

MERCENARY

Modern Series

Fixed-Biased High-Gain Tube Amplifier

50-Watt Head or 2x12 Combo

-or-

60-Watt Head or 2x12 Combo

- or -

100-Watt or 120-Watt Head

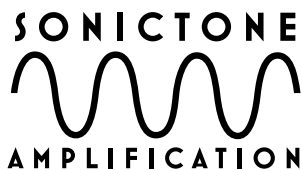
Owner's Manual

www.sonictoneamps.com

Made in the USA

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Introduction

I'd like to personally thank you for purchasing the SonicTone Mercenary tube amplifier. I know how important every player's tone is to them and that consideration goes into every amp. Part of the flagship Modern Series line up, the Mercenary is a pure no-frills, purpose-built high gain amp. It's a simple amp that gets right to the point, delivering blistering high gain tones. Whether playing live or in the studio, this amp will deliver for you. Good luck and enjoy the amp!

Sincerely,



Nick Sagona

Safety Instructions

1. Always use the correct types of tubes for this amplifier.
2. Always match the impedance to correct value of the speaker load.
3. Do not attempt to bypass the fuses or use different fuse values.
4. Please only use the provided SonicTone footswitch, which is compatible with this amplifier.
5. Please only use an active 5-pin DIN cable to connect the footswitch to the amplifier.
6. Please operate the amplifier in dry and safe conditions.
7. Please store the amplifier in a reasonable, climate-controlled environment.
8. If you are experiencing issues with the amplifier, please have it worked on by a qualified service technician only. Do not attempt to open the amp and work on it yourself.

⚡ WARNING! ⚡

Dangerous and potentially lethal voltages may be present in the amplifier even after it has been turned off and unplugged. Do not open the amp yourself or touch the inside of it. Only have a qualified service technician open up and work on the amplifier.

Features

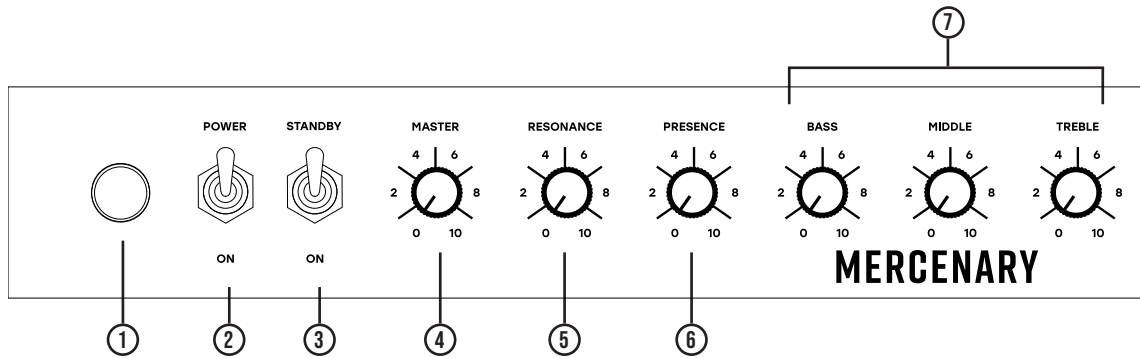
The Mercenary is a fixed-biased tube amplifier that uses four (4) 12AX7 preamp tubes. The 50-watt model uses two (2) EL34 power tubes and the 60-watt model uses two (2) 6L6 power tubes. The 100-watt model uses four (4) EL34 power tubes and the 120-watt model uses four (4) 6L6 power tubes. The features include:

- 2 channels with independent gain controls (footswitchable)
- Shared 3-band EQ
- Rhythm and lead volume controls for channel 2 (footswitchable)
- Presence and resonance controls
- Master volume
- Bright switch on channel 1
- Buffered FX loop, bypassable
- Half-power pentode/triode switch
- 3-way output impedance switch (16, 8 or 4 ohm)
- Two (2) 12" Celestion 65-watt 8 ohm Creamback speakers, wired for 16 ohm (stock combo version only)
- Birch plywood cabinet with finger-jointed construction
- 2-button footswitch

Footswitch Operation:

