

**acoustic**

**B-4**

BASS AMPLIFIER

OWNER'S MANUAL

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# A WORD TO ACOUSTIC AMPLIFIER OWNERS

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for choosing an ACOUSTIC Product and to assure you of our continuing interest in your musical pleasure and satisfaction.

This manual has been prepared to acquaint you with the proper operation of your amplifier and to provide important information as to its many capabilities. We urge you to examine it carefully and follow the recommendations contained to help insure the most enjoyable and trouble-free operation of your amplifier.

When it comes to service, remember that an authorized ACOUSTIC service center knows your amplifier best and is interested in your complete satisfaction.

To prevent fire or shock hazard do not expose this appliance to rain or moisture.

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# GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Model B-4 is a single channel, 440 Watt RMS, dual powered (Bi-Amplified) bass amplifier engineered to provide the professional musician with the sound, features and reliability necessary for use in the recording studio, night club, concert hall or coliseum

The B-4 front panel features two input jacks (one low-level, one high-level), a gain control luminous clip indicator, four active tone controls, a volume control and a bright switch. An electronic crossover balance control has been added to allow the user the ability to adjust the relative levels between the high frequency and low frequency enclosures when the B-4 is used in the bi-amp mode\*. A unique low distortion limiter can be switched in and adjusted to prevent the power amplifier from being driven to clipping. This allows full power to be produced without annoying distortion on the peaks.

A seven-band graphic equalizer, coupled with the four broadband tone controls and bright switch provide the ultimate in tonal flexibility without being overly difficult to operate.

Rear panel features include an effects loop for low noise use of external effects, pre-amp output, power amp input and a low-level low-impedance balanced preamp output (XLR connector). Electronic crossover frequency control and outputs (one high-frequency, one low-frequency) are provided for bi-amping capability.\* An additional low-level, low-impedance balanced line output (XLR connector) is provided for direct stage feeds. A unique switching network on the rear panel allows the power amplifiers to be used in the Bi-Amp mode or the Full Range mode without the use of patch cords.

The B-4 contains unique SELF-TEST circuitry which checks for the presence of proper operating conditions within the amplifier chassis each time the power is turned on or off. The B-4 produces no annoying thumps when turned on or off.

The massive internal power amplifiers deliver 320 Watts @ 4 ohms and 120 Watts @ 4 ohms cleanly and with very low measurable distortion.

As with all ACOUSTIC products, the Model B-4 reflects the highest standard of engineering and manufacturing to ensure top performance and reliability.

\* With the addition of an ACOUSTIC Model TC 210 Top-End Enclosure.

# FRONT PANEL FEATURES

## INPUTS:

**LOW-LEVEL... -12dB** . A standard 1/4" phone jack is provided for connection of most instruments. An input level of 30 mv is required for full output. Input impedance is 500K ohms. Signal levels of up to 3.2 Vrms can be handled safely.

**HIGH-LEVEL... -12dB** . A standard 1/4" phone jack is provided for connection of high output instruments. An input level of 90 mv is required for full output. Input impedance is 50K ohms. Signal levels of up to 50 Vrms can be handled safely.

## CONTROLS:

**GAIN.....** A continuously variable control that allows for accurate adjustment of the front-end gain to match the output level of your bass guitar. While playing, rotate this control clockwise until the clip indicator begins to illuminate, then rotate slightly counter-clockwise until the clip indicator remains extinguished.

**NOTE: DO NOT USE THIS CONTROL AS A VOLUME CONTROL.**

**CLIP..... INDICATOR** . An indicator that illuminates the word "CLIP" as the preamplifier circuitry is driven to the point of clipping.

**BASS.....** A continuously variable center-detented control that adjusts the low frequencies allowed to pass through the tone circuits. Center is flat, fully counter-clockwise is maximum bass cut and fully clockwise is maximum bass boost.

**MIDRANGE 1.....** A continuously variable center-detented control that adjusts the lower mid frequencies allowed to pass through the tone circuits. Center is flat, fully counter-clockwise is maximum mid cut and fully clockwise is maximum mid boost.

**MIDRANGE 2. ...** A continuously variable center-detented control that adjusts the upper mid, frequencies allowed to pass through the tone circuits. Center is flat, fully counter-clockwise is maximum mid cut and fully clockwise is maximum mid boost.

