FRIEDMAN

AMPLIFICATION

VX-30

A DLF PRODUCT

INSTRUCTION MANUAL

Congratulations on your purchase of the Friedman **VX Series -** an amplifier inspired by the legendary British chime that has shaped more than sixty years of rock history, reimagined for today's player.

The VX-30 traces its lineage to a rare 1963 copper-panel amplifier enhanced with a Top Boost circuit, capturing the shimmer, harmonic complexity, and touch sensitivity of the great British EL84 amplifiers - refined with the flexibility and craftsmanship that define every Friedman.

Legendary British Chime

The chiming, touch-sensitive EL84 amplifiers of the early 1960s inspired generations of guitarists - from sparkling cleans and edge-of-breakup grind to harmonically rich overdrive. Dave Friedman, who defined the modern voice of hot-rodded British rock, brings that same obsessive ear and deep circuit knowledge to the other great British sound.

The VX-30 distills that legacy into a 30-watt design that delivers the chime, bloom, and dynamic response of the originals - equally at home on stage, in the studio, or at lower volumes.

Authentic Design & Dual Channels

The Brilliant channel delivers the sparkle, clarity, and harmonic richness that made British Top Boost amplifiers legendary, with independent Volume, Treble, and Bass controls. The Normal channel features a three-position Voice switch (TRE, BAS, NOR) that recreates the three factory voicings offered on the vintage originals.

Unlike the amplifiers that inspired it, the VX-30 places both channels in phase, allowing them to be blended like jumping the inputs on a classic Plexi - creating textures the originals never could while preserving the pure voice of each circuit.

Modern Control, Pure Tone

A Cut control shapes the power amp's high-frequency response, while the M.V.C. (Master Volume Control) lets you push the cathode-biased EL84 output stage into its sweet spot at any playing level.

You will notice there is no standby switch - none is needed. The GZ34 tube rectifier's gradual warm-up brings the amp to life gently and naturally every time you power on.

Platform & Construction

Available as the **VX-30 Head** or **VX-30 Combo** and paired with the matching **VX-212** extension cabinet, the VX Series adapts to any rig. The combo and cabinet feature Celestion Blue Alnico speakers - the same legendary drivers that gave the original amplifiers their voice.

Each amplifier is handcrafted in Los Angeles using premium components and custom-made transformers, built to Dave Friedman's exacting standards.

Features

- Vintage-Series 30-watt all-tube 2x12” Combo or Head
- Available in Black or Ivory Cosmetics
- Loaded with 2 x Celestion Blue Alnico speakers (combo)
- 4 x EL84 power tubes
- 3 x ECC83S preamp tubes
- 5AR4 rectifier tube (no standby switch needed)
- Cathode-biased power section with zero negative feedback
- Blend both channels for expanded tonal possibilities - operating in phase
- Brilliant Channel: Volume, Treble, Bass
- Normal Channel: Volume and three-position Voice switch (TREBLE, NORMAL, BASS)
- High and Low sensitivity inputs
- Cut control for power amp high-frequency shaping
- M.V.C. (Master Volume Control)
- Three speaker outputs: 1 x 16 Ω, plus paired outputs for 1 x 8 Ω or 2 x 16 Ω cabinets
- Custom-made transformers
- Handcrafted in Los Angeles, California
- Limited Lifetime Warranty

We know you will love your new VX-30. If you have any questions or need help don't hesitate to email us at friedmanamps@gmail.com.

INSTRUCTIONS

Please keep this instruction manual for future reference and for the duration of owning this Friedman Amplifier. Please carefully read and understand the instructions inside this user's manual before attempting to operate your new amp. This instruction manual includes essential safety information regarding the use and maintenance of the amplifier. Take special care to heed all warning symbols and signs inside this manual and those printed on the amplifier itself.


