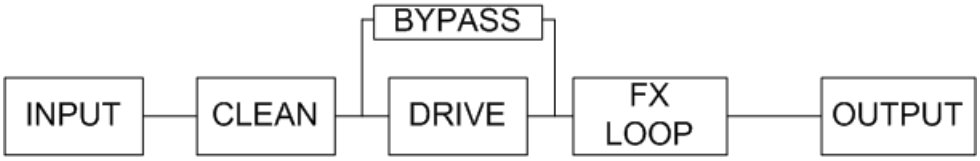
- Amps That Sing -

TweedyDrive+
Operations Manual

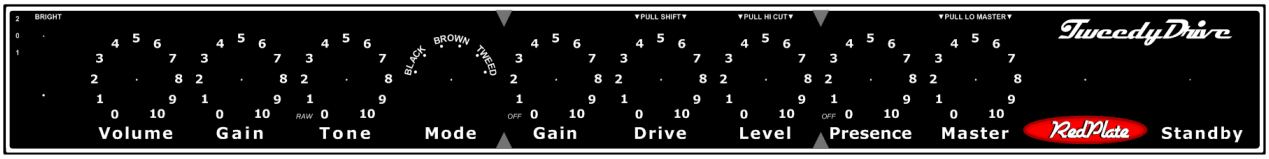
Welcome to the RedPlate Family, thank you for your purchase of a RedPlate TweedyDrive+ amplifier. Please take a moment and review this manual for an understanding of all the available features (or just put all the knobs at noon and play).

This Manual applies to TweedyDrive models produced after 6/01/2012.

Signal Path Block Diagram:

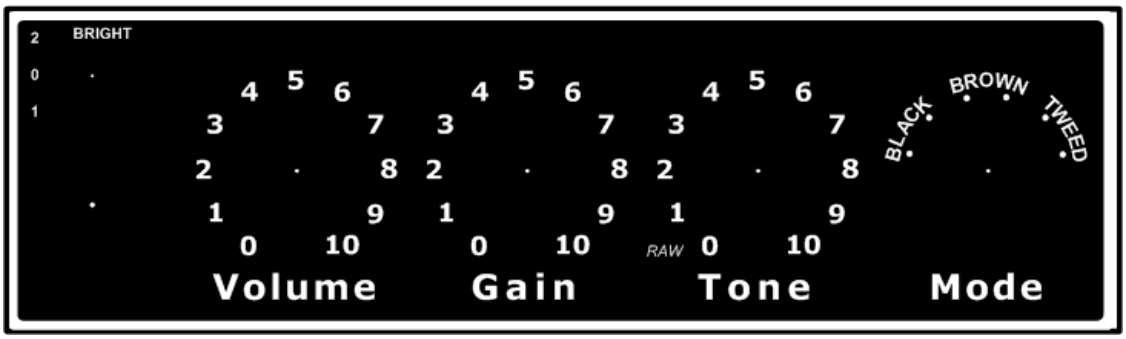


FRONT PANEL:



Input Jack – Typical High impedance input to the amplifier. Designed to be “Pedal Friendly” in the unlikely event you will ever use a pedal in front of the TweedyDrive+.

TWEED PREAMP SECTION



The Tweed Preamp is designed to imitate the classic Tweed style guitar amps and do it with on board spring reverb. The TweedyVerb gives the player the ability to do three unique things not seen in conventional tweed style amps:

1. Get into the “sweet spot” and still be able to play at various volume levels and venue sizes.
2. Imitate the more traditional Treble Middle Bass style amps when needed.
3. Footswitch control of preamp Mode and Boost for instant personality changes.

Bright Switch – Center = OFF, Down = sound of new strings, Up = normal Bright response.

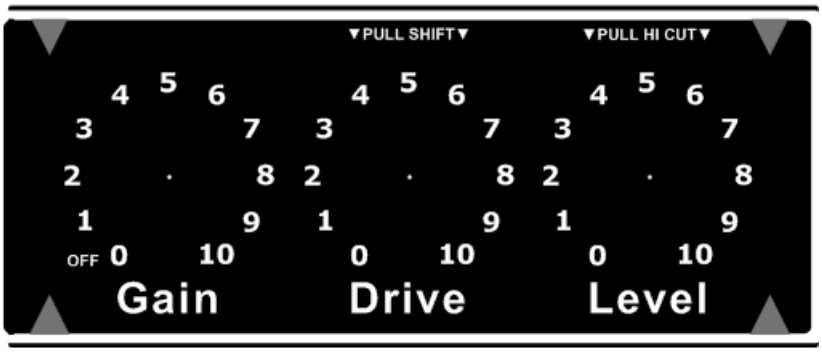
Volume – This is the Preamp’s master volume, set it to the level best for your Overdrive tone.

