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Blackstar[®]

AMPLIFICATION



 **A M P E D 3**
DEPT. 10 | 100W 3 CHANNEL AMP


Blackstar Amplification Ltd, Beckett House, 14 Billing Road, Northampton, NN1 5AW, UK

For the latest information go to: www.blackstaramps.com

Whilst the information contained herein is correct at the time of publication, due to our policy of constant improvement and development, Blackstar Amplification Ltd reserves the right to alter specifications without prior notice.

Owner's Manual

the sound in your head

Designed and Engineered by
Blackstar Amplification UK 

IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

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 dry cloth.
7. Do not block any ventilation openings.
8. Install in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
9. Do not install near any heat sources such as radiators, heat registers, stoves, or other apparatus (including amplifiers) that produce heat.
10. 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 the third prong are provided for your safety. If the provided plug does not fit into your outlet, consult an electrician for replacement of the obsolete outlet.
11. Protect the power cord from being walked on or pinched particularly at plugs, convenience receptacles, and the point where they exit from the apparatus.
12. Only use attachments/accessories specified by the manufacturer.
13. Unplug this apparatus during lightning storms or when unused for long periods of time.
14. 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.

“TO COMPLETELY DISCONNECT THIS APPARATUS FROM THE AC MAINS, DISCONNECT THE POWER SUPPLY CORD PLUG FROM THE AC RECEPTACLE”.

“WARNING: TO REDUCE THE RISK OF FIRE OR ELECTRIC SHOCK, DO NOT EXPOSE THIS APPARATUS TO RAIN OR MOISTURE AND OBJECTS FILLED WITH LIQUIDS, SUCH AS VASES, SHOULD NOT BE PLACED ON THIS APPARATUS”.



This symbol is intended to alert the user to the presence of important operation and maintenance (servicing) instructions in the literature accompanying the appliance.



This symbol is intended to alert the user to the presence of uninsulated “dangerous voltage” within the product's enclosure that may be of sufficient magnitude to constitute a risk of electric shock to persons.



Warning!

Important safety information!

READ THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION CAREFULLY. SAVE ALL INSTRUCTIONS FOR FUTURE REFERENCE!

Follow all warnings and instructions marked on the product!

Danger! High internal operating voltages.

Do not open the equipment case. There are no user serviceable parts in this equipment. Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel.

Clean only with a dry cloth.

Condensation can form on the inside of an amplifier if it is moved from a cold environment to a warmer location. Before switching the unit on, it is recommended that the unit be allowed to reach room temperature.

Unauthorised modification of this equipment is expressly forbidden by Blackstar Amplification Ltd.

Never push objects of any kind into ventilation slots on the equipment casing.

Do not expose this apparatus to rain, liquids or moisture of any type.

Avoid placing vessels filled with liquid on top of the amplifier.

Do not place this product on an unstable trolley, stand or table. The product may fall, causing serious damage to the product or to persons!

Do not cover or block ventilation slots or openings.

This product should not be placed near a source of heat such as a stove, radiator, or another heat producing amplifier.

Use only the supplied power adaptor which is compatible with the mains voltage supply in your area.

The power supply adaptor should always be handled carefully and should be replaced if damaged in any way.

Never break off the earth (ground) pin on the power supply adaptor.

The power supply adaptor should be unplugged when the unit is to be unused for long periods of time.

Before the unit is switched on, the loudspeaker should be connected as described in the handbook using the lead recommended by the manufacturer.

Always replace damaged fuses with the correct rating and type.

Never disconnect the protective mains earth connection.

High loudspeaker levels can cause permanent hearing damage. You should therefore avoid the direct vicinity of loudspeakers operating at high levels. Wear hearing protection if continuously exposed to high levels.

If the product does not operate normally when the operating instructions are followed, then refer the product to a qualified service engineer.

Only suitable for safe use under non-tropical climate conditions. Maximum ambient temperature for operation: 35°C

Always make sure that the power adaptor is connected to a socket/outlet with an earthed connection.

Mains Voltage: 100-240V~ 50/60Hz.

This amplifier is only designed and evaluated for safety at a maximum altitude of 2000m.

The U.S. Government's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has specified the following permissible noise level exposures:

Duration Per Day In Hours	Sound Level dBA, Slow Response
8	90
6	92
4	95
3	97
2	100
1½	102
1	105
½	110
¼ or less	115

According to OSHA, any exposure in excess of the above permissible limits could result in some hearing loss.

Ear plug protectors in the ear canals or over the ears must be worn when operating this amplification system in order to prevent a permanent hearing loss if exposure is in excess of the limits as set forth above. To ensure against potentially dangerous exposure to high sound pressure levels, it is recommended that all persons exposed to equipment capable of producing high sound pressure levels such as this amplification system be protected by hearing protectors while this unit is in operation.



All electrical and electronic products should be disposed of separately from the municipal waste stream via designated collection facilities appointed by the government or the local authorities.



Introduction

Thank you for purchasing this Dept. 10 AMPED guitar amplifier pedal. Like all our products, this floorboard rig is the result of countless hours of painstaking Research and Development by our world-class design team. Based in Northampton (UK), the Blackstar team are all experienced musicians themselves and the sole aim of the development process is to provide guitarists with the ultimate tools for self-expression. All Blackstar products are subjected to extensive laboratory and road testing to ensure that they are truly uncompromising in terms of reliability, quality and above all TONE.

The Dept. 10 AMPED series is packed with innovative, ground-breaking technology allowing the sound in your head to be more portable than ever before.

Please read through this handbook carefully to ensure you get the maximum benefit from your new Blackstar product.

To find out more about the Blackstar range of products please visit our website at www.blackstaramps.com.

Thanks!

The Blackstar Team

Features

Since our launch in 2007, Blackstar has led the way in the innovation of guitar amplification. The Dept.10 AMPED 3 represents the culmination of years of technical research and development. AMPED 3 has an intuitive control set like a traditional amp, but the versatility of programmability and Pro Digital Technology.