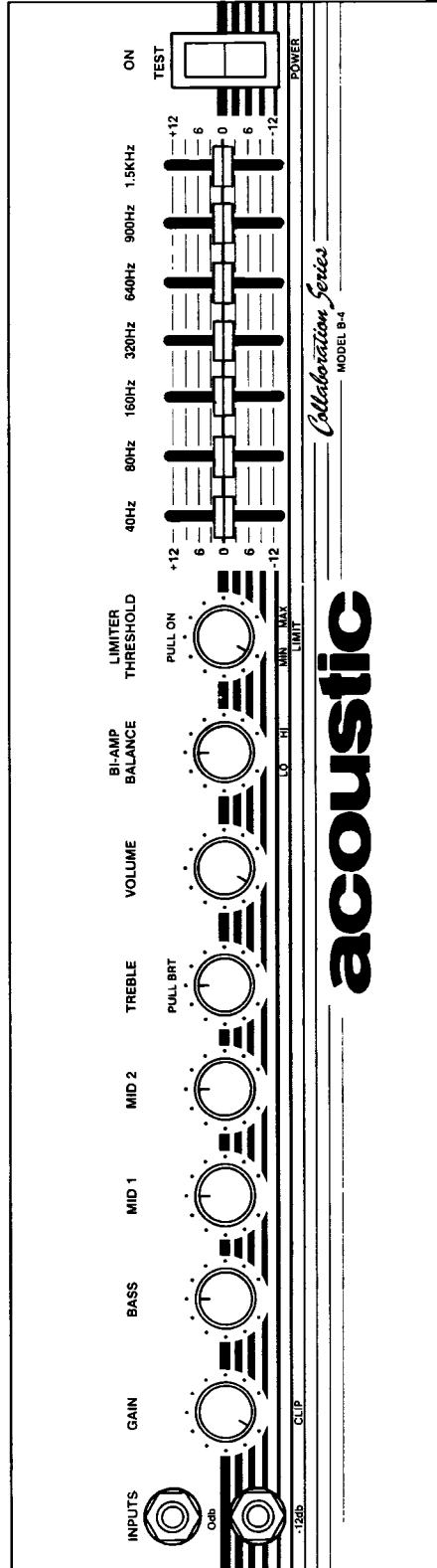
**TREBLE ... (Pull Bright)** . A continuously variable center-detented control that adjusts the high frequencies allowed to pass through the tone circuits. Center is flat, fully counter-clockwise is maximum high cut and fully clockwise is maximum high boost. Pulling this control out will produce an additional boost of high frequency output.

# FRONT PANEL FEATURES

## (Continued)

- MASTER VOLUME** . A continuously variable control that adjusts the level of signal that exits the preamplifier circuits. This control should be used as the only volume control once the front-end gain control has been properly adjusted.
- CROSSOVER BALANCE** . A continuously variable center-detented control that adjusts the balance between the low frequency output and the high frequency output of the electronic crossover. This control is effective only when the B-3 is connected in the bi-amp mode. Operation of this control is like the balance control on a stereo system, but rather than adjusting levels left to right, it adjusts low frequency to high frequency balance. The center position is balanced equally between both lows and highs.
- LIMITER THRESHOLD** . Pulling this control out activates the limiter circuit. With this control set fully clockwise, the threshold at which limiting action takes place is low. Limiting action will be at its highest. The power amp will only be allowed to produce about 2/3 of full power. With the threshold control at mid position the limiting action will be such that full power will be produced without annoying distortion on the peaks. The threshold range between mid position and fully counter-clockwise is valuable when using external power amplifiers of lesser sensitivities where useful limiting action can still be achieved.
- LIMIT INDICATOR** . An indicator that illuminates the word "LIMIT" in response to the action of the limiter circuit.
- GRAPHIC EQ** . A seven-band equalizer that allows increases or decreases in signals passing through at specific frequencies. Use of the graphic equalizer can provide almost any tone shaping needed.
- POWER SWITCH** . An AC power on/off switch.
- TEST INDICATOR** . Following the application of AC power, the word "TEST" will illuminate indicating the amplifier is in the TEST mode. During this time, operating conditions vital to proper amplifier operation are being tested. When these conditions are met with successfully, the "TEST" indicator will extinguish, the ACOUSTIC logo will illuminate and the amplifier will be ready to play.

