CARR AMPLIFIERS

OWNER'S MANUAL

Revised 13 April 2012

Bloke Instructions

Thank you for purchasing a Carr Bloke amplifier. The Bloke finds its inspiration in both classic British 70s and 80s heads plus late 60s American tube bass amps. We meld raw brashness with an incredibly muscular direct driver output section. Bloke overdrive is thick, articulate, and has exceptionally solid speaker control. Massive filter capacitors in all power supply stages further add to the rock-breaking punch. Footswitchable Lead mode increases sustain and odd order harmonic drive – perfect for cutting through on solos.
Please take time to familiarize yourself with this manual.

Drive – Adjusts the drive (pre amp gain) of the amplifier. Use this to set the desired distortion and sustain level. Lower settings are clearer and brighter while higher settings are more compressed and darker with more sustain. The action of the drive knob will be affected by the Hi/Low toggle when in the Normal loudness setting

Loudness (Normal) – Adjusts the overall volume of the amplifier in Normal mode (footswitch light off).

Hi/Low Toggle – Sets gain level of Normal mode from high to higher.

Loudness (Lead) – Adjusts the overall volume of the amplifier in Lead mode (footswitch light on). You can use the Lead mode for rhythm and the Normal for lead depending on your preferences.

Treble – Varies the top end from dark to bright.

Mid – Varies the midrange frequencies and is interactive with the Treble control. Low settings yield a more scooped out sound while higher settings are great for cutting through a mix with more aggressive tones.

Bass – Varies the low end from lean to full. The Bass control uses a separate circuit path from the Mid and Treble. This affords the Bloke bass knob with a lower, firmer sound.

Standby – Set the amp to Standby (switch baton *up*) before turning on the power switch (see *On-Off-On* below). After 1 minute of warm up, switch the Standby baton *down.* Because the Bloke uses a lot of filter capacitance in its power supply, it will take 30 seconds or so for the preamp voltage to reach peak performance once off standby. You can play while this happens, but you will notice it ramp up.

Using the Standby switch every time the amp is turned on will prolong tube life. It is not necessary to set the amp to standby when turning it off.

On – Off – On – Selects between two ON positions and the OFF position (middle). The two ON's are wired in opposite phase of each other. If you receive a shock from another piece of equipment (a microphone or another amp) that is not properly grounded, or if you hear static, switching to the opposite ON may solve the problem. This is sometimes called "switching polarity".

Bottom Panel

Fuse – In the unlikely event that a tube fails, the Sportsman is protected by a 2 Amp slow blow fuse for 120v and 100v (North America and Japan) models or a 1 Amp slow blow fuse for 220v and 240v (Europe and Asia) models. Please consult us or a qualified tech for assistance in the event of a fuse blowing. The fuse is located on the bottom of the chassis near the power cord.

Impedance Selector – The impedance selector is located between the pre amp tubes and the power tubes on the chassis (see *Chassis Diagram*). For maximum power and best tone set the impedance selector to equal the speaker load (4, 8, or 16 ohms). The speaker load in Bloke combos and extension cabinets is 8 ohms.

If you are using 6V6 power tubes, set the impedance selector to ½ the speaker load. For example, a stock 1x12 Bloke combo with an 8 ohm speaker and 6V6 power tubes should have its impedance selector set to 4 ohms.

Speaker output jacks – The speaker output jacks are located between the Impedance Selector and the power tubes. The two output jacks are wired in parallel.

To run an external cabinet and the internal speaker, turn the Bloke OFF, plug in the external cabinet's (use 8 ohm cabinets) speaker cord and set the impedance selector to the new total load (4 ohms). To run an external cabinet by itself, unplug the internal speaker and plug in the external cabinet then set the impedance selector to the external cabinet's load (4, 8, or 16 ohms). Damage will result from operating the Bloke without a speaker load.