Gain Control - Sets the “sweet spot” – adjust this for the amount of character you desire in your clean tone.

Tone – Treble is emphasized at settings past 5, more bass at the lower numbers. When rotated to zero it clicks off for a full tone lift. The tone lift can also be accessed instantly via the footswitch (see the **Other Features** section of this manual for details).

Mode Selector – A six position rotary switch, it steps through 6 progressively fatter positions of midrange and girth. The fattest Tweed setting is position 6. Position 5 or 6 can be instantly accessed via the footswitch (see the **Other Features** section of this manual for details).

DRIVE SECTION

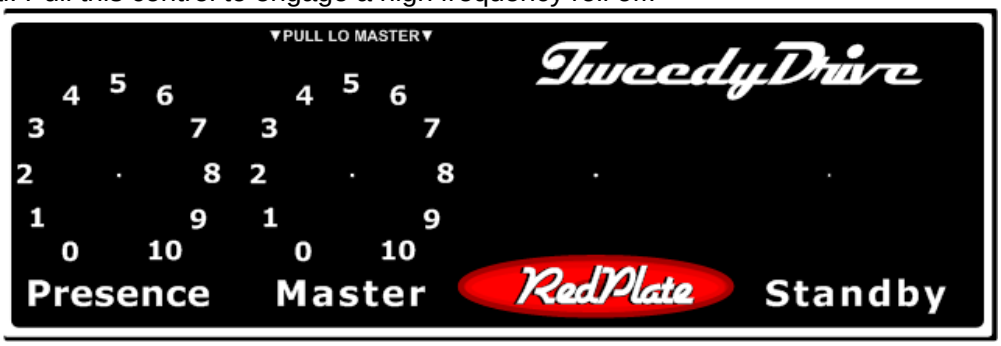


The Drive section controls the amount of character to add to the clean tone. The section’s range of effect can be just a hint of early break up or a full on aggressive heavy metal distortion.

Gain Control – Bypasses the section when rotated to zero, this control sets the amount of signal for the first gain stage of the section. Low settings are smoother and higher settings are more aggressive.

Drive Control – Sets the amount of distortion by controlling the level between the 2 gain stages of the section. Pull this control to shift into more gain and girth for the distortion.

Level Control – Sets the output volume of the section. Higher settings are “bigger” and more 3 dimensional. Pull this control to engage a high frequency roll off.



MASTER SECTION

Presence Control – The presence circuit uses global negative feedback to remove low frequencies which frees up bandwidth for more midrange and highs. Think of it as a tone control to balance the relationship between highs and lows, especially when the amplifier is naturally producing increased low end at louder volumes. The control clicks off when rotated to zero for no presence.

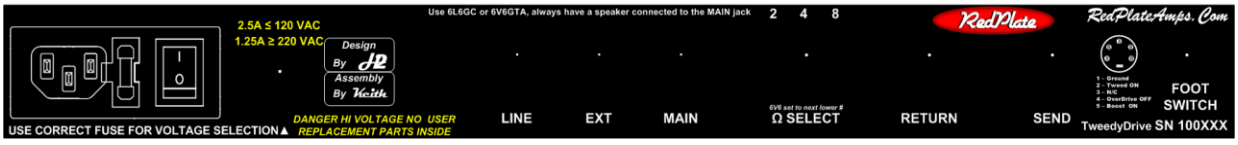
Master Volume – This is an active control and actually adds gain at the higher settings. The cleanest tones are achieved at settings below 7, at customer request a “PULL LO MASTER” feature can be added, which makes extreme low volumes easier to dial in.

Standby Switch – This switch allows the tubes to warm up before operating the amplifier. Wait 1 minute after power on to move it up to the operate position. For improved tube life and performance do not leave the amplifier in Standby position for longer than 20 minutes (better to just leave it in operate mode during performance intermissions).

REAR PANEL SECTION

Domestic (USA):

Rear Panel Export:



IEC Module – contains the main power switch, power cord inlet connector and the fuse drawer. To access the fuse(s) use a small flat blade screwdriver in the notch at the side of the power cord inlet connector, the drawer snaps out in a rearward direction. The TweedyDrive+ uses the smaller European (5mm X 20mm) sized fuses. A time delay variety (SLO-BLO) is recommended

Voltage Selector- (export version only) Rotate the selector switch for the proper VAC selection. Make sure to use the correct fuse as noted on the rear panel.

HI/LO POWER Switch – (If Present - Domestic Version only) Changes the voltage on the power amp input stage (Phase Inverter tube) so the amplifier breaks up sooner.

Pentode/Triode Switch – (If Present - Domestic Version only) Changes the output tube from pentode to triode mode resulting in a drastic power reduction and change in feel, great for small venues.