# FRONT PANEL DIAGRAM



# REAR PANEL FEATURES

- AC ACCESSORY.. OUTLET** A non-switched AC accessory outlet for connection of an external accessory or powered cabinet DO NOT connect more than one external accessory or powered cabinet to this outlet or damage to the line cord will result
- LINE CORD.....** A three conductor line cord for connection to an AC outlet
- AC FUSE .....** A fuse that supplies the entire unit with AC power DO NOT REPLACE THIS FUSE WITH ANY OTHER TYPE OR RATING than is supplied or indicated on the panel Replacement of this fuse with a different type or rating will void the warranty and may cause severe damage to the unit.
- SPEAKER FUSE.....** A fuse that is wired in series with the power amplifier output and speaker jacks DO NOT REPLACE THIS FUSE WITH ANY OTHER TYPE OR RATING than is supplied or indicated on the rear panel Replacement of this fuse with a different type or rating will void the warranty and may cause severe damage to the unit
- SPEAKER JACKS....** A set of 1/4" jacks provided for access to the internal power amplifier speaker output  
CAUTION DO NOT USE THIS AMPLIFIER WITH LOADS LESS THAN 4 OHMS  
Use only heavy gauge NON-SHIELDED cables for connection to these jacks
- POWER AMP..... INPUT** A 1/4" switching jack for external acces to the internal power amplifier input  
Insertion of a plug will break the signal coming from the internal preamplifier to the internal power amplifier. Use only a SHIELDED cable for connection to this jack.
- PRE AMP OUTPUT..** A 1/4" jack provided for connection to any other power amplifier input enabling the preamplifier to drive the internal power amplifier and an external powered enclosure  
Use only a SHIELDED cable for connection to this jack
- BALANCED OUT .. (PRE-AMP)** An XLR-type jack provided for connection to any outside low impedance balanced or unbalanced low-level input (sound system feed) All front panel controls will affect the signal coming from this jack. Use only a SHIELDED cable for connection to this jack



# REAR PANEL FEATURES

## (Continued)

### ELECTRONIC CROSSOVER

**Low Frequency OUTPUTS** ... A 1/4" jack provided for patching the low frequency output of the electronic crossover into an external power amp. Use only a SHIELDED cable for connection to this jack.

**Crossover Frequency Control**..... A continuously variable control that sets the crossover point between the low frequency and high frequency output jacks. The frequency range of the crossover can be set anywhere between 100 and 1kHz. Full counter-clockwise sets the crossover point at 100Hz, while full clockwise corresponds to 1kHz.

**High Frequency Output**.... A 1/4" jack provided for patching the high frequency output of the electronic crossover into an external power amp. Use only a SHIELDED cable for connection to this jack.

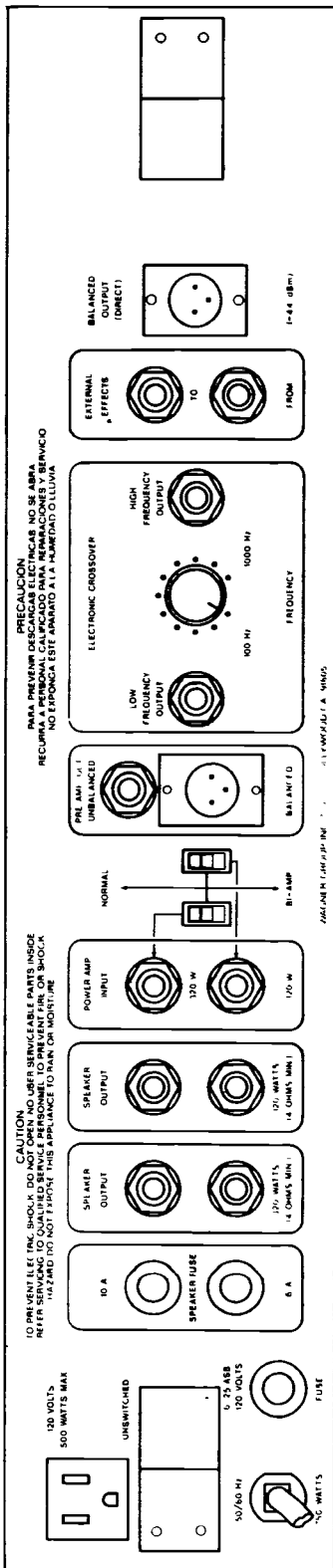
**EFFECTS TO JACK**..... A 1/4" jack provided for connection to an external accessory. Use only a SHIELDED cable for connection to this jack.