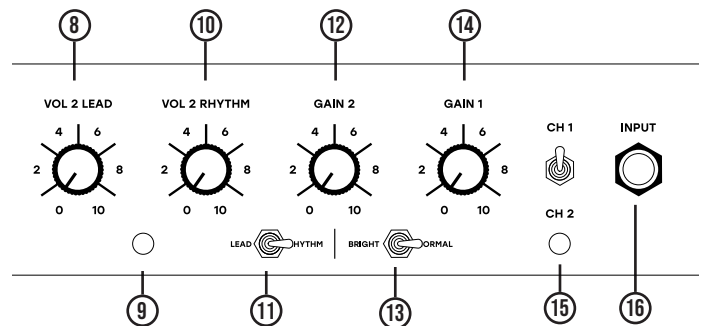
The footswitch requires the active 5-pin DIN cable to be inserted into the footswitch jack on the rear panel as well as the jack on the footswitch. In order for the footswitch to operate correctly, the corresponding switches on the amp must be set to the OFF position. The left button (orange LED) engages channel 2. The right button (red LED) engages the volume 2 lead control.

Front Panel



1. **Pilot Light** - illuminates when the amp is turned on.
2. **Power Switch** - turns the amp on.
3. **Standby Switch** - allows the amp to be played. When the standby is off, the tubes are kept warm, but the amp will not make any sound.
4. **Master** - the overall master volume of the amp.
5. **Resonance** - active tonal control that can be used to thicken up the amp's overall sound.
6. **Presence** - active tonal control that can be used to brighten up the amp's overall sound.
7. **Bass, Middle and Treble** - passive equalization controls to adjust the tone of the amp.

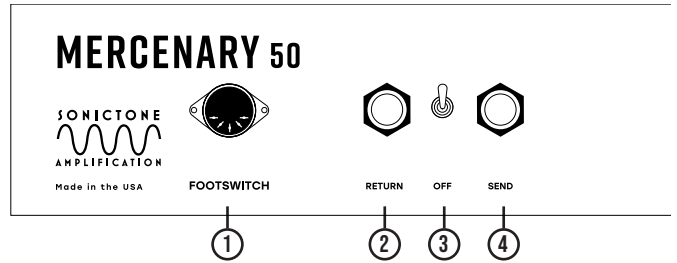
8. **Volume 2 Lead** - control to adjust the overall volume on channel 2 for leads.
9. **Volume 2 Lead LED** - illuminates when Volume 2 Lead is engaged.
10. **Volume 2 Rhythm** - control to adjust the overall volume on channel 2 for rhythm.



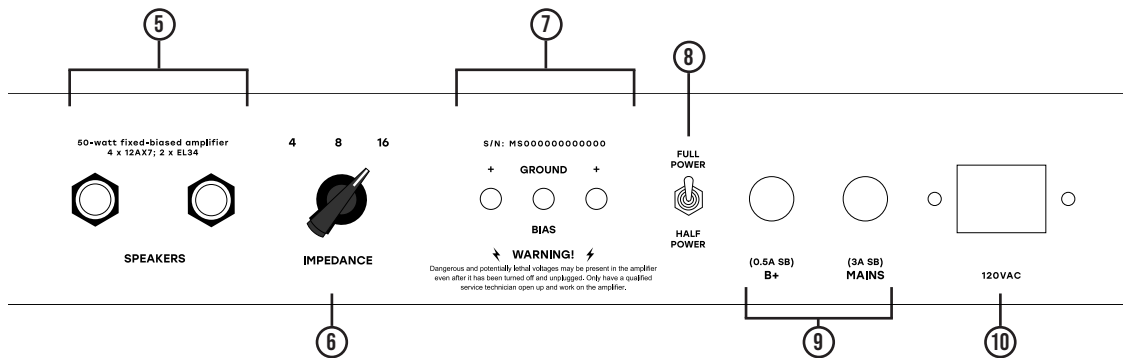
11. **Lead/Rhythm** - switch to engage a either the lead or rhythm volume controls on channel 2.
12. **Gain 2** - control to adjust the amount of gain on channel 2.
13. **Bright Switch** - switch to engage a slightly brighter tone for channel 1.
14. **Gain 1** - control to adjust the amount of gain on channel 1.
15. **CH 1 / CH 2 Switch & LED** - switch to change between channels 1 and 2 when not using the footswitch. The LED illuminates when channel 2 is engaged.
16. **Input Jack** - mono input jack to plug your guitar into.