Impedance Selector Ω - Set this to the total impedance of all attached speakers. When 6V6 tubes are used, set to the next lower number.

Speaker Jacks – The MAIN and EXT jacks are wired in parallel. The MAIN jack must be used first because it has a protection device. ALWAYS HAVE A SPEAKER CONNECTED TO AVOID PERMANENT AMPLIFIER AND OUTPUT TUBE DAMAGE.

LINE OUT – A line level signal jack derived from the speaker output which contains the whole tone of the amplifier.

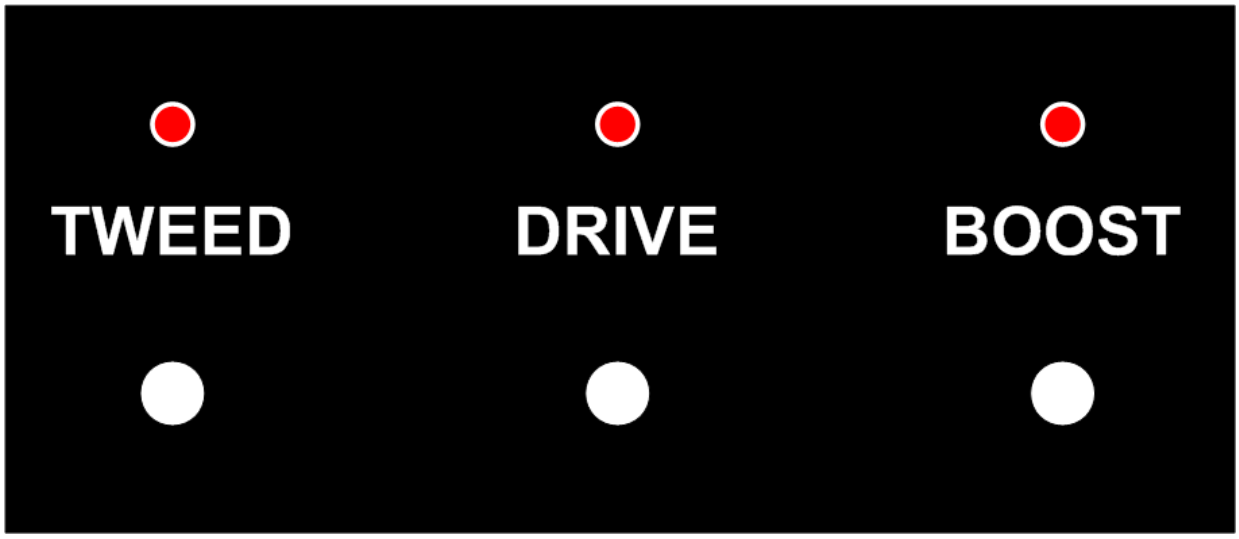
SEND and RETURN Jacks – The send jack connects to the input of an external effects device and the return jack connects to the output of an external effects device. The return jack interrupts the signal path so the external effects unit must mix the wet and dry signals.

Footswitch Jack - This is a standard 180 degree 5 pin DIN jack for footswitch connection. If a replacement cable is needed, make sure all 5 wires are supported. The pinout is conveniently located on the rear panel for use with automated switcher conversion boxes.

OTHER FEATURES

The TweedyDrive+ comes complete with a 3 button footswitch and a footswitch cable. The cable used is a regular MIDI cable and is readily available in any length at most music stores.

FOOTSWITCH



TWEED – Mode Change feature. When engaged, the preamp goes into one of the Tweed positions of the Mode Switch. If the panel Mode switch is set to 1 or 3 it jumps to 5, panel set to 2 or 4 jumps to 6. The footswitch button has no effect when position 5 or 6 of the rotary MODE switch on the front panel is selected because it is a duplicate function.

DRIVE – Character Boost feature. When lit, the Drive section of the amplifier is active, not lit, means the section is bypassed. The footswitch button does not work when the front panel Gain control is rotated to zero because it is a duplicate function.

BOOST – Girth Boost feature. When lit, adds volume and tone by removing the preamp Tone control from the circuit (tone stack lift). The footswitch button does not have any effect when the front panel Tone control is rotated to zero because it is a duplicate function.