AMPED 3 is a 100W, no compromise floorboard amp capable of delivering the tone and feel of traditional valve amps. The six unique preamp voices provide a vast range of sounds and characters, from jangly cleans, to soaring leads and in-your-face rhythm tones. Combined with a built-in boost pedal and two studio quality reverb options, AMPED 3 gives you the freedom to endlessly shape and refine your tone. Save and recall your favourite sounds simply and easily with the press of a footswitch, courtesy of the user programmable amplifier patches. But it doesn't end there; MIDI control, 9V pedal power outputs and a fully featured FX loop make your AMPED 3 the ever-expandable hub for your pedalboard.

Via the Response control, AMPED 3 offers three distinctly different power valve responses. The power valve responses (EL84, EL34, 6L6) deliver the response, dynamics, sag and break up characteristics of their analogue counterparts. The three responses can be delivered at 100W of power at either 8 or 16 Ohms, switchable down to 20W or 1W, in a compact package that fits in your gig bag.

CabRig is Blackstar's next-generation DSP speaker simulator and creates a fundamental shift in the accessibility of professional recording and performing. CabRig awards musicians the ability to access previously unattainable technology, that has long been reserved for professional sound engineers and producers. The CabRig outputs enable you to get the sound in your head from any speaker including headphones, studio monitors and front of house. AMPED 3 can also be used as an audio interface, recording the same tones you use live straight into your computer via USB-C.

Front Panel

1. Channel Footswitches

Your AMPED 3 has two modes: “Patch” mode and “Manual” mode.

When in Patch Mode, the Channel LED colours will be as follows:

- **Clean** - White
- **Crunch** - Orange
- **Overdrive** - Red

When in Manual mode, all Channel LEDs will be white and the Recall Indicator (17) will stay illuminated.

NOTE: See Boost Footswitch (10) for how to switch modes.

Your AMPED 3 will be in Patch mode by default. In this mode you can recall the settings stored within your amplifier for each Channel using the Channel footswitches. The sound you hear will be a stored patch and may not reflect the physical position of the controls. Only one patch can be active at a time. The active patch will be indicated by the Channel LED.

To save a new patch, hold down the active Channel footswitch until the Recall Indicator (17) and Channel LED flash. New patches can be saved in both Patch and Manual mode.

When in Manual mode, the Channel footswitches will select which Channel is active. Only one Channel can be active at a time. The active Channel will be indicated by the Channel LED. See Voice Switches (2) for descriptions of each of the Channel Voices.

2. Voice Switches

Your AMPED 3 has three distinct Channels with two Voice options per channel, ranging from ultra clean to extremely overdriven. The Channel can be selected using the Channel footswitches (1) and the Voice for each Channel can be selected using the Voice switches located above the Channel footswitches.

Clean Channel

- **Clean Warm** - Classic clean, dynamic
- **Clean Bright** - ‘Boutique’, will break up when pushed hard

Crunch Channel

- **Crunch** - Classic medium gain overdrive
- **Super Crunch** - More gain and punch than Crunch

Overdrive Channel

- **OD 1** - Hot-rodded Master Volume overdrive
- **OD 2** - Tight, articulate and aggressive overdrive

This setting is saved when you store a patch.

3. Gain

The Gain control adjusts the amount of overdrive or distortion. Low settings, counter clockwise, will deliver a cleaner sound. As the Gain control is turned clockwise the sound will become more overdriven, with maximum distortion in the full clockwise position. This setting is saved when you store a patch.

4. Bass

The Bass control adjusts the level of low-end frequencies in your tone. The EQ controls are tailored to the selected voice. For example, the Clean Warm voice has a more pronounced low end, whereas the Clean Bright voice has a more controlled bass response. This setting is saved when you store a patch.

5. Middle

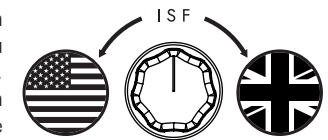
The middle control adjusts the level of mid-range frequencies in your tone. The mid-range frequencies are particularly important in setting the amount of ‘body’ your tone has. With the middle control set to its minimum position (fully counter clockwise) the sound will be scooped. As the Middle control is increased (clockwise) the amount of ‘body’ is increased. This setting is saved when you store a patch.

6. Treble

The Treble control adjusts the level of high frequencies in your tone. At low settings the sound will be warm and dark in character. As the Treble control is increased the sound will become brighter. This setting is saved when you store a patch.

7. ISF

The patented ISF control works in conjunction with the Bass, Middle and Treble controls. It allows you to choose the exact tonal signature you prefer. Fully counter clockwise has a more American characteristic, with a tight bottom-end and more aggressive middle, and fully clockwise has a British characteristic, which is more ‘woody’ and less aggressive. Unlike conventional ‘contour’ controls and parametric equalisation systems, the Bass, Middle and Treble controls remain interactive with each other just like in a traditional guitar amplifier tone stack. This leads to a very familiar, musical response. This setting is saved when you store a patch.



TIP: We recommend that to start with the ISF is set to half way and the Bass, Middle and Treble are set to taste. Then try gradually adjusting the ISF CW and CCW until you find the sound you prefer.

8. Volume

Use this to control the preamp/channel volume. Turning it clockwise increases the volume. High levels of Volume in combination with high levels of Master Volume (15) will introduce the effect of valve power amp distortion and compression, the character of which depends on the Response (13) setting you have selected. This setting is saved when you store a patch.

9. Boost

This control affects how much your signal level is boosted when the boost is active. Higher settings (clockwise) will increase the amount your signal is boosted. The Boost Pre/Post toggle switch changes the position of the Boost in the signal chain.

Pre-Boost - This setting places the Boost before the preamp stage. High levels of Pre-Boost will push the preamp harder and result in more saturation. This setting is ideal when toggling between a rhythm and lead tone, with the Boost bypassed and active respectively. The Pre-Boost has a maximum boost of 12dB.

