Fender®
custom amplification

Tone-Master®
Owner's Manual
TONE-MASTER® OWNERS’ MANUAL
INTRODUCTION

The Fender Amp Custom Shop is dedicated to creating high quality amplification to serve top artists and discriminating players. The Tone-Master is a unique amplifier with many possibilities. On the surface it is a 100 watt, 2 channel switching “Head” amplifier. Upon further inspection one will notice many features which set it apart from anything offered before.

The Tone-Master is a hand-made, point-to-point wired, tube instrument amplifier. There are no solid-state (transistor) devices in the signal path of any kind. This amplifier was created from the efforts of a handful of top craftsmen, players and designers who saw a need and envisioned a new amplifier. Like the other Fender custom amps, the Tone-Master is painstakingly built, one at a time, by a select group of craftsmen at the Fender electronics factory in Lake Oswego, Oregon.

The Tone-Master was created for the discriminating player who requires a high powered, high volume amplifier capable of clean tones, overdriven vintage amp tones as well as heavily overdriven distortion. It has 2 independent channels, switchable via the front panel A/B switch or the footswitch (provided).

It is suggested that you read this manual thoroughly to understand all the features and functions of this amplifier. This amplifier will provide years of trouble-free service and playing enjoyment.
TONE-MASTER CONTROL FUNCTIONS

A. INPUTS - The guitar input for the Tone-Master.

B. FAT - Adds a 3dB boost in gain to the A CHANNEL, mostly to the low and midrange frequencies.

C. VOLUME A - Controls the loudness of CHANNEL A.

D. TREBLE - Adjusts the overall brightness in the A CHANNEL.

E. BASS - Adjusts the level of low frequencies in the A CHANNEL.

F. MID - Adjusts the level of midrange frequencies in the A CHANNEL.

G. A/B - Allows front panel selection of CHANNEL A or CHANNEL B. SPECIAL NOTE: This switch is deactivated by plugging in the footswitch.

H. FAT - Adds a 3dB boost in gain on the B CHANNEL. (Adds “EDGE”)
I. **GAIN** - Controls the Gain or overdrive of CHANNEL B.

J. **TREBLE** - Adjusts the overall brightness of CHANNEL B.

K. **BASS** - Adjusts the amount of low frequencies through CHANNEL B.

L. **MID** - Adjusts the amount of midrange frequencies through CHANNEL B.

M. **VOLUME** - Controls the loudness of CHANNEL B. SPECIAL NOTE: This control is best adjusted in conjunction with the rear panel IMPEDANCE switch to enable the amplifier to better achieve the cranked-up sound at a lower volume. On the B CHANNEL, with a single Tone-Master enclosure, this switch should be set according to the setting of the B CHANNEL volume knob: for volume settings of 3.5 and lower, LO would be the appropriate setting. For settings of 3.5 to 7, MED is best. For settings above 7, HI will produce full power and tone.

N. **PILOT JEWEL** - When this lamp is illuminated the Tone-Master is receiving power. Should this bulb burn out, turn off the power, unscrew the red jewel and replace the lamp with a type T47 light bulb.
TONE MASTER REAR PANEL FUNCTIONS

A. **FUSE** - The fuse is in the AC supply of the amplifier and will help to protect the amplifier in the event of an electrical fault or tube failure. If a fuse blows, it should only be replaced by one with the same type and rating. NEVER use a fuse of higher current rating as this could damage the equipment and present a serious safety hazard. If the amplifier repeatedly blows fuses, it should be checked out by an authorized Fender service center.

B. **POWER SWITCH** - This switch turns the AC power on and off. When this switch is OFF the amplifier is completely shut down.

C. **STANDBY SWITCH** - This turns the amplifier on and off. In the STANDBY position, the amplifier is off, although power is applied to the tube filaments to keep them warmed up and ready to play. A good rule of thumb is to turn the power switch on and wait at least 50 seconds before turning on the standby switch. Using this switch during short breaks will increase tube life.

D. **IMPEDANCE SWITCH** - This is labeled LO, MED and HI. This switch serves two functions. One, to set the output impedance of the amplifier to best match the speaker impedance for maximum power. Second, to enable the amplifier to better achieve the cranked-up sound at a lower volume. On the B CHANNEL, with a single Tone-Master enclosure, this switch should be set according to the setting of the B CHANNEL volume knob: For volume settings of 3.5 and lower, LO would be the appropriate setting. For settings of 3.5 to 7, MED is best. For settings above 7, HI will produce full power and tone. This switch will not damage tubes or reduce tube life at these settings. What it does do is increase the gain in the LO and MED settings and thereby better approximate the Full volume sound at a lower level than by adjusting the VOLUME alone. With a single 16Ω enclosure, LO will produce 30 watts, MED will produce 60 watts, and HI will produce a full 100 watts. With two 16Ω enclosures, (an 8Ω load), LO will produce 60 watts, and MED will produce 100 watts. In the A CHANNEL, the switch has the same function, although blues players may like running the switch on LO all the time to get that great crying tone. Conversely, a player looking for a New Wave Strat® tone might like the sound of the A CHANNEL on HI.