**EFFECTS FROM JACK**... A 1/4" jack provided for connection from an external accessory. Use only a SHIELDED cable for connection to this jack.

**BALANCED OUT (Direct)**.. An XLR-type jack provided for connection of the direct signal after the front-end and before the tone controls, and limiter to any external balanced or unbalanced low impedance input (stage feed). Use only a SHIELDED cable for connection to this jack.  
Note: Use of this connector replaces the need for a "Y" cable or external stage feed box.

**NORMAL BI-AMP SWITCHES**... .. With both of these switches in the up position (normal) Both power amplifiers receive the full range signal from preamp. Either one or both power amplifiers can be used with no damage occurring to the power amplifier not connected to a speaker load. With both of the switches in the down position (Bi-Amp). The power amplifiers receive the signals from the electronic crossover outputs. The 320 Watt amp receives the low frequency output. The 120 Watt amp receives the high frequency output.

# REAR PANEL DIAGRAM



# SPECIFICATIONS

**POWER OUTPUT (Power Amplifier # 1)**

@ 4 Ohms	320 watts RMS (35.8 vrms)
@ 8 Ohms	215 watts RMS (41.5 vrms)

**POWER OUTPUT (Power Amplifier #2)**

@ 4 OHMS	120 watts RMS (21.9 vrms)
@ 8 Ohms	92 watts RMS (27.1 vrms)

**FREQUENCY RESPONSE** ..... 20 Hz to 10 kHz  $\pm$ 1.5dB

**DISTORTION** ..... Less than 1% THD

**INPUT SENSITIVITY (For Full Rated Power @4 Ohms)**

OdB Input	-30dBm (25.5 mv rms)
-12dB Input	-18dBm (98 mv rms)
Effects Input	-23dBm (56 mv rms)
Power Amp Input	OdBm (775 mv rms)

**INPUT IMPEDANCE**

OdB Input	500k Ohms
-12dB Input	50k Ohms
Effects Input	50k Ohms
Power Amp Input	100k Ohms

**MAXIMUM INPUT LEVELS**

OdB Input	+12dBm (3.2 v rms)
-12 dB Input	+36dBm (50 v rms)
Effects Input	-3dBm (550 mv rms)

**OUTPUT LEVEL (@Rated Input Sensitivity)**

Effects Output	-23dBm (56 mv rms)
Pre-amp Output	OdBm (775 mv rms)
X-Over Hi-Frequency Output	OdBm (775 mv rms)
X-Over Low-Frequency Output	OdBm (775 mv rms)
Balanced Output pre-Tone & EQ	-44dBm (4.9 mv rms) across 1200 Ohms Balanced -50dBm (2.45 mv rms) across 600 Ohms Unbalanced)
Balanced Output post-Tone & EQ	-44dBm (4.9 mv rms) across 1200 Ohms Balanced -50dBm (2.45 mv rms) across 600 Ohms Unbalanced)

**OUTPUT IMPEDANCE**

Effects Output	330 Ohms
Pre-amp Output	10k Ohms
X-Over Hi-Frequency Output	10k Ohms
X-Over Low-Frequency Output	10k Ohms
Balanced Output pre-Tone & EQ	1200 Ohms Balanced, 600 Ohms Unbalanced
Balanced Output post-Tone & EQ	1200 Ohms Balanced, 600 Ohms Unbalanced



# SPECIFICATIONS

## (Continued)

### MAXIMUM OUTPUT LEVEL

Effects Output	-3dBm (550 mv rms)
Pre-amp Output	+10dBm (2.45 v rms)
X-Over Hi-Frequency	+10dBm (2.45 v rms)
X-Over Low-Frequency	+10dBm (2.45 v rms)
Balanced Output pre-Tone & EQ	-4dBm (490 mv rms across 1200 Ohms Balanced) -10dBm (245 mv rms across 600 Ohms Unbalanced)
Balanced Output post-Tone & EQ	-4dBm (490 mv rms across 1200 Ohms Balanced) -10dBm (245 mv rms across 600 Ohms Unbalanced)

### TONE CONTROL INFLECTION & CENTER FREQUENCIES

Bass	±12dB@40Hz
Mid 1	±12dB@280Hz
Mid 2	±12dB@400Hz
Treble	±12dB@1.2kHz
Pull Bright	+12dB@2kHz