Post-Boost - This setting places the Boost after the preamp stage and before the Response/power amp stage. This setting is perfect to engage a 'solo boost', a flat increase in level without affecting your preamp tone. This setting can also be used to push the Response/power amp stage into overdrive, when used in combination with high settings of channel and Master Volume. The Post-Boost has a maximum boost of 6dB.

The Boost level and Boost position are saved when you store a patch.

10. Boost Footswitch

The Boost footswitch toggles the Boost on and off. The LED will light up when the Boost is active. This is a global setting and it is not saved when storing a patch.

Hold the Boost footswitch for 2 seconds to toggle between Manual Mode and Patch Mode. When the amplifier is in Manual Mode, the sound will reflect the current physical position of the controls. If the Reverb or Boost are active when switching to Manual Mode they will be bypassed.

When in Patch Mode, the Channel LED colours will be as follows:

- **Clean** - White
- **Crunch** - Orange
- **Overdrive** - Red

When in Manual mode, all Channel LEDs will be white and the Recall Indicator (17) will stay illuminated.

Whilst in Manual Mode, any of the controls can still be modified by an external source (Blackstar Architect software, MIDI controller), but this means that then the sound will no longer represent the physical positions of the knobs on the front panel.

Out of the box, or after a factory reset, your amplifier will start-up in Patch Mode. This setting can be changed with Blackstar's Architect software. Navigate to the settings panel and deselect 'Start-up in Patch Mode'.

11. Reverb

The Reverb knob controls the amount of Reverb applied to your guitar tone, with low settings in the counter clockwise direction and high settings clockwise.

Use the Reverb type switch to alter the character of the Reverb:

■ **Dark** - Warm and resonant

■ **Light** - Airy and smooth

The Reverb level and Reverb type settings are saved when you store a patch.

The Reverb time and tone can be customised for each Reverb type using Blackstar's Architect deep-editing software and saved to your amp.

12. Reverb Footswitch

The Reverb footswitch toggles the Reverb effect on and off. The LED will light up when the Reverb is active. This setting is global and not saved when you store a patch.

When the Reverb is active, holding the Reverb footswitch will activate the 'Freeze' effect. Whilst the Reverb footswitch is held down and the 'Freeze' effect is active, the Reverb will decay over a much longer period of time, achieving a synth pad-like effect. Notes played whilst the Reverb footswitch is held will be added to this freeze effect.

13. Response

The Response control delivers three distinctly different and authentic power valve responses – EL84, EL34 and 6L6. Each setting delivers the response, dynamics, sag and break-up characteristics of the selected valve power amp. This means that these amps deliver live without compromise.

Blackstar's power valve responses change the characteristics of the sound from dynamic and tight to compressed and spongy.

- **EL84** - Bell-like full bodied Class A with lots of compression and soft break-up
- **EL34** - Classic British Class A/B full bodied crunch with focussed mids
- **6L6** - Tight dynamic Class A/B with extended high and lows

This setting is saved when you store a patch.

14. Presence

The Presence control sets the overall treble of the power valve Response (13). Accentuate percussive and articulate high-end or control aggressive, sharp treble with this control. This setting is saved when you store a patch.

15. Master

This controls the overall volume of your amplifier. Turning it clockwise increases the volume. High levels of preamp Volume (8) in combination with high levels of Master volume will introduce the effect of valve power amp distortion and compression, the character of which depends on the Response (13) setting you have selected. This is a global setting and is not saved when storing a patch.

16. Power

This 3-way miniature toggle switch allows the user to switch between three different power output settings:

■ **100W** - This is the full power setting which will give the loudest clean headroom. Ideal for live and stage use.

■ **20W** - This setting reduces the output power to a maximum of 20 Watts. Use for smaller gigs, when rehearsing, or when a more power amp overdriven tone is desired at a lower level.

■ **1W** - This is the lowest power setting and reduces the output power down to 1 Watt. Perfect for practising, recording or when a power amp overdriven tone is desired at low volume.

Power level is a global setting and is not saved when storing a patch.

17. Recall Indicator

The Recall Indicator shows if there is a mismatch between the current value of a parameter within the amplifier and the corresponding physical front panel control. For example, when you load a patch the controls on the front panel may not always reflect the sound you are hearing.

To prevent unexpected level jumps in the control you are adjusting, the front panel knobs will have no effect on the sound until the knob reaches the current parameter value. Once reached, the Recall Indicator will flash once, the knob will 'take control' of the value and it will then increase or decrease the value.

The Recall Indicator will flash once each time the physical knob 'passes through' the value stored in the current patch. Recall is active for Gain, Bass, Middle, Treble, ISF, Boost Level, Channel Volume, Presence and Reverb.

Rear Panel

18. Mains Input

The supplied detachable IEC mains cable is connected here. Dept. 10 AMPED products use a universal input power supply. This means that the mains input range is rated at 100Vac to 240Vac and capable of operating at 50Hz and 60Hz.

NOTE: The mains input can only be connected to a power outlet that is compatible with the voltage, power and frequency requirements stated on the rear panel. If in doubt, seek advice from a qualified technician

19. Power Switch

This switch is used to turn the amplifier on and off.

20. In

Plug your guitar into this input. Always use a good quality screened instrument lead.

21. FX Loop Send

Connect to the (mono) input of external effects units here. The Effects Loop Send is taken before the Presence (16) and Master (18) controls.

The default for the Effects Loop is for it to be placed before the onboard Reverb in

the signal chain. This setting can be changed using Blackstar's Architect software and saved to the amp.

22. FX Loop Return

Connect to the (mono) output of external effects units here.

As default, the Effects Loop is a series setup. The Effects Loop can be set to run in parallel using Blackstar's Architect software and this setting can then be saved to the amp. When running in parallel, Architect also provides control over the FX Loop Return Level.

