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## INTRODUCTION

**Congratulations on your purchase of the all new *Speedster Deluxe* guitar amplifier. This tube amp is expertly hand built with pride in the United States. This versatile and rugged design offers tonal shaping unlike anything else before.**

**The *Speedster Deluxe* returns you to an exciting era in guitar amplifiers.**

### Feature list:

- 25 Watt Deluxe with 6V6 Tube circuit
- Meter Monitored Adjustable Tube Bias
- Accutronics Spring Reverb
- High Gloss Polyurethane or custom wood finish
- Convenient piggy back configuration
- 12" custom voiced Eminence® speaker
- Limited 10 year warranty



1. **Input jack**—High
2. **Input jack**—Low
3. **Volume**—Controls Loudness
4. **Tube bias**—Adjusts bias of output tubes
5. **Treble**—Tone Control
6. **Midrange**—Tone Control
7. **Meter**—Monitors output tube bias
8. **Bass**—Tone Control
9. **Pilot light**—Indicates When Power is on
10. **Reverb**—Controls reverb output
11. **Standby**—Stops voltage to power tubes
12. **Power**—Turns amp on and off

## GENERAL OPERATION



- 13. **AC Receptacle**—120v with ground
- 14. **Fuse**—2 amp
- 15. **Speaker jacks**—Parallel 16 ohm speaker inputs
- 16. **Tube select switch**—Determines which tube the meter is monitoring, right or left

### General Operation

**Note:** Before plugging in, set Power and Standby to off position. Secure the speaker connection(s) to the Speaker Jack. Failure to do so will result in damage to the output transformer.

Set the Volume to zero. Connect the power cord into the A.C. Receptacle. Turn the Power Switch on. Allow tubes 30 seconds to warm up.

Plug your guitar into either the High or Low Input Jack and turn the Standby to the on position. Adjust the Volume, Bass, Mid-range, Treble and Reverb, to obtain your desired sound.

Adjust the Bias Control to voice amplifier to your taste. Listen for the “sweet spot”. See the quick start guide on page 6 for some ready to run presets.

## QUICK START GUIDE

### Hit the ground running!

If you've never experienced a Speedster before, the following settings will produce a great baseline sound that you can customize to your own personality.

Place the speaker enclosure on level surface with the head on top. Make sure both the power and standby switches are in the down or off position. Connect the amplifier and the speaker enclosure with the provided cable.

**Caution:** Do not operate the amplifier without a secured connection between the amplifier head and the speaker cabinet, it can seriously damage the transformers.

Secure the removable AC cord to the AC receptacle on the amplifier and plug into a power supply. Turn the power switch on and observe that the pilot light and Bias meter are lit. Allow thirty seconds for warm-up before turning the standby switch on. Plug in your guitar. Set your volume to its lowest position and turn on the Standby switch. You are now powered up and ready to dial in a tone.

#### Soft and Clean

Low Input (Right)

Volume: 10:00 ( O'Clock )

Treble: 1:30 ( O'Clock )

Middle: 12:00 ( O'Clock )

Bass: 11:00 ( O'Clock )

Reverb: 10:00 ( O'Clock )

Bias: 1:00 ( O'Clock )



#### Bright and Snappy

High Input (left)

Volume: 12:00 ( O'Clock )

Treble: 2:30 ( O'Clock )

Middle: 2:00 ( O'Clock )

Bass: 10:30 ( O'Clock )

Reverb: 9:00 ( O'Clock )

Bias: 9:00 ( O'Clock )



## QUICK START GUIDE

### Classic

High Input (left)  
Volume: 3:00 ( O'Clock )  
Treble: 2:30 ( O'Clock )  
Middle: 11:00 ( O'Clock )  
Bass: 10:30 ( O'Clock )  
Reverb: 9:00 ( O'Clock )  
Bias: 3:00 ( O'Clock )



### Mean

High Input (left)  
Volume: 5:00 ( O'Clock )  
Treble: 2:00 ( O'Clock )  
Middle: 10:00 ( O'Clock )  
Bass: 9:00 ( O'Clock )  
Reverb: 8:30 ( O'Clock )  
Bias: 5:00 ( O'Clock )



