



BRITISH DREAM™ MKII



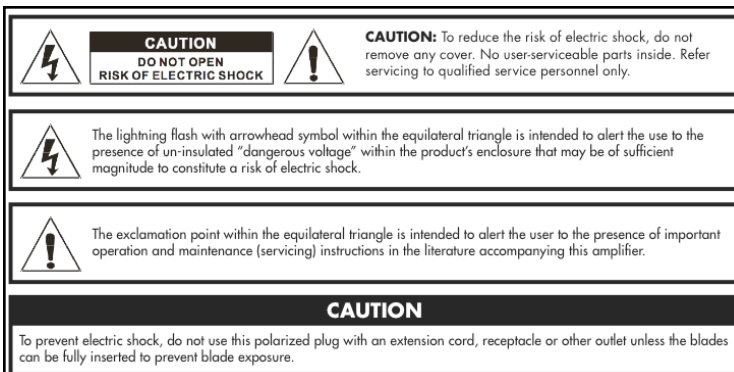
G U I T A R A M P L I F I E R

U S E R S G U I D E

Your 3RD POWER Amplifier is a professional musical instrument amplifier. The information contained herein is current at the time of publication. However, specifications are subject to change without prior notice.

PRECAUTIONS & WARNINGS

- **READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS.**
- **KEEP THESE INSTRUCTIONS.**
- **HEED ALL WARNINGS.**
- **FOLLOW ALL INSTRUCTIONS.**
- **YOUR AMPLIFIER IS LOUD!
EXPOSURE TO HIGH SOUND VOLUMES MAY CAUSE PERMANENT HEARING DAMAGE !
Practice “safe listening.”**
- **No user serviceable parts inside. Refer service to qualified personnel. Always unplug AC power before removing chassis.**
- **IF YOU INTEND ON OPERATING THIS EQUIPMENT OUTSIDE OF THE USA: Always insure that unit is wired for proper voltage. Make certain all connections and grounding conforms with local standards. Make certain that you have obtained authorization to operate prior to connecting to power supply.**
- **WARNING: Vacuum tube amplifiers generate heat. To insure proper ventilation always make certain there is at least four inches (100mm) of space behind the rear of the amplifier cabinet.**
- **Keep away from curtains or any flammable objects.**
- **WARNING: Do not block any ventilation openings on the rear or top of the amplifier. Do not impede ventilation by placing objects on top of the amplifier which extend past the rear edge of its cabinet.**
- **WARNING: Do not expose the amplifier to rain, moisture, dripping or splashing water. Do not place objects filled with liquids on or nearby the amplifier.**
- **WARNING: Always make certain proper load is connected before operating the amplifier. Failure to do so could pose a shock hazard and may result in damage to the amplifier.**
- **Do not expose amplifier to direct sunlight or extremely high temperatures.**
- **Always insure that amplifier is properly grounded. Always unplug AC power cord before changing fuse or any tubes. When replacing fuse, use only same type and rating.**
- **Avoid direct contact with heated tubes. Keep amplifier away from children.**
- **Be sure to connect to an AC power supply that meets the power supply specifications listed on the rear of the unit. Remove the power plug from the AC mains socket if the unit is to be stored for an extended period of time. If there is any danger of lightning occurring nearby, remove the power plug from the wall socket in advance.**
- **To avoid damaging your speakers and other music equipment, turn off the power of all related equipment before making the connections.**
- **Do not use excessive force in handling control buttons, switches and controls. Do not use solvents such as benzene or paint thinner to clean the unit. Wipe off the exterior with soft cloth.**



MOVING FORWARD... IN 3D



Thank you for choosing 3RD POWER as an integral component of your musical journey.

Music is a thrilling blend of tone, attitude and technique. When the right combination occurs, magic happens and it's experienced by everyone.

I've had the extraordinary privilege of performing music for 30 years on stage and in the studio. As the principal visionary of the company, every product we design reflects my energy, attitude and life experiences.