TIP: The typical use of a parallel effects loop is to run the looped effects on full 'wet'. This eliminates the dry signal from the effects loop and offers more control over the wet/dry mix.

NOTE: If the FX Loop is set to parallel, running effects in the loop that contain a dry signal will result in a level boost when mixed back with the dry pass-through at the FX Loop Return.

23. FX Loop Level Switch

The Level switch sets the Effects Loop to either +4dBu or -10dBV, which allows the level to be optimal for use with either professional audio equipment (+4dBu) or with guitar level effects such as effects pedals (-10dBV).

TIP: If you are unsure which setting to use, start with -10dBV.

24. Out

Connect your AMPED to the input of another amplifier using the Out. The signal for this output is taken after the Presence (16) and Master (18) controls, but the power valve Response (17) is not applied to the tone.

25. Speaker Outputs

Connect a suitable guitar speaker cabinet to the matching impedance Speaker Output:

The output marked '16 OHM' is for the connection of a single 16 Ohm extension speaker cabinet.

The output marked '8 OHM' is for the connection of a single 8 Ohm extension cabinet.

WARNING: Do not use both speaker outputs at the same time, doing so will damage your amplifier. Connect the speaker cable to your cabinet first, then your AMPED pedal.

NOTE: If the speaker lead is disconnected at the amplifier end, then your AMPED pedal will automatically switch to a safe, low power consumption mode. Therefore, for example, if you wish to record using the output from either the XLR, stereo jack, or USB, then you can set it on your desk without any need to be connected to a speaker load.

IMPORTANT NOTE: The protection sensing is at the speaker output jacks on the unit. Do not disconnect at the speaker end only. Disconnect at the amp!

26. Outputs

Use the two isolated 9V DC outputs to power your external pedals up to a maximum combined current of 500mA. Both isolated outputs are centre negative.

WARNING: Do not exceed a combined total current of 500mA from the two outputs. Do not connect pedals that require a centre positive power connection.

27. USB Audio - CabRig Output

Use the supplied USB-C cable to connect your AMPED 3 directly to your computer. This is for USB digital audio output and for connecting to Blackstar's Architect software.

Standard audio drivers are used to connect the amplifier to a PC, Mac or other applicable recording device. No specific drivers are required. For a guide on low latency USB recording visit: www.blackstaramps.com/usbrecording

NOTE: Always connect the amplifier via a main USB port, often found on the rear of the computer.

CabRig

CabRig is a next-generation advanced speaker simulator that reproduces the sound and feel of mic'd up guitar speaker cabs in incredible detail. The sound is dependent on the position of the CabRig switch. The CabRig switch has 3 positions to choose between three presets, these presets are completely customisable in the CabRig section of the Architect software.

Your AMPED 3 is capable of multiple simultaneous inputs and outputs via USB. The amplifier will appear as an audio capture device within recording software. The audio output via USB from your amplifier directly to your computer is carried across four independent, simultaneous channels:

■ **Channel 1: CabRig, left channel** – The fully processed guitar sound, with power amp and speaker cabinet emulation. This will include the left channel of the CabRig Room. This signal is taken from after the Master volume control.

■ **Channel 2: CabRig, right channel** – The fully processed guitar sound, with power amp and speaker cabinet emulation. This will include the right channel of the CabRig Room. This signal is taken from after the Master volume control.

■ **Channel 3: Preamp output** – The sound of the preamp voices and EQ stages, taken before the reverb and without any speaker or cabinet emulation. Ideal for use with your own effects and power amp/cabinet emulation plugins within your recording software/DAW. This signal is not affected by the Master volume control or any controls within CabRig, but it can be attenuated by up to 20dB using the CabRig Outputs 'Level' control on the rear panel.

■ **Channel 4: Unprocessed dry guitar signal** – This is the direct signal from your guitar as received by the input stage of the amp. This signal is ideal for reamping. This signal is not affected by any of the amplifier's controls.

These audio streams can be recorded simultaneously within your chosen recording software/DAW. Control the output levels of Channels 1 and 2 using CabRig within Blackstar's Architect software.

TIP: To record a stereo Room sound, pan the stereo CabRig left channel 100% left in the mix and pan the right channel 100% right.

Your AMPED pedal can also receive audio input from your computer:

■ **Channel 1: Line input, left channel** – Used for audio monitoring or backing track playback via the Balanced XLR and Line Out CabRig outputs.

■ **Channel 2: Line input, right channel** – Used for audio monitoring or backing track playback via the Balanced XLR and Line Out CabRig outputs.

28. MIDI In

To receive MIDI messages, connect your MIDI device here using the supplied TRS MIDI to 5 pin MIDI adaptor. Always use a good quality MIDI lead. The default for receiving MIDI messages via the MIDI In is channel 1. The MIDI channel can be changed using Blackstar's Architect software.

Please refer to the MIDI table at the end of this manual for more details.

29. MIDI Thru

MIDI messages received at the MIDI In port will be passed, unaffected, to the MIDI Thru. Use this output to chain multiple MIDI devices together.

NOTE: The path from MIDI In to MIDI Thru is a software pass-through.

30. Balanced – Mono XLR CabRig Output

Use a 3 pin XLR cable to connect this output to an audio interface, stage box or mixing desk. This provides a low noise, low impedance, high quality connection for recording or live use.

The signal from this output is the fully processed guitar sound, with power amp and CabRig speaker cabinet emulation.

This signal can also be attenuated by up to 20dB using the CabRig Outputs 'Level' control. The USB stereo line input will also be affected by the Level control when it is monitored through the XLR output.

NOTE: This signal is taken after the Master volume control.