### GRAPHIC EQUALIZER INFLECTION & CENTER FREQUENCIES

Band 1	±12dB@40Hz
Band 2	±12dB@80Hz
Band 3	±12dB@160Hz
Band 4	±12dB@320Hz
Band 5	±12dB@640Hz
Band 6	±12dB@900Hz
Band 7	±12dB@1.5kHz

**HUM & NOISE** ..... 86dB Below Rated Output  
Quiet Turn On and Turn Off

**INTERNAL LIMITER** ..... Adjustable Threshold  
with luminous LIMIT indicator

**CROSSOVER FREQUENCY** ..... 100Hz to 1.0kHz Adjustable  
(12 dB/Octive Slope)

**CROSSOVER BALANCE ADJUSTMENT** ..... Front Panel Pan Hi/  
Pan Low Control

### POWER CONSUMPTION

Nominal	45 watts
@Full Power	600 watts

**POWER REQUIREMENTS (Internally Switch Selectable)** ..... 50/60Hz  
120 VAC or 240 VAC

**EXTERNAL A.C. OUTLET (Maximum Power)** ..... 750 watts

**PHYSICAL DIMENSIONS** ..... 21 5/8" X 15" x 8 1/2"

**NET WEIGHT** ..... 52 lbs

## IMPORTANT WARRANTY INFORMATION\*

It is necessary for your new ACOUSTIC product to be registered in the event it should even require warranty service. In order to register your new ACOUSTIC product and receive warranty coverage, you must complete the warranty card and return it to the Wagner Group, Inc., Attn: Warranty Department, 8054 Lankershim boulevard, North Hollywood, CA 91605, within fifteen (15) days of the date of purchase. Please print legible.

If you have any questions regarding your new ACOUSTIC product or your warranty, please feel free to contact the Wagner Group, Inc. at the above address or by calling 818-765-0866, Monday through Friday, between 8:00 and 5:00pm, Pacific Time.

Thank you for your support and interest in ACOUSTIC.

AWGI

\*Valid in USA and CANADA Only

# AMPLIFIER VOLTAGE REQUIREMENTS

(For Operation in the USA and Foreign Countries)

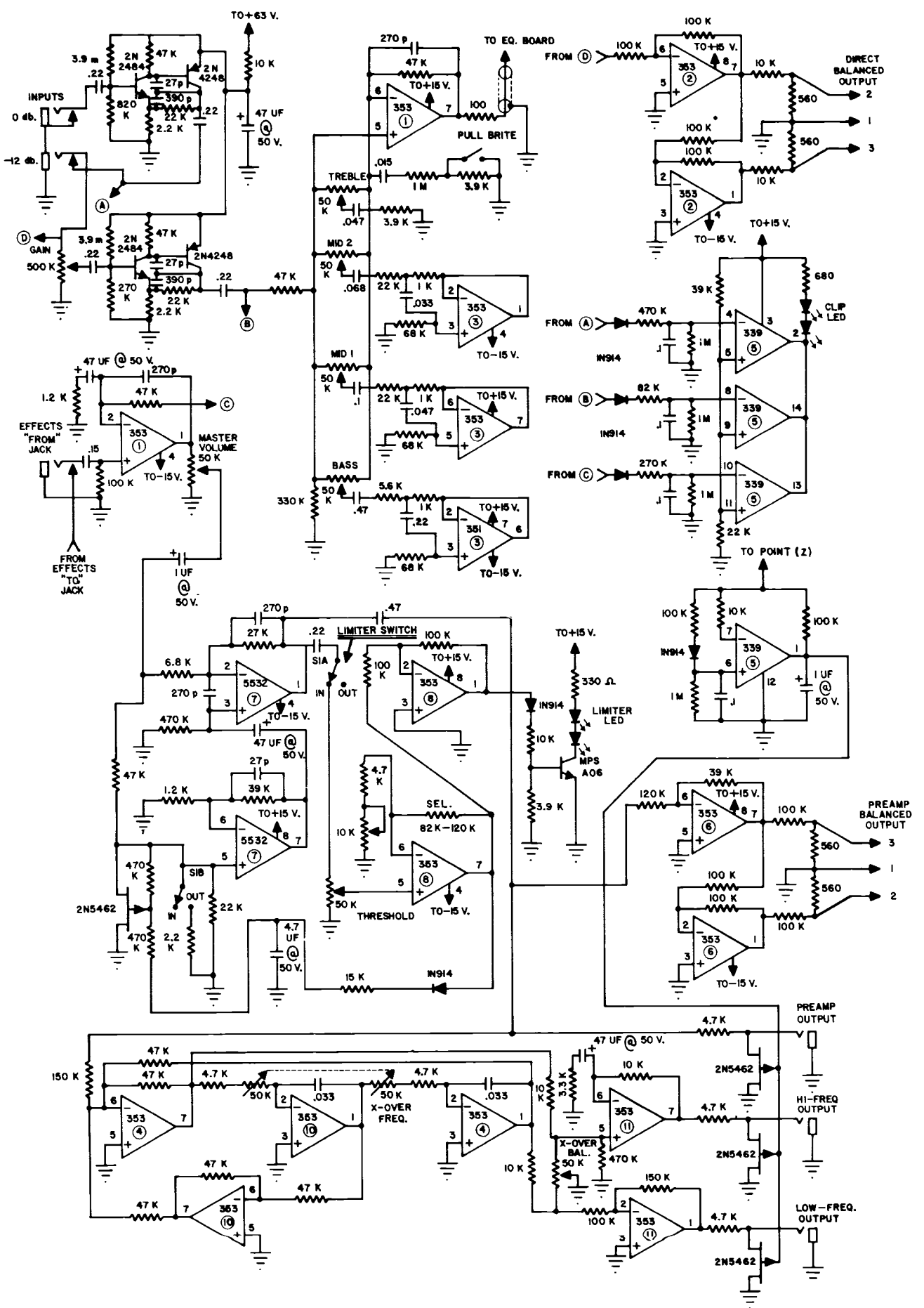
120 Volts Line . . . . . Used in United States or where  
Line Voltage is specified as  
110V or 120V – 50/60Hz