### Blues Humbucker

High Input (left)  
Volume: wide open  
Treble: 1:00 ( O'Clock )  
Middle: 12:00 ( O'Clock )  
Bass: 7:00 ( O'Clock )  
Reverb: 11:00 ( O'Clock )  
Bias: 5:00 ( O'Clock )



### Personal Setting 1

High Input \_\_Low Input\_\_  
Volume:  
Treble:  
Middle:  
Bass:  
Reverb:  
Bias:

### Personal Setting 2

High Input \_\_Low Input\_\_  
Volume:  
Treble:  
Middle:  
Bass:  
Reverb:  
Bias:

## UNDER THE HOOD

### The User Adjustable Bias Feature on your Speedster Deluxe

The face mounted Bias meter in your Speedster is a precision instrument that measures the current of the two 6V6 output tubes. Together with the Tube Select Switch on the back of the chassis it is used for three different functions:



#### Optimizing the response of your Deluxe to your personal taste

Turning the Bias knob left reduces the current to the two 6V6 output tubes resulting in a thinner, cleaner sound. Turning the Bias knob right increases the current to the two 6V6 output tubes resulting in a fuller sound and slightly more headroom.

We encourage you to use the following method while adjusting the Bias setting to determine your preference. First, adjust the Bias knob to its left and lowest setting, as you do this observe the needle in the Bias Meter falling to the left. Play a short single note phrase punctuated by a chord, this will serve as your sample. Next, as you adjust the Bias knob slightly to the right observe the rising needle in the Bias meter, repeat the sample and listen for subtle changes in the tone detail. Repeat this process throughout the range of adjustment to become familiar with the feature and find your "sweetspot". Be patient and remember to be consistent with your sample for accuracy.

#### Troubleshooting a failed tube



When the is amp idle, the needle in the Bias meter will read the idle current of the 6V6 output tubes. As you play, observe the action of the needle as it responds to your attack. At low volumes the meter won't move much because the tubes aren't working that hard but at high volumes the needle thrashes up and down or just "tops out" reflecting the increased current. High output pickups will have a more dramatic impact on the meter reading than low output single coil pickups.

## UNDER THE HOOD

If at any time you experience tube failure, determining which tube has failed is simple. The Tube Select Switch on the back of the chassis is used to determine which of the two 6V6 output tubes the face mounted bias meter is monitoring.

While the amp is on and at an idle, move the switch from the left to right tube positions while observing the meter. A failed tube will have no idle current and the needle will read zero. Turn off the amp and allow the tubes to cool down. Replace the failed tube that is indicated by the Tube Select Switch.

**Caution:** During operation tubes are hot and will burn you if you touch them. Allow the tubes sufficient time to cool and always use a soft cloth to grab tubes, at the plastic base if possible.

### **Balancing tubes by matching current levels for optimum performance**

Plate current is a result of the manufacturing process of a tube. Tube suppliers use plate current among other factors to match tubes. Your Speedster can accurately display relative plate current allowing you to "match" your own tubes. First, adjust the Bias knob to its left and lowest setting, observe and record the idle current of the left and right 6V6 output tubes. Use this process to achieve the closest possible match when replacing tubes. For example, if a tube fails and you replace the duet, keep the good tube and label it with a reading from the meter to enable you to utilize it in the future should another tube with an equal value be found.

## UNDER THE HOOD

### Dialing in a tone on your Speedster Deluxe

The Speedster Deluxe is equipped with high and low inputs that greatly affect the dynamics and volume of the circuit. The high input is on the left and the low input is on the right. Use the low input to dial in a clean tone that is great for strumming or use the high input if you want the tone to "break up". The high input will offer you increased dynamics and volume. It is a good idea to leave the reverb off until after you've arrived at a desired EQ setting.



The equalization or tone controls on your Speedster are before the power stage of the circuit, often referred to as pre-power EQ. This makes your tone knobs behave like individual volume knobs for each tonal frequency. You may notice your preferred EQ settings do not correspond with the favorite settings of your other amplifiers as most amplifiers use post power EQ.