E. **SPEAKER** - Plug in connection for speakers. This jack must be used as the primary connection for speakers.
F. **EXTERNAL SPEAKER** - Plug in connection for an external speaker. This jack must only be used in conjunction with the main SPEAKER JACK. If the EXTERNAL SPEAKER JACK is used without a cord plugged into the main SPEAKER JACK, there will be no sound.

G. **FOOTSWITCH JACK** - Plug in connection for the footswitch. The footswitch allows remote switching from CHANNEL A to CHANNEL B. The footswitch will override the front panel A/B switch.

H. **CHANNEL B EFFECTS RETURN** - Transformer-isolated, low-impedance input or “Return” from effects device(s). This effects the B CHANNEL only.

I. **CHANNEL B EFFECTS SEND** - Low-impedance output or “Send” to effects device(s).

J. **CHANNEL A EFFECTS RETURN** - Transformer-isolated, low-impedance input or “Return” from effects device(s). This effects the A CHANNEL only.

K. **CHANNEL A EFFECTS SEND** - Low-impedance output or “Send” to effects device(s).

L. **LINE CORD** -(Not Shown) Your amplifier is equipped with a 3-prong grounding type supply cord to reduce the possibility of shock hazard. Be sure to connect it to a grounded receptacle. DO NOT ALTER THE AC PLUG!

**TUBES**
The Tone-Master tube complement consists of 4 Fender special design 5881/6L6WGC’s (part# 039214), and 3 Fender special design 12AX7A’s (part#023572). Fender's special design tubes provide optimum performance in this amplifier. For best performance, replace with Fender special design tubes. Tube life varies with playing style and application, but for best tone, tubes should be changed after every 500 hours of use. Tube location is printed on the tube label, inside the cabinet.

**TOLEX COVERING CARE**
DO NOT have the amplifier plugged into a power outlet when cleaning. The Tolex covering on your cabinet may be cleaned periodically with a sponge and a light soapy solution. Be careful to not let liquid come in contact with operating surfaces.

**TROUBLESHOOTER’S CHECKLIST**
If the amp is set up but does not function, check the following items:
- Is the amp power cord properly plugged into an electrical outlet?
- Is there power at the outlet?
- Is the fuse blown?
- Is the speaker(s) properly connected to the amplifier?
- Is the amp on standby?
- Are the amplifier VOLUME, TREBLE, MID and BASS controls above 0?
- Is the instrument volume control turned up?
- Is the A/B switch selecting the proper channel? (Try A and B)
- Is the instrument plugged into the amplifier?
(Eliminate any effects pedals and try another guitar cord.)
Check under all tube covers to see that the tube filaments are glowing a dull orange. If, after checking all of the above, the system is not performing correctly, consult your Fender authorized service center.
TONE-MASTER SPECIFICATIONS

PART NUMBER: 081-2000-000 (120V)
081-2030-000 (240V Australia)
081-2040-000 (230 UK)
081-2050-000 (230V)
081-2070-000 (100V)

COMPANION ENCLOSURES:
With 4 12" Celestion® “Vintage 30” speakers- 081-3001-000
With 2-12" Celestion “Classic Lead” (G-12-80) speakers- 081-3000-000
With 2-12" Celestion “Vintage 30” speakers- 081-3003-000

POWER OUTPUT: 100 Watts R.M.S. minimum into 4, 8 or 16 ohms

OUTPUT IMPEDANCE: 4, 8 or 16 ohms

INPUT IMPEDANCE: 1M ohms

EFFECTS RETURN: 70k ohms

POWER REQUIREMENTS: 100-120V AC, 50-60 Hz, 360W.
230-240V AC, 50 Hz, 360W.

FUSE TYPE: 100-120V version T4A 250V
220-230V version T2A 250V

DIMENSIONS: HEIGHT: 9" (22.9cm)
WIDTH: 24" (61.0cm)
DEPTH: 9.5" (24.1cm)

WEIGHT: 45 lbs (20.4kg)

SOUND: Wicked

WARNING: NO USER SERVICEABLE PARTS INSIDE, REFER SERVICING TO QUALIFIED PERSONNEL ONLY.
WARNING: TO REDUCE THE RISK OF FIRE OR SHOCK HAZARD, DO NOT EXPOSE AMPLIFIER TO RAIN OR MOISTURE.

A PRODUCT OF:
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