220 Volts Line . . . . . Used where Line Voltage is specified  
as 210V or 220V – 50/60Hz  
(Most European Countries)

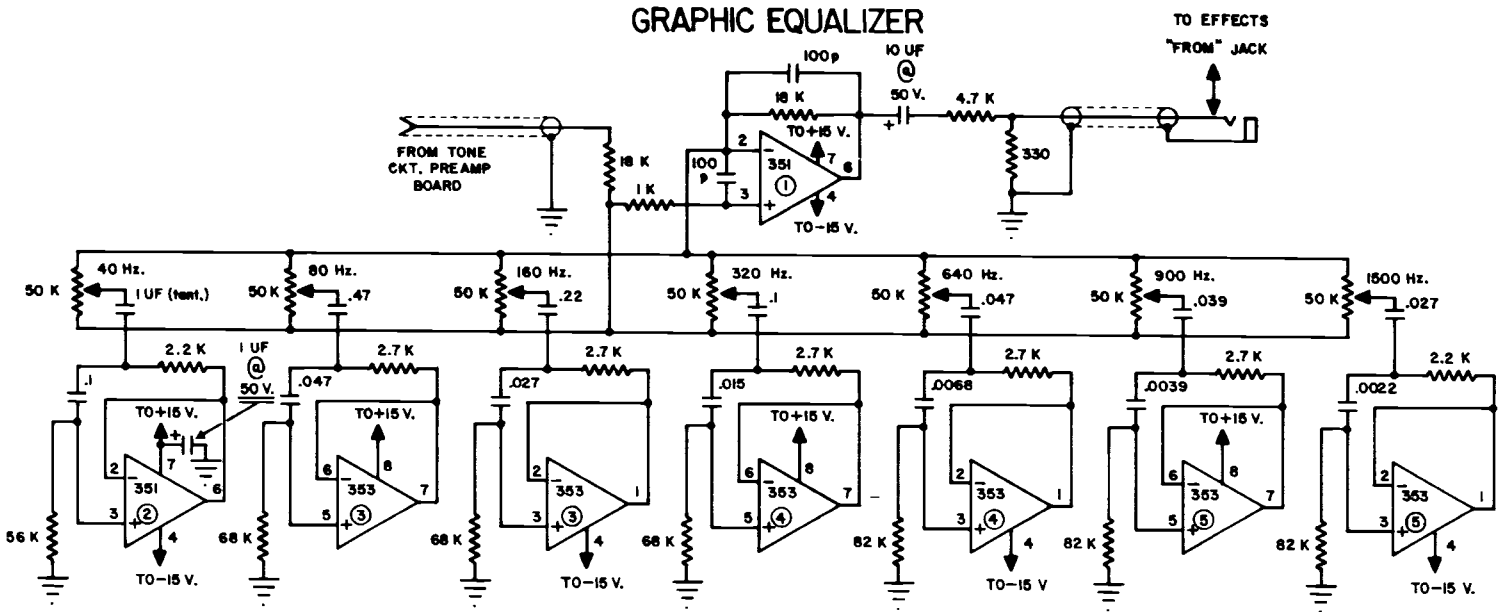
**Note:** Voltage switch is located inside equipment and should be serviced by qualified technician only