Each amplifier we create is designed to help you tell your musical story - IN 3D!!!

Rock on!

- James Scott



Special Features of the British Dream™ MKII:

- Hand-made in the USA
- Point-to-point Turret Board Construction
- CH.1 features 4 voices (Normal, Brilliance, Top-boost 1 & 2)
- Controls include Volume, Voicing Switch, Top Cut and Mid Boost/Cut switch
- CH. 2 '68 Plexi "super lead" voicing with extra gain on a toggle switch
- Controls include Volume, Treble, Middle and Bass
- HybridMASTER™ Proprietary volume control with Venue Switch
- Presence control
- Switchable GZ34 Tube Rectifier & Diode (Solid-State) insert for more headroom
- Illuminating backlit logo with zero light escaping the back of the unit
- 2 x EL34 power tubes, up to 50W (variable down to 1W with HybridMASTER)
- 16, 8 and 4 ohm speaker outputs

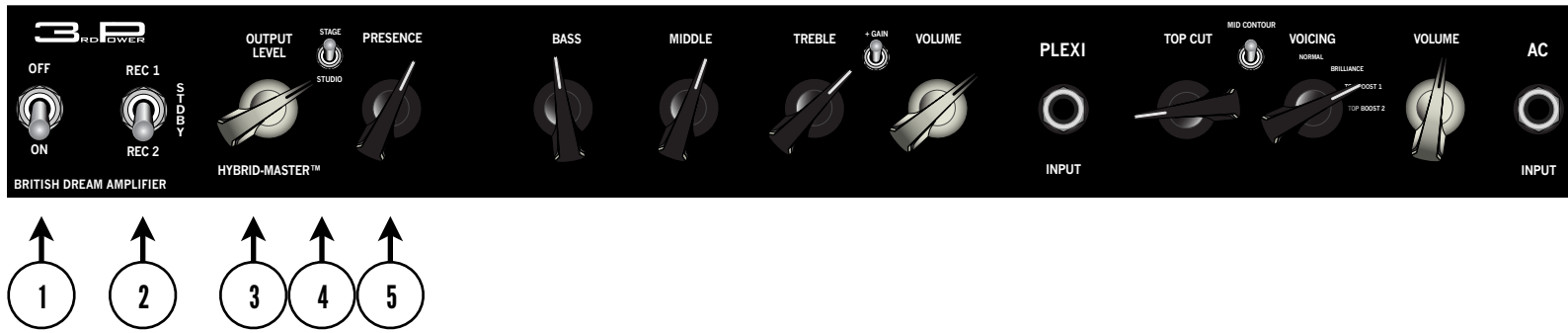
Dimensions & Weights:

Subject to change anytime. Please measure your amp carefully if a custom case is being made. These measurements do not include handle and rubber feet.

Dimensions (WxHxD): 24 x 10.5 x 9.33 in.

Weight: 57 lb.

Front Panel:



Preparing to Operate your British Dream MKII™

Make certain that all connections are made prior to operating your British Dream MKII Amplifier including power cable, speaker connection, instrument cable and instrument connection. Make certain that all tubes are installed.

Power Switch (1)

The POWER switch, when placed in the UP position, provides AC wall power to the amplifier.

Standby Switch (2)

The STANDBY switch, when placed in the CENTER position, puts the amplifier in ‘standby mode’ allowing the tubes to warm up. When this switch is placed in the UP position, the tube circuitry is fully functional and operating in 50W (diode rectified) mode. In the DOWN position, the amplifier is operating in 40W (tube rectified) mode.

HybridMASTER™ (3)

The HYBRID MASTER control allows you to set the overall volume level of the amplifier independent of the volume and tone settings established on the front panel. Think of this as a “micro” volume adjustment. When turned all the way up (full clock-wise rotation), HybridMASTER is completely removed from the circuit. HybridMASTER is patent-pending.