POWER ON/OFF PROCEDURE

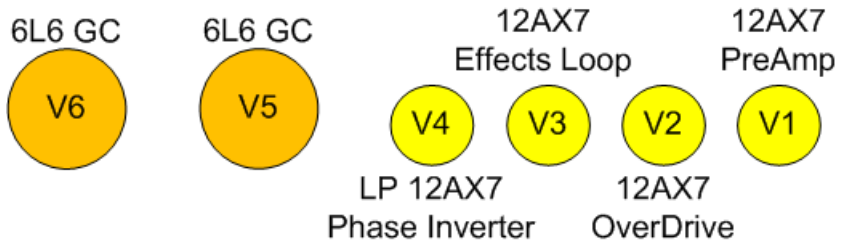
1. Check the front panel Standby switch to make sure it is toggled downward for Standby operation (the Standby switch is located at the right side of the front panel next to the pilot light).
2. Toggle the main power switch to the up position (this switch is located at the edge of the IEC input module). The front panel pilot light should be lit.
3. Wait one minute and then toggle the front panel Standby switch upwards to the Operate position.
4. POWER OFF – Toggle the main power switch downward, there is no need to go into standby first although it will not hurt anything.

MAINTENANCE SECTION

Your TweedyDrive+ amp has been designed for years of trouble free operation. The vacuum tubes will need to be replaced over time. We recommend new output tubes every 160 - 240 hours and new preamp tubes every 320 - 480 hours.

The front and rear panels have a protective finish that can be easily scratched with abrasives so always use a damp soft cloth to clean them (never use paper towels). The cabinetry can be cleaned with our super secret tolex cleaner (on a paper towel - 2 squirts of WD-40 and 4 squirts window cleaner), let your keyboard player try it on his plastic keys, it replicates the feel of a brand new keyboard.

TUBE CHART



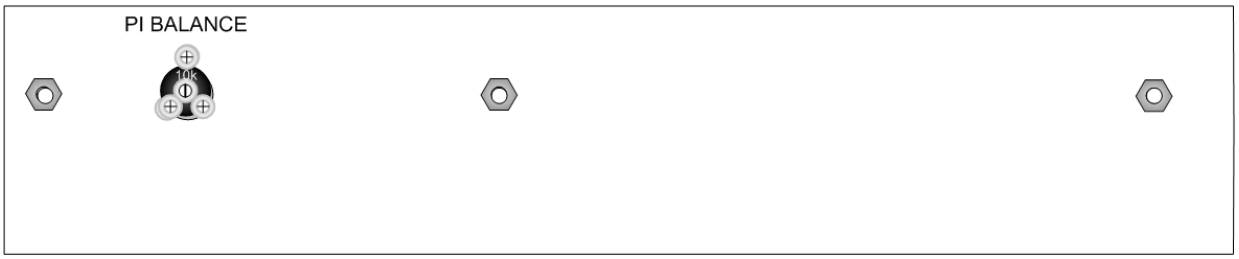
All tube brands are acceptable, a long plate is preferred in the V4 (Phase Inverter) position.

Warning – No user serviceable parts inside so unless you know what you're doing please refer to a qualified service person only.

BIAS PROCEDURE

The TweedyDrive+ is a cathode biased amp so no biasing is required.

INTERNAL TRIM POT



The TweedyDrive+ has 1 internal trim pot for the PI Balance – Useful for working with unmatched 12AX7 tubes in the phase inverter position. Refer to qualified personnel for proper setting.

RedPlateAmps Warranty

At RedPlateAmps we pride ourselves making products that are built to last. The workmanship in your RedPlate amplifier is warranted to be problem free for the lifetime of the original owner. The actual electrical components in your amplifier are warranted for a period of 3 years. Exclusions are vacuum tubes, reverb tanks, cables, speakers and cosmetics which are warranted for 30 days. Improper handling or product misuse or product abuse or unauthorized repair work or unauthorized modifications may nullify your warranty. Eligibility for coverage and covered items are at the sole discretion of RedPlateAmps.

RedPlateAmps
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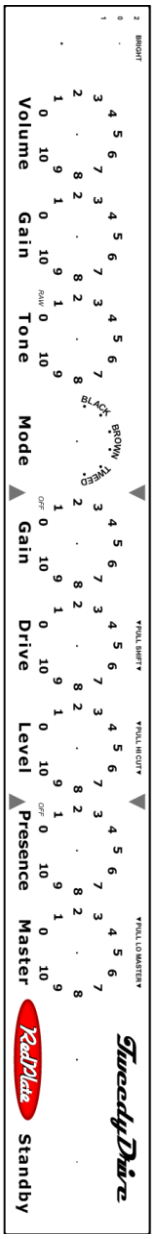
Thanks again for joining the RedPlate Family! – Keith and Henry

FAVORITE SETTINGS

[Check the website for updates to this section]

Blank Template:

Copy or print the next page to record your own favorites. Once you've zeroed in on your signature setting please email the completed template to Info@RedPlateAmps.com – we may include your favorite in the online version of this manual.


BRIGHT
Volume
Gain
Tone
Mode
BLACK
BROWN
TWEED
Gain
Drive
Level
Presence
Master
TweedyDrive
RedPlate
Standby