Rear Panel

1. **Footswitch Jack** - 5-pin DIN jack to plug the provided footswitch cable into.
2. **FX Loop Return Jack** - mono input jack for the FX loop return signal.
3. **FX Loop Bypass Switch** - switch to fully bypass the FX loop circuit.
4. **FX Loop Send Jack** - mono input jack for the FX loop send signal.



A note about the FX Loop - When the FX loop is off (bypassed), the entire signal will bypass the FX loop circuit altogether. However, the send and return jacks are switched jacks that are connected together when nothing is plugged into them. Therefore, when the circuit is on, signal will be allowed to pass through the FX loop if nothing is plugged into it. Once a cable is inserted into either one of the jacks, that connection is broken and will the signal will go out through the send jack and have to be returned through the return jack.



5. **Parallel Speaker Jacks** - mono input jacks to plug the speaker(s) into. PLEASE NOTE: The jacks are in parallel, so if you plug two equal impedance speaker loads into them, you must set the impedance switch to half their impedance. For example, with two 16 ohm speaker loads plugged in, the impedance switch should be set to 8 ohms.
6. **Impedance Selector Switch** - switch to select the correct impedance of the speaker load hooked up to the amp.
7. **Bias Probes** - test jacks to check the bias values of the power tubes.*
8. **Full/Half Power Switch** - switch to change the power setting between half and full power. This feature changes the operation of the power tubes between pentode (full) and triode (half.) The amount of power reduction in wattage is approximate.**
9. **Fuse Holders** - receptacles for the amp's fuses.
10. **AC Jack** - jack to plug the provided AC cord into.

* The bias pot is located on the top of the amp chassis near the power tubes. Please only have the bias adjusted by a qualified technician.

** Please note, the power reduction in wattage **does not** equate to a 50% reduction in overall loudness (dB.)

2-Year Limited Warranty

This amplifier is protected with a limited, 2-year warranty for any and all defective issues with the build workmanship and parts, excluding tubes, transformers and speakers. The warranty does not cover general wear and tear, neglect, misuse or abuse, damage from liquids (water, alcohol, etc.), disasters, acts of God or unauthorized modifications. Any modifications made to the amp by the owner or a technician will void the warranty. The owner is responsible for all warranty shipping costs. Once the warranty work is completed, the customer will be notified and sent a final shipping invoice. The owner then is required to pay the shipping invoice to have the repaired amp shipped back to them. Returned warranty shipping will be insured and will require a signature.

Specifications

Product Series: Modern Series
Product Model: Mercenary Head or 2x12 Combo

AC Input & Fuses:

- U.S. Standard IEC jack rated for 120V @ 60Hz
- Slo-blo mains fuse: **50W & 60W** - 3A; **100W & 120W** - 4A
- Slo-blo high voltage (B+) fuse: **50W & 60W** - 0.5A; **100W & 120W** - 1A

Tubes & Power Output:

All models use four (4) 12AX7 preamp tubes.

50-watt Model

- Two (2) EL34 power tubes
- 50W @ 16, 8 or 4 ohms

60-watt Model

- Two (2) 6L6 power tubes
- 60W @ 16, 8 or 4 ohms

100-watt Model

- Four (4) EL34 power tubes
- 100W @ 16, 8 or 4 ohms

120-watt Model

- Four (4) 6L6 power tubes
- 120W @ 16, 8 or 4 ohms

Speakers:

- Two (2) 12-inch 65W 8 ohm Celestion Creambacks, wired for 16 ohm (*Stock Combo Only*)

Footswitch:

- 2-button SonicTone footswitch
- 5-pin active DIN cable required for proper operation

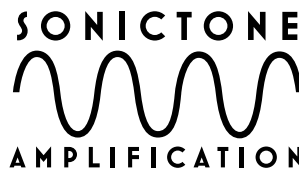
Dimensions:

Head

- Width: 30 in
- Height: 10.75 in
- Depth: 9 in
- Weight: 29.5 - 43 lbs

2x12 Combo

- Width: 30 in
- Height: 20.75 in
- Depth: 10 in
- Weight: 51 - 55lbs



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