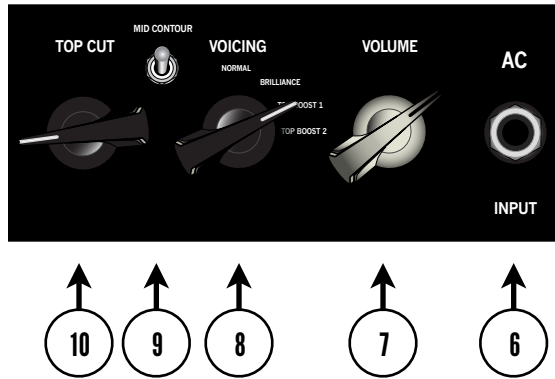
Stage/Studio Switch (4)

The STAGE/STUDIO MODE switch allows you to operate the amp at full volume (Stage mode) or at an 80% reduction in volume (Studio mode). Think of this as a “macro” volume adjustment.

Presence Control (5)

The global PRESENCE control affects both channels and allows you to adjust the character or ‘forwardness’ of your sound. Low settings create ‘darker’ tones, whereas higher settings create a ‘brilliant’ or crisp sound.

Front Panel: AC Channel



Input Jack (6)

The INPUT jack is where you connect instrument level signals.

Volume Control (7)

The VOLUME control allows you to adjust the signal level as well as the temperament and overall character of your instrument's sound. The AC channel has been designed to deliver a comprehensive AC sonic experience.

Channel Voicing Switch (8)

The CHANNEL VOICING switch allows you to adjust the operating modes of your AC channel.

- NORMAL: Wide, full range of frequencies.
- BRILLIANCE: Adds high frequency emphasis on top of the full range response of NORMAL mode.
- TOP BOOST 1: Gentle roll-off of low and low mid frequencies with extended upper mid-range.
- TOP BOOST 2: Dramatic roll-off of low and low mid frequencies with even greater emphasis of upper mid-range and high frequencies.

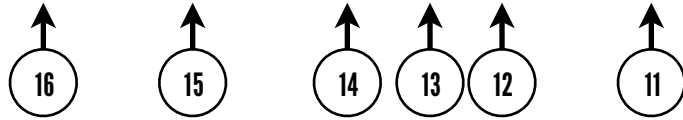
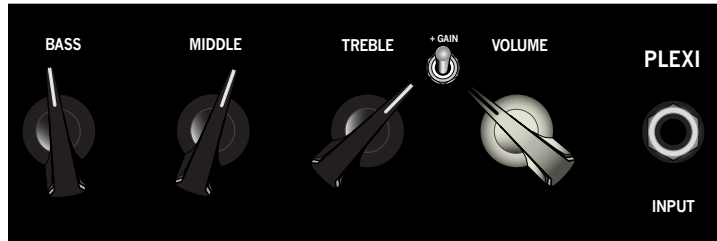
Mid Contour Switch(9)

The MID CONTOUR switch allows you to toggle between two mid-range frequency response curves. In the down position, you'll hear the classic early 60's AC tone stack with its chimey mid-scoop contour. In the UP position, you'll hear a modern "post 2000" mid forward contour.

Top Cut Control (10)

The TOP CUT control allows you to adjust the tonal emphasis of your high frequencies.

Front Panel: Plexi Channel



Input Jack (11)

The INPUT jack is where you connect instrument level signals.

Volume Control (12)

The VOLUME control allows you to adjust the signal level as well as the temperament and overall character of your instruments sound. The Plexi channel has been optimized to provide superb versatility with a particular emphasis on tight mid-range frequencies to deliver a wide range of clean, crunch to vintage overdrive and sustain.

Gain Boost (13)

The GAIN BOOST switch allows you to add an extra amount of boost to your signal. This boost is along the lines of a certain early '80s JCM style crunch.