WARNING!
TO PREVENT FIRE OR SHOCK HAZARD, DO NOT EXPOSE THE AMPLIFIER TO WATER OR MOISTURE. DO NOT OPERATE NEAR ANY WATER SOURCE


WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS?
The lightning flash with an arrow triangular symbol is intended to alert the user to the presence of non-insulated "dangerous voltage" within the products enclosure, and may be of sufficient magnitude to constitute a risk of electric shock

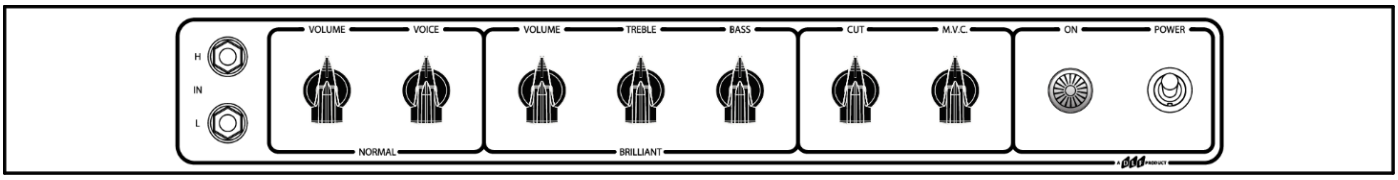

WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS?
The exclamation point triangular symbol is intended to alert the user to the presence of important operating and maintenance (servicing) instructions in the user manual accompanying this amplifier!

1. **Read Instructions** – All the safety and operating instructions should be read before this product is operated.
2. **Retain Instructions** – The safety and operating instructions should be retained for future reference.
3. **Heed Warnings –** All warnings on the amplifier and in the operating instructions should be adhered to.
4. **Follow Instructions –** All operating and use instructions should be followed.
5. **Water and Moisture** – The amplifier should not be used near water – for example, a bathtub, washbowl, kitchen sink, laundry tub, wet basement, or near a swimming pool, and the like.
6. **Heat –** Amplifier should be situated away from heat sources such as radiators, heat registers, stoves, or other amplifier (including amplifiers) that produce heat.
7. **Power Sources** – This product should be operated only from the type of power source indicated on the rating label.
8. **If you are not sure of the type of power supply to your home,** consult your product dealer or local power company.
9. **Grounding or Polarization**
    a. This product may be equipped with a polarized alternation-current line plug (a plug having one blade wider than the other). This plug will fit into the power outlet only one way. This is a safety feature. If you are unable to insert the plug fully into the outlet, try reversing the plug. If the plug should still fail to fit, contact your electrician to replace your obsolete outlet. Do not defeat the safety purpose of the polarized plug.
10. **Power-Cord Protection**
    a. Power-supply cords should be routed so that they are not likely to be walked on or pinched by items placed upon or against them, paying particular attention to the cord in correspondence of plugs, convenience receptacles, and the point where they exit from the amplifier.
11. **Cleaning** – The amplifier should be cleaned only as recommended by the manufacturer. Clean by wiping with a cloth slightly damp with water. Avoid getting water inside the amplifier.
12. **Non-use Periods** – The power cord of the amplifier should be unplugged from the outlet when left unused for a long period of time.
13. **Object and Liquid Entry**
    a. Care should be taken so that objects do not fall and liquids are not spilled into the enclosure through openings.

14. **Damage Requiring Service**
    a. **The amplifier should be serviced by qualified service personnel when:**
        i. The power-supply cord or the plug has been damaged; or
        ii. Objects have fallen, or liquid has been spilled into the amplifier; or
        iii. The amplifier has been exposed to rain; or
        iv. The amplifier does not appear to operate normally or exhibits a marked change in performance; or
        v. The amplifier has been dropped, or the enclosure damaged.
        vi. The amplifier needs tube replacement or biasing
15. **Servicing** – The user should not attempt any service to the amplifier beyond that described in the operating instructions.
16. All other servicing should be referred to qualified service personnel.
17. **Ventilation –** Slots and openings in the cabinet are provided for ventilation and to ensure reliable operation of the product and to protect it from overheating, and these openings must not be blocked or covered. The openings should never be blocked by placing the product on a bed, sofa, rug, or other similar surface. This product should not be placed in a built- in installation such as a bookcase or rack.
18. **Attachments –** do not use attachments not recommended by the product manufacturer as they may cause hazards.
19. **Lightning –** For added protection for this product before a lightning storm, or when it is left unattended and unused for long periods of time, unplug it from the wall outlet. This will prevent damage to the product due to lightning and powerline surges.
20. **Replacement Parts –** When replacement parts are required, be sure the service technician has used replacement parts specified by the manufacturer or have the same characteristics as the original part. Unauthorized substitutions may result in fire, electric shock, or other hazards.
21. **Safety Check –** Upon completion of any service or repairs to this product, ask the service technician to perform safety checks to determine that the product is in proper operating condition.
22. **FUSES –** Always use the correct rating and type of fuse as indicated on the rear panel. Note the proper rating fuse is determined by the AC line voltage in the country where this unit is being operated.