Biasing your Bloke

The Bloke utilizes a direct coupled output section and when adjusting bias the amp will take a moment to settle in to the new bias setting. Please use well-matched pairs of output tubes for maximum performance. The Bloke can use matched pairs of EL-34s for 48 watts or 6V6 power tubes for 23 watts (set impedance selector to ½ speaker load when using 6V6s).

The bias needs to be adjusted whenever the power tubes are changed. This is easy to do with a voltmeter:

1. With the new tubes installed turn on the amp and let it warm up.
2. Set the voltmeter to Volts DC.
3. Locate the bias test points on the bottom panel, and plug the red lead of the voltmeter in to the red test point and the black lead into the black test point.
4. Locate the bias adjustment control on the bottom panel of the chassis (see *Chassis Diagram*). Flip Standby to play mode and turn the bias pot left or right until the voltmeter reads 1.0 Volts when using EL-34s. When using 6V6s, set the bias to .66 Volts.

Please note the bias will vary a little bit as the amp warms up. Fluctuations in the AC line voltage can also cause the bias to fluctuate – this is normal and not to be of concern. If you do not feel comfortable making the adjustment yourself, take the amp to a competent tech.

Carr Amplifiers selects and tests the finest current production tubes specifically for each amplifier model. Caution should be used when buying replacement tubes from any dealer who does not have a return policy as all tubes can have problems (NOS tubes are susceptible to microphonics and failure too).

Effects Loop (optional)

The Bloke can be ordered with a series effects loop. Models that have this will come with Send and Return ¼" jacks on the bottom panel and an external Loop Interface Pedal (LIP). The LIP pedal has 4 jacks, (Amp Send, Amp Return, Effect Send, Effect Return), a Loop bypass footswitch with LED indicator, a Send Volume knob, a Return Volume knob, and a power supply jack (12V @100ma). The LIP receives the Send guitar signal from the amp - then when the foot switch on the LIP is pressed it directs the guitar signal to the effects (Effect Send jack) and takes the Effect Return signal from the effects and directs it to the amp.

Follow the steps below when using the effects loop.

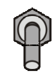
1. Set the Bloke with its Loudness (Masters) adjusted for normal play volume with the LIP in bypass mode (LED off).
2. Move the Send Volume and Return Volume pots on the LIP to zero and plug the Effect Send into your effects and the output from your effects into the Effect Return jack.
3. Engage the LIP footswitch (LED on).
4. Set the Return Volume Knob to about 10 o'clock and start turning up the Send Volume while playing until the effects sound full. If the Send Volume is too high for a given Loudness (amp master) setting the effects will sound grainy and distorted – in this case turn the Send Volume down a bit until the sound is clear.
5. Now turn the Return Volume up to match the volume of the amp in LIP bypass mode.

6. You may want to have your effect sound louder or quieter - the Return volume is the way to adjust this overall level. It only acts on the volume when the LIP in engaged (LED on).

You can leave the LIP engaged at all times and turn you effects on and off as normal or use the LIP to true bypass you effect chain entirely. This would allow you to have multiple effects on and set to go – bringing them into the signal chain all at once by engaging the LIP.