31. Line Out – Stereo CabRig Output

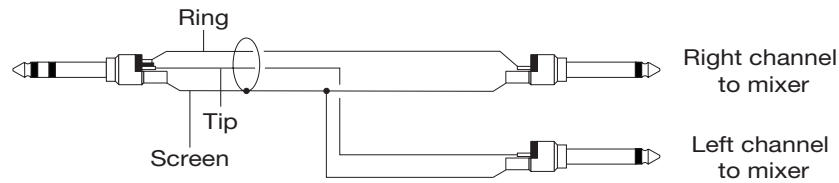
This ¼" TRS jack socket provides a stereo connection to a recording device, mixing desk or headphones. Always use a good quality TRS (stereo) type lead or TRS to 2 x TS (mono) lead (see diagram below).

The signal from this output is the fully processed guitar sound, with power amp and CabRig speaker cabinet emulation. The sound is dependent on the CabRig switch (34) setting and the more in-depth settings within the CabRig section of Blackstar's Architect software.

The CabRig signal level can also be attenuated by up to 20dB using the Level

control (35). The USB stereo line input will also be affected by the Level control when it is monitored through the Line Out.

NOTE: This signal is taken after the Master volume control.



32. CabRig Switch

Use this to switch between the three CabRig settings currently stored on your AMPED 3. You can customise the three factory patches using the CabRig section of Blackstar's Architect software.

33. Level - CabRig Outputs

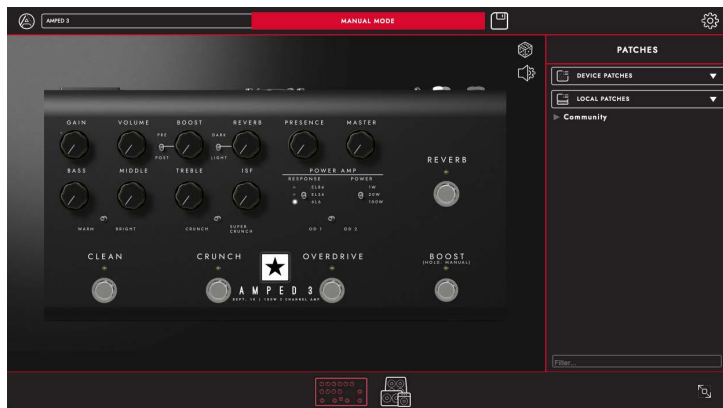
This control allows quick access, physical control over the XLR, Line Out and USB audio channel 3 output level. At maximum (fully clockwise), this control has no effect on the signal level. At minimum (fully anti-clockwise), this control attenuates the signal on these outputs by 20dB.

34. Kensington Lock

Also known as a Kensington Security Slot or K-Slot this is a specifically sized hole for connecting a compatible Kensington Lock to secure the amplifier to a fixed point. For more information please refer to www.kensington.com

Architect

Amplifier

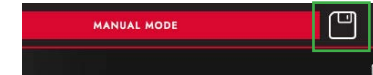


On this page all of the front panel (outlined in the 'Front Panel' section of this manual) controls of your AMPED 3 can be adjusted.

To switch to CabRig page in Architect, click on the CabRig icon at the bottom of the page. Please see the CabRig section below for more information on CabRig.

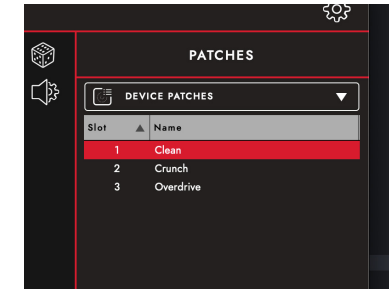


Saving Patches



Click on the 'Save' icon in the toolbar to save an amp Patch. In the pop-up window, you can choose to "Save Patch to Device" or "Save Local Patch". All amplifier front panel settings will be saved for either option.

Clicking "Save Patch to Device" will save a Device Patch. Device Patches are stored on your Amped 3 and can be recalled using the Channel Footswitches (see 1 - Channel Footswitches for more information) and via MIDI (please see the MIDI table at the end of this manual for more information) without connecting to Architect. Device Patches can be recalled at any point by double clicking on the patch in the patches panel or right clicking on the patch and selecting "Load Patch".

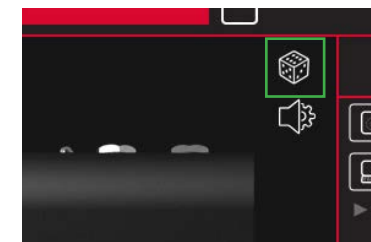


Local Patches are saved on your computer, rather than on your amplifier. Local Patches can be accessed in the patches panel on the right-hand side of the amp page. You can save as many Local Patches as you like and these can be recalled at any point by double clicking on the patch in the patches panel or right clicking on the patch and selecting "Load Patch".

Note: Device Patches can be saved as Local Patches by right clicking on the patch and selecting "Save as Local Patch". Local Patches can be saved to your Amped 3 by right clicking on the patch and selecting "Save Patch to Device".

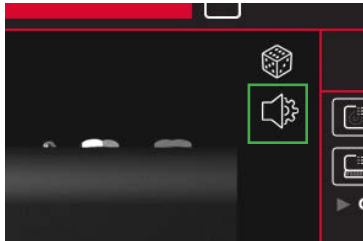
Random Preset Generation

Click on the 'Die' icon to generate a random amp preset. All front panel controls will be randomised.



Audio Settings

Click on the 'Audio Settings' icon to open the Audio Settings panel. Adjust MIDI channel, FX Loop and Reverb settings here. Changes made here will automatically update, but will not be permanently saved to the amp. To save your changes, click "Save Amp Settings" at the bottom of the page.