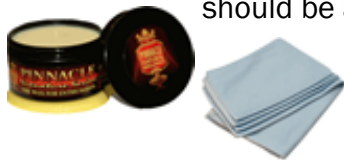
To experience this dramatic effect, turn the Bass, Middle and Treble tone knobs to their lowest position. Turn the Volume knob to full power. Now strum a full chord and observe that little or no volume is produced. Slowly turn up the Treble and produce more volume in the upper frequencies. Experiment with the full range of adjustment to determine your desired setting.

**Caution:** As you turn the treble knob to max power the volume will get very loud.

Return the Treble knob to its lowest position and repeat this process with the Middle and Bass knobs individually. This is to become familiar with the different frequency bandwidths that are being controlled. Finally, blend the different tone knobs to create the desired EQ. The interaction will produce more volume as you are now manipulating multiple tonal volume knobs. A little goes a long way so use your ears and resist the temptation to just turn everything up. Add Reverb at this point if you desire. You will find that the reverb is very sensitive as well.

## MAINTAINING YOUR SPEEDSTER

Your Speedster Deluxe is expertly finished with a premium polyurethane high gloss finish that needs to be protected with the included covers when not in use. A high quality carnauba wax should be applied with a soft 100% cotton cloth as needed to preserve the luster. As with a new custom paint job on a Hot Rod, wait 90 days before applying any polish or wax.



The aluminum faceplate of the amplifier has also been finished to prohibit oxidization. Do not clean the faceplate with abrasives. Do not lean instruments or other objects against the faceplate or cabinetry.

Do not use your Speedster as a seat. Objects placed on the amplifier during operation will likely vibrate off the edge so do not place valuables or liquids on top.

## TIPS & TRICKS

Replace tubes once yearly or as needed. The Speedster Deluxe was designed to run cool and efficiently which extends tube life but it is always wise to carry a spare 2 amp slow blow fuse and replacement tubes for both the pre amp (12AX7) and power stage (6V6). Do not operate your amplifier without a full tube compliment. You can order replacement tubes that have been tested and matched. Visit [www.speedsteramps.com](http://www.speedsteramps.com) or call 253-858-4826 for pricing and availability.

Your Speedster may receive interference from objects that generate electrical fields such as neon signs, fluorescent lights, cell phones and laptops as well as your own instrument so be aware of your proximity to such items.

## **SAFETY**

### **IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS**

**WARNING:** When using electrical products, basic cautions should always be followed, including the following:

1. Read these instructions.
2. Keep these instructions.
3. Heed all warnings.
4. Follow all instructions.
5. Do not use this apparatus near water.
6. Clean only with a soft dry cloth.
7. Do not block any of the ventilation openings. Use in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.
8. Do not use near any high heat sources such as radiators, registers, stoves or other apparatus (including amplifiers) that produce heat.
9. Do not defeat the safety purpose of the polarized or grounding-type plug. A polarized plug has two blades with one wider than the other. A grounding type plug has two blades and a third grounding prong. The wide blade or third prong is provided for your safety. If the provided plug does not fit into your outlet, consult an electrician for replacement of the obsolete outlet.
10. Protect the power cord from being walked on or pinched, particularly at power outlets, convenience receptacles, and the point they plug into the amplifier.

## SAFETY

11. Only use attachments/accessories provided by Speedster.
12. Unplug this apparatus during lightning storms or when unused for long periods of time.
13. Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel. Servicing is required when the apparatus has been damaged in any way, such as power-supply cord or plug is damaged, liquid has been spilled or objects have fallen into the apparatus, the apparatus has been exposed to rain or moisture, does not operate normally, or has been dropped.
14. Never break off the grounding pin. Connect only to a power supply of the type marked on the unit adjacent to the power supply cord.
15. If this product is to be mounted in an equipment rack, full support should be provided.
16. Exposure to extremely high noise levels may cause a permanent hearing loss. Individuals vary considerably in susceptibility to noise-induced hearing loss, but nearly everyone will lose some hearing if exposed to sufficiently intense noise for a sufficient time.



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