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FRONT PANEL CONTROLS



INPUTS (H / L)

Plug your guitar in here. The H (High) input provides full sensitivity and is the right choice for most guitars. The L (Low) input is padded for hotter pickups, or for extra headroom and a cleaner, more open response.

VOLUME (Normal Channel)

Controls the level of the Normal channel. Use it on its own for the classic vintage voice or blend it with the Brilliant channel to add warmth, body, and low-end fullness to your tone.

VOICE (Normal Channel)

Selects between the three factory voicings offered on the vintage originals, revoicing the Normal channel at the turn of a switch:

- **TREBLE** - The brightest voice. Crisp, open cleans with an articulate, chiming top end.
- **NORMAL** - The classic voice. Warm, woody response that sits between the other two - and a favorite for treble booster users.
- **BASS** - The fullest voice. Thicker low-end character with added body and weight

VOLUME (Brilliant Channel)

Controls the level of the Brilliant channel - the legendary Top Boost voice. Lower settings deliver sparkling, pristine cleans; higher settings push the channel into rich, harmonically complex edge-of-breakup and overdrive.

TREBLE (Brilliant Channel)

Shapes the high-frequency response of the Brilliant channel, from smooth and warm to glassy and articulate.

BASS (Brilliant Channel)

Shapes the low-end response of the Brilliant channel. Lower settings keep the channel tight and chimey; higher settings add body and girth.

Because both channels operate in phase, the two Volume controls also act as a blend. Dial in any mix of Normal and Brilliant to create textures unavailable on the original vintage designs.

CUT

Shapes the high-frequency response of the power amplifier and affects both channels. Turning the control up progressively smooths and darkens the top end - perfect for taming brightness at higher volumes or matching the amp to brighter guitars and cabinets.

M.V.C. (Master Volume Control)

Sets the overall output level of the amplifier. The M.V.C. lets you push the channel volumes - and the cathode-biased EL84 power section - into their sweet spot at manageable listening levels. For the full vintage experience, run it wide open and control your level with the channel volumes.

ON

The indicator lamp illuminates when the amplifier is powered on.

POWER

Turns the amplifier on and off. You will notice there is no standby switch - none is needed. The GZ34 tube rectifier brings the amplifier to life gradually and naturally each time you power on. Allow a few moments for the tubes to warm up before playing.

REAR PANEL



8 OHM SPEAKER OUT JACKS (2): Plug in ONE 8-ohm cab or TWO 16-ohm cabs here.

16 OHM SPEAKER OUT JACK: Plug in ONE 16-ohm speaker cab here.

MAINS INPUT: Plug the supplied IEC power cord here.

MAIN FUSE: This fuse is in the compartment found below the AC receptacle. Replace with the appropriate fuse as marked on the back panel. If this fuse blows, it is probably the result of a bad tube. Constant blowing of this fuse (even when using new tubes) is an indication that something could be seriously wrong with your amp. STOP and call us so we may help you diagnose.

FRIEDMAN LIMITED LIFETIME WARRANTY

Thank you for choosing Friedman. Friedman manufactures some of the world's most reliable hand-wired, all-tube amplifiers and speaker cabinets. Friedman takes great pride in an extremely thorough testing procedure, which is implemented on each product prior to shipment. In the unlikely event that you have a problem with your amplifier, please refer to warranty below. Friedman stands behind our products like no other and we're here to help you!