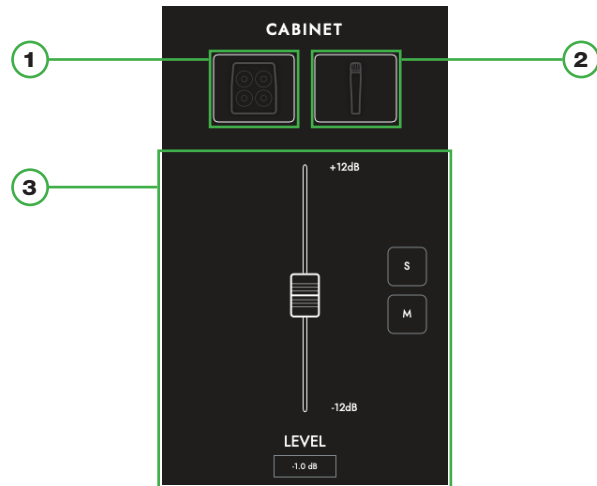


CabRig

To access and edit CabRig settings you will need Blackstar's Architect software. Download Architect from the Blackstar website: <https://blackstaramps.com/architect>

Cab Channel Strip

The Cab Channel strip allows you to craft and control your virtual cabinet tone.



1. Cab Selection

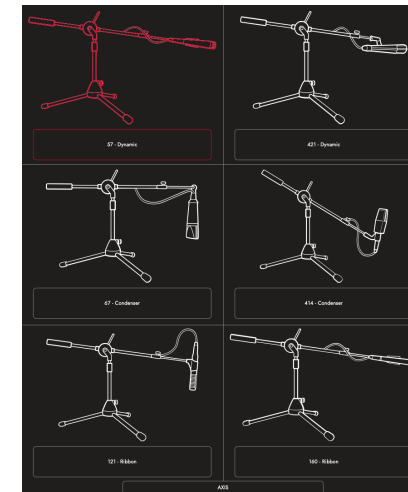
Select your virtual cabinet using the Cabinet Selection panel. Choose from 23 distinct speaker cabinets or select DI (Direct Injection) for the direct power amp output.

NOTE: For use with 3rd party IR (Impulse Response) loaders, select the DI option. The DI is taken from after the power amp emulation.



2. Microphone Selection

Mic up your virtual cabinet with a choice of 6 industry standard microphones. Toggle the axis of your microphone choice for a different tonal flavour. In general, OFF AXIS will darken your tone and shift the mid-range character.

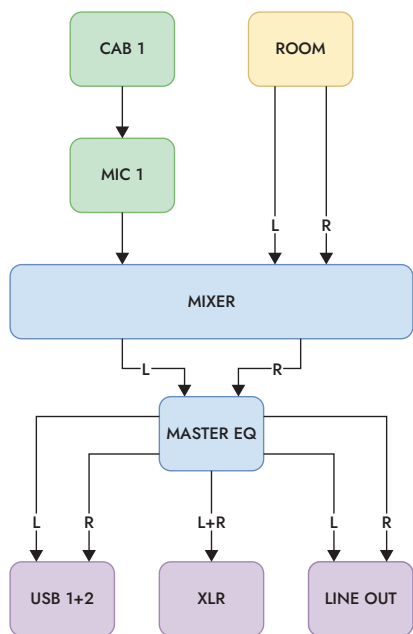


Microphone	Character
57 - Dynamic	Bright and cutting, with controlled lows. A classic microphone choice for recording guitar cabinets. Use this microphone off-axis for a less sharp, mid-focussed tone.
421 - Dynamic	Aggressive and tight. Use this microphone for an up-front sound or off-axis for a more mellow sound.
67 - Condenser	Balanced with extended top end. Off-axis this microphone gives a similar tone to a ribbon, but with a controlled low end.
414 - Condenser	Rich and bold. The extended top and bottom end of this microphone gives your tone a larger-than-life sound.
121 - Ribbon	Thick and warm. A great choice for a vintage sound. Try off axis for a super smooth sound.
160 - Ribbon	Punchy mids with smooth highs. Use this microphone for a more controlled ribbon sound or off-axis for a richer tone.

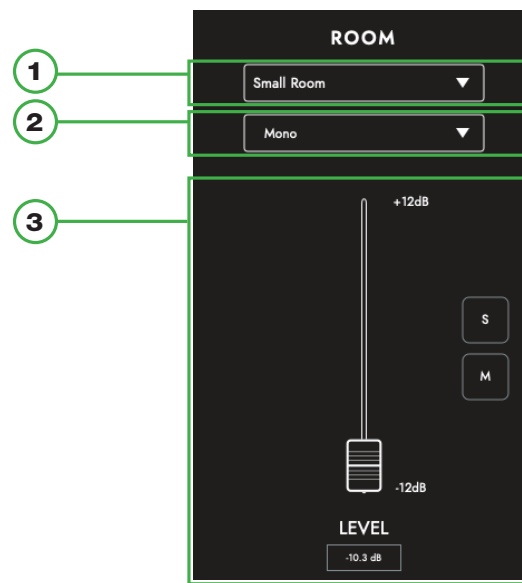
3. Mix Controls

Balance the levels of your cabs using the channel faders. Use the solo button to isolate your cab and room, or the mute button to silence it.

Below is the signal chain for CabRig:



Room



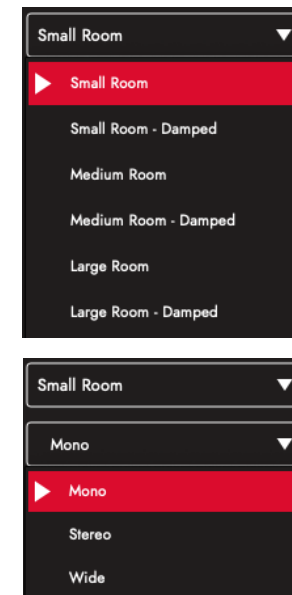
1) Room Selection

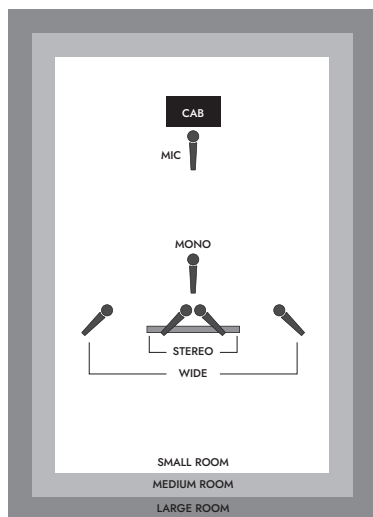
Support your cab and mic selection with room ambience. Select the type of room using the drop-down menu. Each room type has a “Damped” option; selecting this will result in a shorter and more refined sound.