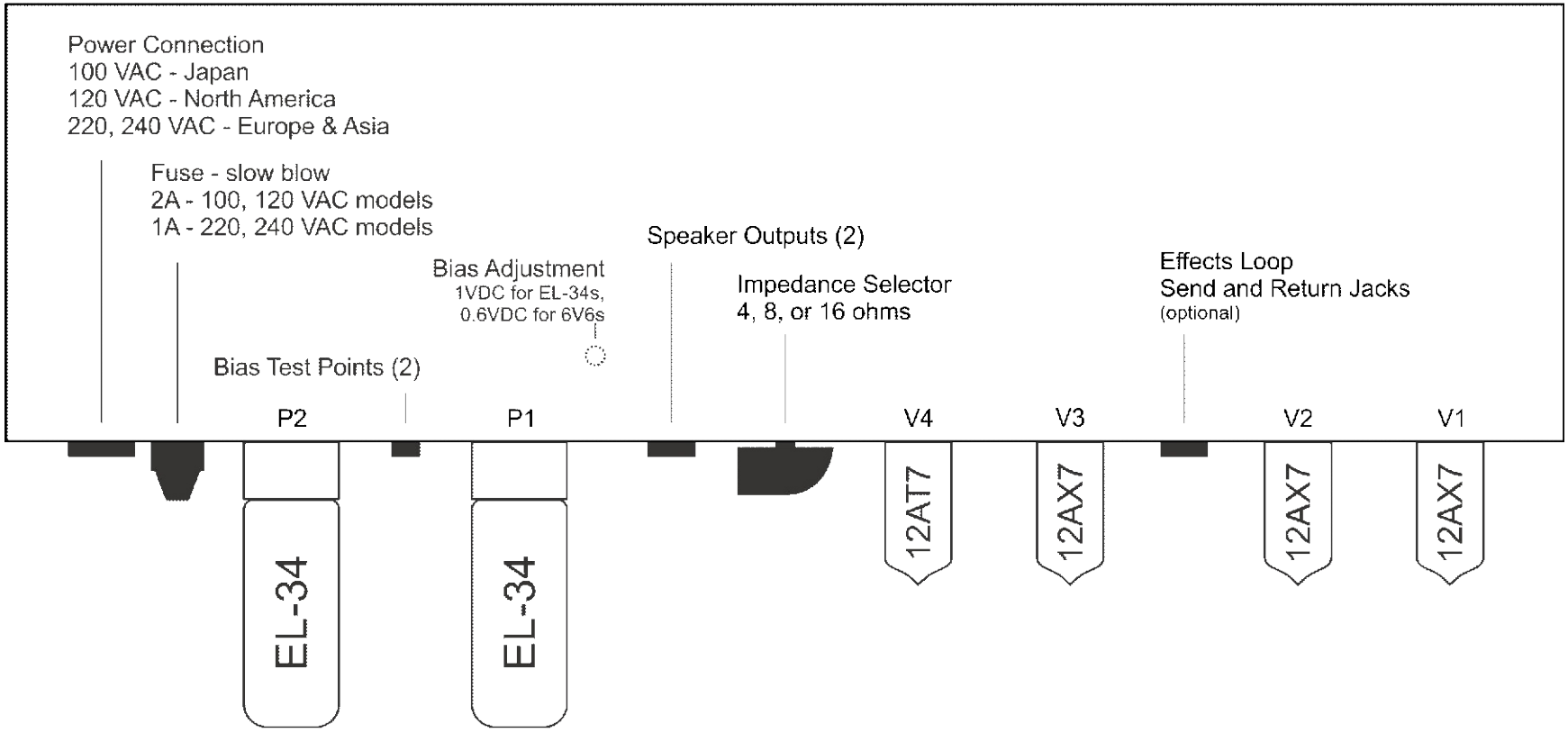
You will need 4 high quality ¼” guitar cables to use the Loop with the LIP.

Recommended Settings

Sound	Drive	Loudness (Rhythm)	Hi/Low Gain	Loudness (Lead)	Treble	Mid	Bass	Rhythm /Lead
								
								
								
								

Carr Amplifiers Chassis Diagram

Items marked in a dashed line (·····) are on the back of the chassis.