Treble Control (14)

The TREBLE control allows you to adjust the character of the higher frequency range.

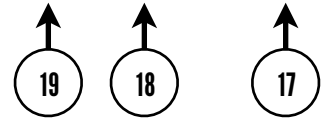
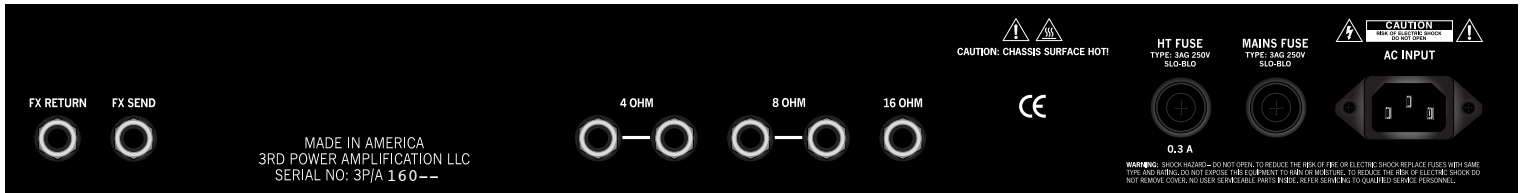
Middle Control (15)

The MIDDLE control allows you to adjust the emphasis of the mid-range frequencies.

Bass Control (16)

The BASS control allows you to adjust the depth of your lower frequencies. The BASS circuitry has been optimized to provide focussed yet rich low frequencies.

Back Panel:



AC Input (17)

The AC INPUT socket (TYPE IEC Grounded) is a required connection for operating your BRITISH DREAM™ MKII at 120V (standard USA household electrical power).

Mains Fuse (18)

The MAINS FUSE requires a 2 AMP fast-acting fuse. This fuse protects your amplifier from voltage peaks from your power outlet.

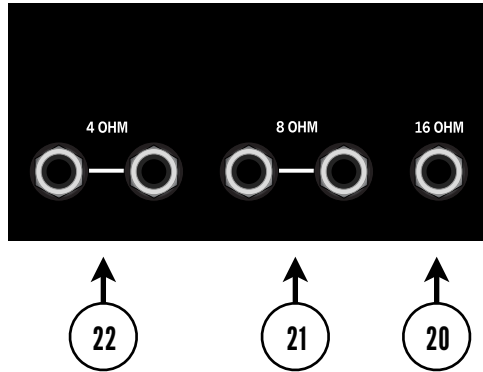
H.T. Fuse (19)

The H.T. FUSE requires a .3 AMP (300 milliamp) slow-blow fuse. The H.T. FUSE usually blows if your power tubes are bad to protect the circuit from being damaged.

SAFETY NOTES:

- Always plug your amp into a properly grounded 3 prong AC outlet.
- Never plug your amp into an ungrounded outlet.
- Never remove or break off the 3rd prong safety ground pin from the power cord.
- Never use a damaged or ungrounded power cord.
- Always use the proper value and type fuse according to the rear-panel markings.
- Never attempt to replace the fuse while the amplifier is still plugged into the power source. The fuse should only be replaced when the power cord has been disconnected from its power source.

Back Panel:



16-OHM Speaker Output (20)

The 16-OHM SPEAKER OUTPUT is provided for connecting your amplifier to standard 16 OHM speaker cabinet.

8-OHM Speaker Outputs (21)

The 8-OHM SPEAKER OUTPUTS are wired in parallel. They are provided for connecting your amplifier to a single 8-OHM speaker, or two 16-OHM speaker cabinets.

