set SEND LEVEL to 5-7 and set RETURN LEVEL to 8-10, being sure to avoid audible distortion in the return circuit. The Send signal is always present, regardless of the position of the TRUE BYPASS switch.

IMPEDANCE Matches the amplifier's output impedance to your speaker cabinet(s).

SPEAKER Two standard 1/4" speaker output jacks. 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.

Fuses Replace with same type and rating only. The MAINS fuse is on the main power input to the amplifier. The HT or High Tension fuse is on the B+ plate voltage supply.

Mains Input Standard IEC power inlet. Always use a proper grounded power cable. Your amplifier shipped with a Hospital Grade cable for reliability.