AMPLIFIERS: Friedman offers a limited lifetime warranty to the original purchaser that a Friedman amplifier will be free from defects in material and workmanship. A dated sales receipt will establish coverage under this warranty, PLEASE KEEP YOUR PROOF OF PURCHASE TO USE YOUR WARRANTY. This warranty does not cover service or parts to repair damage caused by accident, neglect, abuse, normal wear, disaster, misuse, abuse, over-powering, negligence, inadequate packing or shipping procedures and service, repair or any modifications to the product which have not been authorized or approved by Friedman in writing. **ANY MODIFICATION TO THE AMPLIFIER WILL VOID YOUR WARRANTY**. If this product is defective in materials or workmanship as warranted above, your sole remedy shall be repair or replacement by Friedman as provided below.

CAUTION: Do NOT attempt to repair, modify or service your amplifier by yourself!!! Please read the instruction manual for all safety notifications, warnings and instructions. Friedman, like all tube amplifiers, has extremely high voltages that can cause serious injury or death. Do not remove the chassis from the amplifier. All repair and service work must be performed by Friedman or an authorized service center of Friedman. ANY UNAUTHORIZED REPAIRS WILL VOID YOUR WARRANTY.

TUBES: Friedman warrants the original purchaser. that the specific tubes used in Friedman will be free from defects in material and workmanship for a period of 90 days from the original date of purchase. A dated sales receipt will establish coverage under this warranty. This tube warranty will automatically terminate 90 days after the original retail sales date. This tube warranty is in lieu of all other expressed warranties. If the tubes fail within the 90-day warranty period, your sole remedy shall be replacement of tubes as provided below.

RETURN PROCEDURES: In the unlikely event that a defect occurs please email us at friedmanamps@gmail.com. In most cases we can help you diagnose the problem. If a product must be sent to us, please follow the procedure outlined below.

- Defective products must be shipped, together with proof of purchase, freight pre-paid and insured to the Authorized Friedman Service Center or directly to Friedman.
- If a product must be returned to Friedman for warranty replacement/repair, a Return Authorization Number must be obtained from our Customer Service Department prior to shipping the product.
- Please contact Friedman Customer Service Department for the Authorized Friedman Service Center nearest you.
- Products must be shipped in their original packaging or its equivalent; in any case, the risk of loss or damage in transit is to be borne by the purchaser.
- The Return Authorization Number must appear in large print directly below the shipping address.
- Always include a brief description of the defect, along with your correct return address and telephone number.
- When calling to inquire about a returned product, always refer to the Return Authorization Number.

If Friedman determines that the unit was defective in materials or workmanship at any time during the warranty period, Friedman has the option of repairing or replacing the product at no additional charge, except as set forth below.

- All replaced parts become a property of Friedman. Products replaced or repaired under this warranty will be returned via ground shipping within the United States or Canada - freight prepaid.
- Friedman is not responsible for costs associated with expedited shipping, either to Friedman or the return of the product to the customer.

All warranty repairs outside the United States and Canada must be directed to the dealer or distributor from which you purchased the product.

INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGE: In no event will Friedman be liable for any incidental or consequential damages arising out of the use or inability to use of any Friedman product, even if a Friedman dealer has been advised of the possibility of such damages, or any other claim by any other party. Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of consequential damages, so the above limitation and exclusion may not apply to you. This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights, which may vary from state to state.

FOR YOUR PROTECTION: Please complete and send in the completed warranty registration card to: Friedman Amplification, care of Boutique Amps Distribution, 5300 Harbor Street, Commerce, CA 90040. Please send within (10) ten days of the date of purchase so that we may contact you directly in the event a safety notification issued in accordance with the 1972 Consumer Product Safety Act.

CUSTOMER SUPPORT: Our dedicated and friendly staff is ready to help you with any warranty or product questions you may have. Please email us at friedmanamps@gmail.com.

Thank you again for choosing Friedman and we look forward to a long relationship!

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www.FriedmanAmplification.com