## CAUTION!

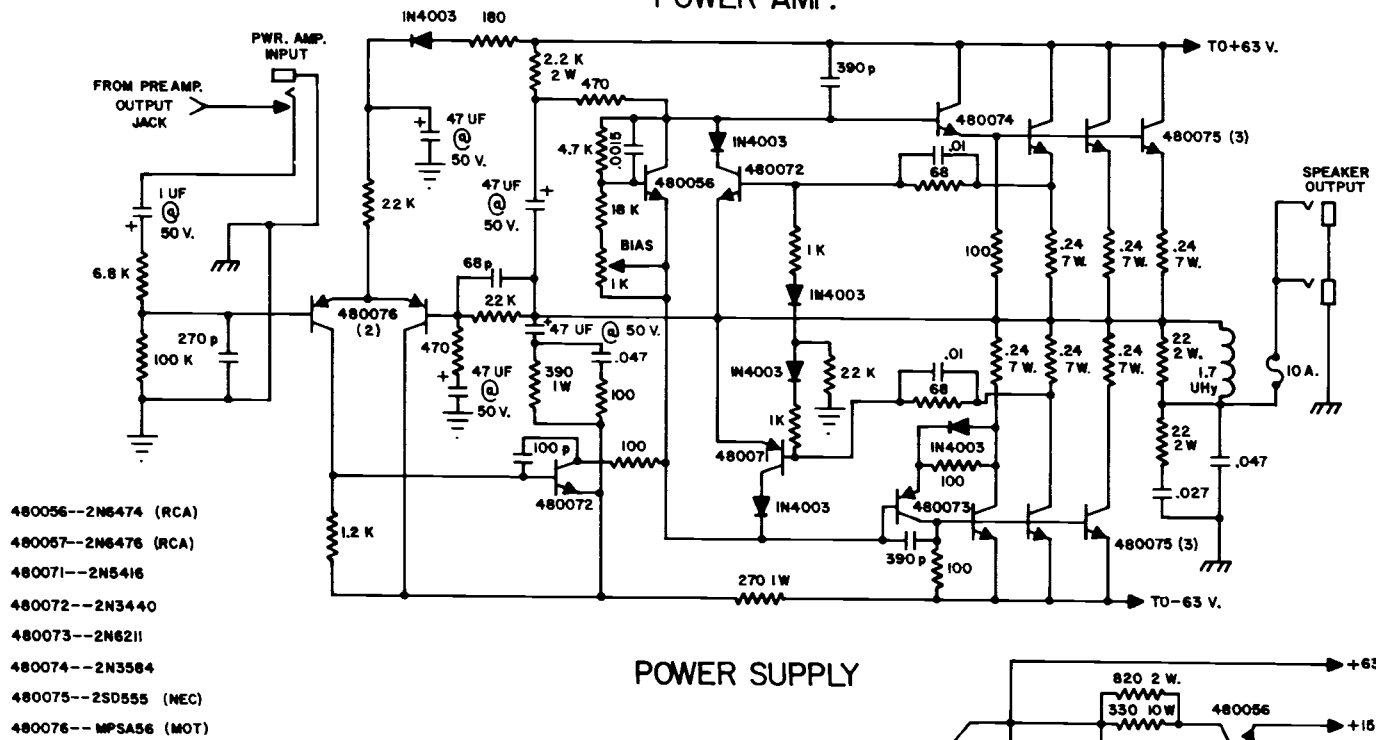
USE OF EQUIPMENT WITH ANY VOLTAGES OTHER THAN LISTED ABOVE MAY SERVERLY DAMAGE UNIT