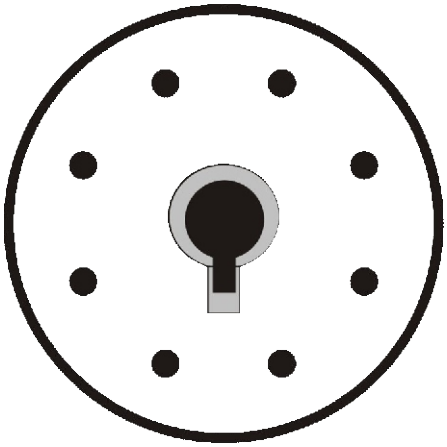


A pair of 6V6 power tubes may be used instead of EL-34s

Important Reminders

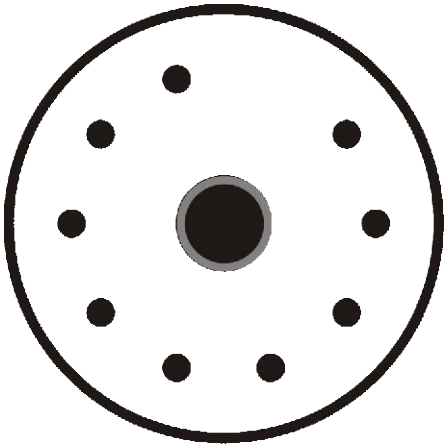
Please keep the original packing materials in case your amp needs to be shipped for service.

When inserting power tubes, the power tube key must line up with the tube socket keyway.



Do not insert power tubes with missing or damaged keys or pins.

When inserting preamp tubes, the tube pins must line up with the tube socket holes.



Do not insert preamp tubes with missing or damaged pins.

To reduce the risk of electric shock, keep the unit away from excess moisture.

No user serviceable parts inside.

Potentially lethal voltage present.

CARR AMPLIFIERS WARRANTY

All Carr amplifiers are warranted to be free from defects in workmanship (solder joints, hardware assembly etc.) for the lifetime of the original owner, and free from defects in materials (including cabinet) for three years from the date of purchase by the original owner, provided that:

The owner mails the signed warranty registration card (next page) and a copy of the original sales receipt to Carr Amplifiers within thirty days of purchase.
Problems are not the result of misuse, abuse, tampering, circuit modification, improper tube installation (incorrect orientation of tubes can damage the amp), or spilled beverages, as these will void the warranty.
The amplifier is shipped to Carr Amplifiers in the original packing materials with freight paid by the purchaser. We pay the return shipping after the warranty work is complete.

Tubes, speaker(s), and reverb tanks carry a ninety-day warranty, and are subject to the same terms and conditions as above.

Please call us at 919-545-0747 if you have a warranty claim. Be prepared to provide the model and serial number of your amp. We will issue a Return Merchandise Authorization number (RMA#) before the amplifier is shipped for service.

For customers outside of North America, warranty and repair service is provided through the dealer where the amp was purchased.

Shipping address:

Carr Amplifiers
23 Rectory St., Suite E
Pittsboro, NC 27312

Mailing address:

Carr Amplifiers
433 W. Salisbury St.
Pittsboro, NC 27312

Tel: 919-545-0747
Fax: 919-545-0739

www.carramps.com
info@carramps.com

Carr Amplifiers Owner's Registration

To validate your warranty, please mail the **completed form** and a **copy of your original sales receipt** within 30 days of purchase to:

Carr Amplifiers
433 W. Salisbury St.
Pittsboro, NC 27312

We do not sell, give away, or otherwise share customer information with third-parties.

MODEL: _____

SERIAL NUMBER (located on the tube chart sticker and the bottom or back panel of the chassis): _____

PURCHASED FROM: _____

DATE OF PURCHASE: _____

OWNER'S NAME: _____

OWNER'S ADDRESS: _____

_____

OWNER'S E-MAIL: _____

TYPE OF MUSIC YOU USUALLY PLAY:_____

HOW YOU FIRST HEARD ABOUT CARR AMPLIFIERS: _____

_____

YOUR ADDITIONAL COMMENTS ARE INVITED:_____

_____

_____

_____

I have read and understand the terms and conditions of the warranty agreement as set forth in the owner's manual.

Signed: _____ **Date**:_____

The above must be signed and dated to validate the warranty.

With your completed registration form you are eligible for a complimentary Carr Amplifiers t-shirt!

Please specify your size:

____ Small
____ Medium
____ Large
____ X-Large
____ XX-Large