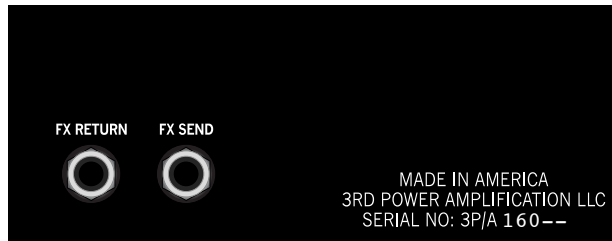
4-OHM Speaker Outputs (22)

The 4-OHM SPEAKER OUTPUTS are wired in parallel. They are provided for connecting your amplifier to a single 4-OHM speaker, or two 8-OHM speaker cabinets.

SAFETY NOTES:

- Never operate your amplifier without a connected speaker cabinet. This will damage your tubes or transformers - or both.
- Always operate your amplifier with the proper impedance output that matches your speaker cabinet(s).
- In all cases, always use a good quality heavy gauge speaker cable (not a shielded instrument cable) to connect your BRITISH DREAM MKII to the speaker cabinet(s).

Back Panel:



Effects Insert (23)

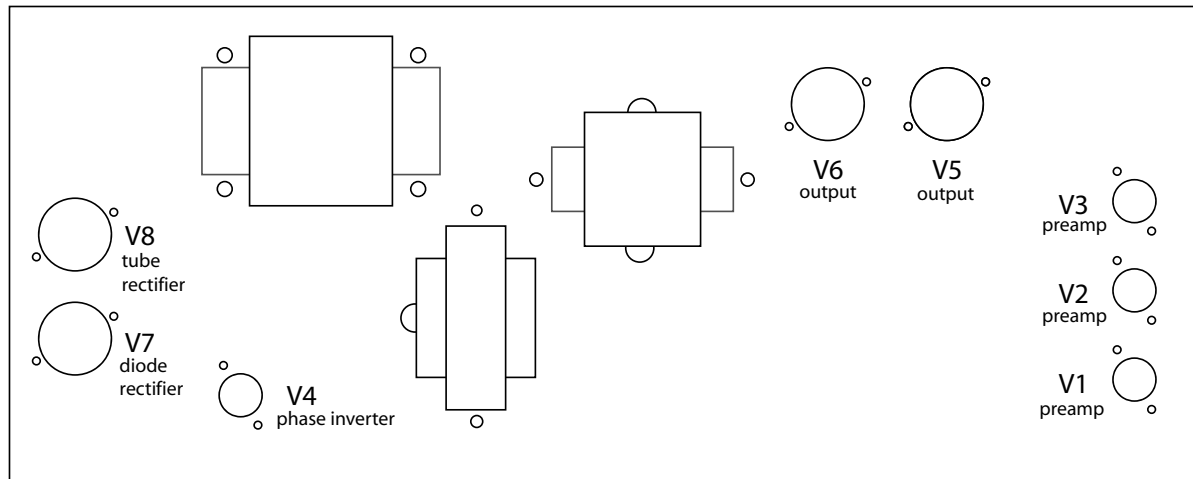
The EFFECTS INSERT of the British Dream MKII is designed to allow you to insert an effects device (most often, time-based effects like delay or reverb) after the preamp and before the power amp. When no effects device is present, this circuit is completely bypassed to deliver a direct signal path between the preamp and power amp stage. For best results, utilize professional type effects processors with at least +15dBu input sensitivity.

OPERATION NOTES:

- This is a line-level effects insert that is best suited for professional rack-mount effects devices capable of handling up to 4.5Vrms.
- Best performance is achieved by minimizing patch cable length.
- When cable runs are over 5 - 10 feet it may be beneficial to use an external effects buffer device on the SEND connection.