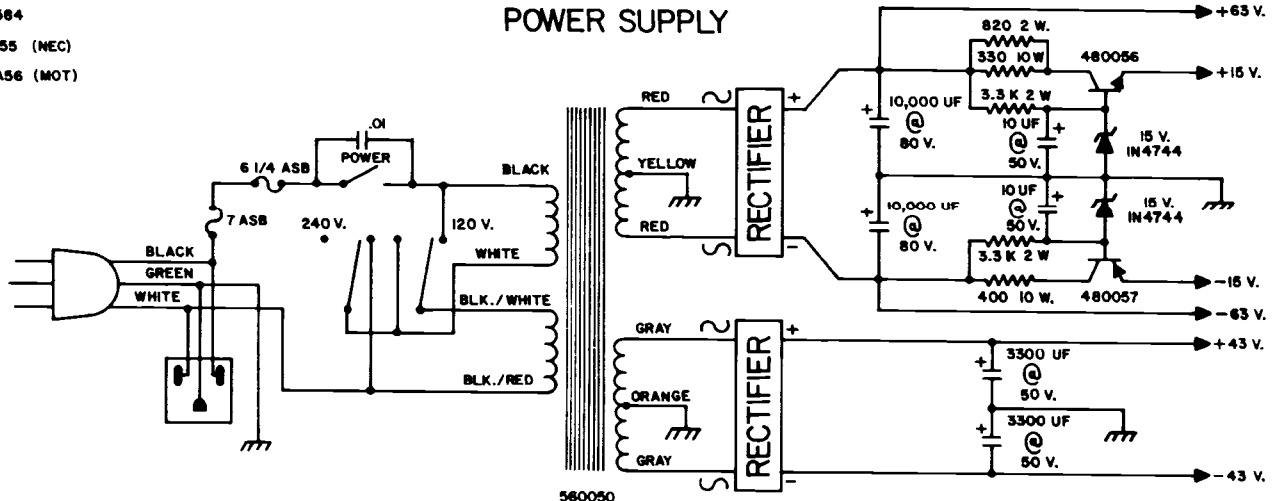
## GRAPHIC EQUALIZER



## POWER AMP.

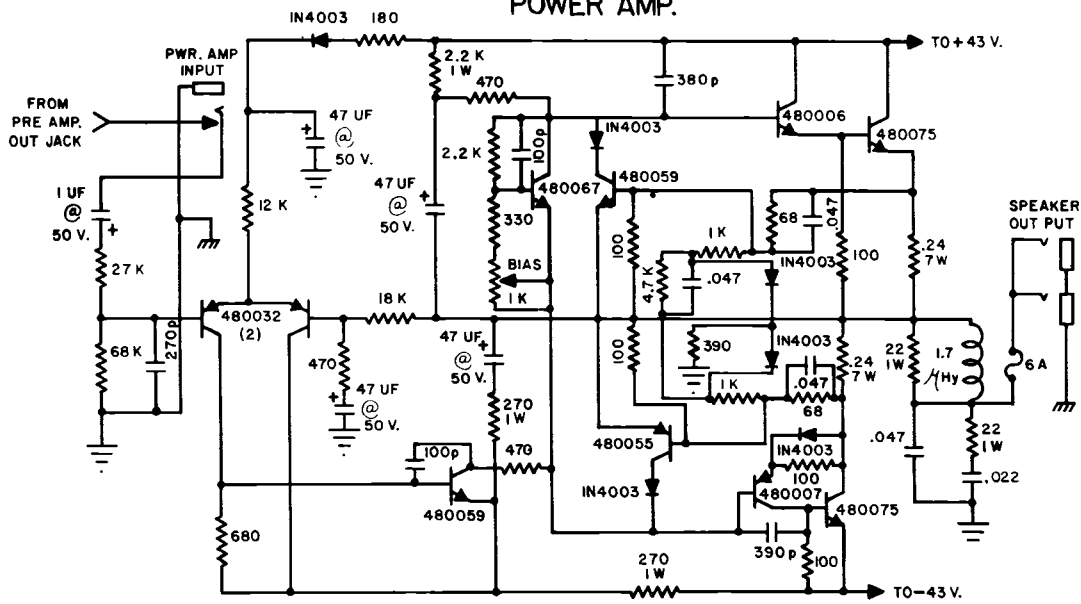


## POWER SUPPLY





### POWER AMP.



### TIMER CIRCUIT