2) Width Selection

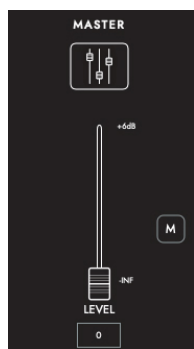
Adjust the stereo width of your room choice using this drop-down. These are emulations of three different micing techniques (shown below): mono mic, XY pair and spaced pair.

NOTE: The “Wide” setting will enhance and widen the stereo image, resulting in an expansive stereo experience.

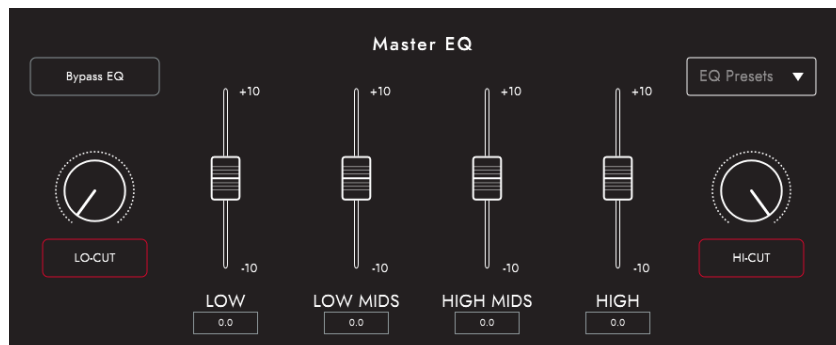




Master



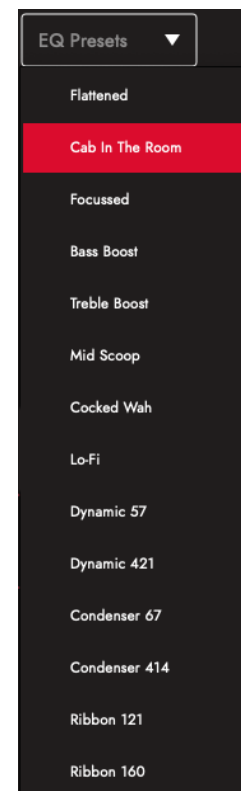
EQ



The channel EQs provide the ability to shape the tone of each of your cab and mic combinations individually. The EQ can be bypassed for a quick comparison.

- **LOW-CUT:** Controls a 2nd order high pass filter
- **LOW:** Controls a low shelf filter at 120Hz +/- 10dB
- **LOW MIDS:** Controls a peak filter at 400Hz +/- 10dB
- **HIGH MIDS:** Controls a peak filter at 1KHz +/- 10dB
- **HIGH:** Controls a high shelf filter at 4KHz +/- 10dB
- **HI-CUT:** Controls a 2nd order low pass filter

TIP: Choose one of the EQ Presets from the drop-down box (shown to the right) for a good place to start. This is like having your own sound engineer, getting you to the sound you want quickly. The EQ Presets also provide a great platform for experimentation should you wish to tweak your tone further.



Patches and Presets



Device (AMPED 3) Patches

These are the patches that are currently loaded on your amplifier, selectable via the CabRig switch. Press the save button and “Save Patch to Device” to save your current CabRig settings to one of your “Device Patches”.

Blackstar Patches

The “Blackstar Presets” are a collection of patches created by the team at Blackstar. These presets are included when you install Blackstar Architect. The Blackstar Presets are a great place to start if you are new to CabRig. Find a preset that suits your tone and adjust the CabRig settings from there.

Local Patches

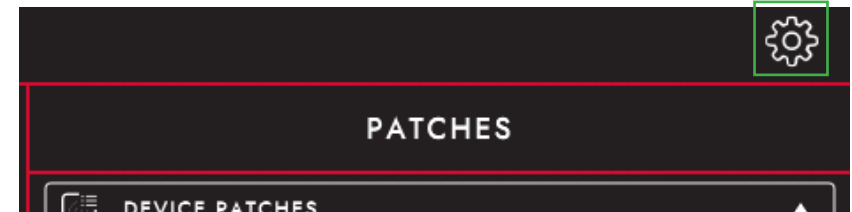
“Local Patches” are saved on your computer (Documents – Blackstar – Saved Patches), instead of loaded onto your amp.

To save a local patch, click the save button and “Save Local Patch”. You can save as many “Local Patches” as you like and these can be recalled at any point by double clicking on the patch in the patches panel or right clicking on the patch and selecting “Load Patch”.

TIP: To organise your “Local Patches” in the patch panel go to “Documents – Blackstar – Saved Patches” and create your own folders. Simply drag your patches into the folders you have created and your folders will appear in the patch panel.

Settings Panel

Click the gear icon to open the settings panel.



Audio

Adjust MIDI channel, FX Loop and Reverb settings here. Changes made here will automatically update, but will not be permanently saved to the amp. To save your changes, click “Save Amp Settings” at the bottom of the page.

About

Information about your amplifier will be displayed here.

Reset Default Patches and Settings

The default factory amp patches, CabRig patches and settings can be restored to your amplifier at any time. This can only be done using Blackstar’s Architect software. Download Architect from the Blackstar website: <https://blackstaramps.com/architect/>

Navigate to the ‘General’ settings panel within Architect and click ‘Restore Patches and Settings’. Follow the on screen instructions to complete the reset.