Operational Notes:

TUBE CHART



Tube Layout and Requirements:

V1: JJ EF806 (Preamp Pentode)

V2 and V3: JJ 12AX7 (Preamp)

V4: Sovtek 12AX7LPS (Phase Inverter)

V5 and V6: Mullard "Reissue" EL34 output tubes

V7 and V8: Rectifier tube sockets (V7 loaded with Diode Adapter, V8 GZ34 Tube Rectifier)

Bias Adjustment

Your BRITISH DREAM MKII comes from the factory biased for EL34 tubes. Bias adjustments are not intended to be user-serviceable. Attempting to adjust the bias yourself will expose you to very dangerous high-voltage electricity that can kill you. Special test equipment and knowledge of amp circuits and tubes are required to perform this function. **DO NOT ATTEMPT TO DO THIS YOURSELF.**

Tube Replacement

WE RECOMMEND TAKING YOUR AMPLIFIER TO A QUALIFIED TECHNICIAN FOR SERVICING YOUR TUBES. Make certain the amplifier is turned off and has been allowed ample time to cool down. Be very careful when you remove the tubes as they might still be very hot! Do not touch tube sockets with fingers! Even after turning your amp off and unplugging it from the power outlet there could be enough voltage stored in the capacitors to give you a lethal electrical shock.

WARNING:

- Do not remove the back panel.
- Do not attempt to check or replace tubes yourself. Refer to an authorized service center.
- Never touch the tubes while the amplifier is turned on or has recently been turned ON. You can severely burn your fingers and hands.

LIMITED WARRANTY

Thank you for choosing 3RD POWER Amplification. 3RD POWER takes great pride in producing high-quality tube amplifiers and speaker cabinets. Each product is thoroughly tested prior to shipment.

Your amplifier is warranted to the original purchaser to be free from defects in material and workmanship for a period of 33-1/3 years from the original date of purchase. An original sales receipt will establish coverage under this warranty. This warranty does not cover service or parts to repair damage caused by accident, neglect, abuse, normal wear, disaster, misuse, over-powering, negligence, inadequate packing or shipping procedures and service, repair or modifications to the product which have not been authorized by 3RD POWER. If this product is defective in materials or workmanship as warranted above, your sole remedy shall be repair or replacement as provided below.

Tubes: 3RD POWER warrants the original purchaser that the tubes used in the unit will be free from defects in material and workmanship for a period of 90 days from the original purchase date. A dated sales receipt will establish coverage under this warranty. This warranty is in lieu of all other expressed warranties. If tubes fail within the initial 90 day period your sole remedy shall be the replacement of tubes as provided below.

Return Procedures: In the unlikely event that a defect should occur, follow the procedure outlined below. Defective products must be shipped, together with proof of purchase, freight pre-paid and insured directly to 3RD POWER. A Return Authorization Number must be obtained prior to shipping the product. Contact 3RD POWER to obtain this RA number. Products must be shipped in their original packaging or equivalent. IN any case, the risk of loss or damage in transit is borne by the purchaser. The RA number must appear in large print directly below the shipping address. Always include a brief description of the defect, along with your correct return address and telephone number.

When calling to inquire about a returned product, always refer to the RA number. If 3RD POWER determines that the unit was defective in materials or workmanship at any time during the warranty period, 3RD POWER has the option of repairing or replacing the product at no additional charge, except as set forth below. All replaced parts become property of 3RD POWER. Products replaced or repaired under this warranty will be returned via ground shipping within the United States, freight prepaid. 3RD POWER is not responsible for costs associated with expedited shipping, either to 3RD POWER or returned of the product to the customer.

Incidental or Consequential Damage: In no event will 3RD POWER be liable for any incidental or consequential damages arising out of the use or inability to use any 3RD POWER product, even if a 3RD POWER dealer has been advised of the possibility of such damages or any other claim by any other party. Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of consequential damages, so the above limitation and exclusion may not apply to you. This warranty gives you specific legal rights and you may also have other rights which may vary from state to state.

For your protection: Please complete and mail the Purchase Information Card within (10) ten days of the date of purchase so that we may contact you directly in the event a safety notification issued in the accordance with the 1972 Consumer Product Safety Act.

Customer Support: Our dedicated staff is ready to assist you should you have any questions with regard to your product. Please call: (615) 945-3393 (9:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday through Friday, Central Standard Time).



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