IMPORTANT NOTE: This process will overwrite any user content saved to the amp.

Firmware Upgrade

When a firmware upgrade for your amplifier is available, Architect will automatically prompt you, upon connection to your AMPED 3, to upgrade to the latest version. Follow the onscreen instructions to perform the firmware upgrade.

Technical Specifications

AMPED 3

Power (RMS): 100W

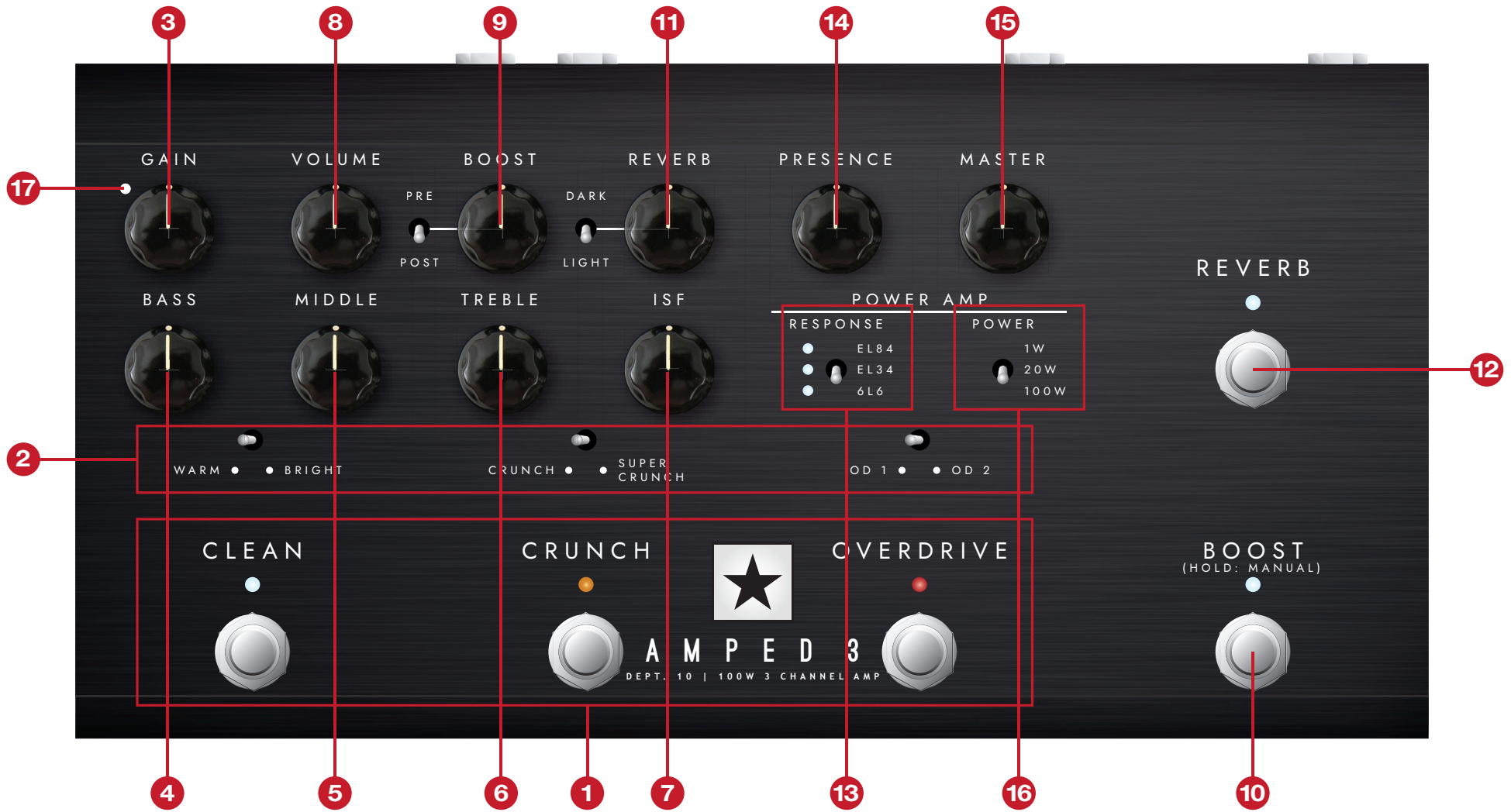
Weight (kg): 1.98

Dimensions (mm): 285(W) x 80(H) x 150(D)

MIDI Table

	Function	CC Number	Value
Preamp	Volume	2	0-127
	ISF	3	0-127
	Bass	4	0-127
	Middle	5	0-127
	Treble	6	0-127
	Gain	7	0-127
Response	EL84	8	127 = On
	EL34	10	127 = On
	6L6	12	127 = On
	Presence	15	0-127
	Master Volume	16	0-127
Clean	Clean Patch	25	127 = On
	Warm Voice	26	127 = On
	Bright Voice	27	127 = On
Crunch	Crunch Patch	38	127 = On
	Crunch Voice	39	127 = On
	Super Crunch Voice	40	127 = On
Overdrive	Overdrive Patch	51	127 = On
	OD1 Voice	52	127 = On
	OD2 Voice	53	127 = On
Boost	Boost Footswitch	59	0 = Off 127 = On
	Boost Post	60	127 = On
	Boost Pre	61	127 = On
	Boost Level	64	0-127
FX Loop	FX Loop Pre	75	127 = On
	FX Loop Post	76	127 = On
	FX Loop Series	77	127 = On
	FX Loop Parallel	78	127 = On
Reverb	Reverb Footswitch	86	0 = Off 127 = On
	Reverb Bright	87	127 = On
	Reverb Dark	88	127 = On
	Reverb Level	91	0-127
	Reverb Hold	92	0 = Off 127 = On
Power Level	1W	110	127 = On
	20W	111	127 = On
	100W	112	127 = On

AMPED 3 Top View



AMPED 3 Rear View

