

# acoustic®

## GT50H OWNER'S MANUAL



50 WATT TUBE GUITAR AMPLIFIER

[www.acousticamplification.com](http://www.acousticamplification.com)

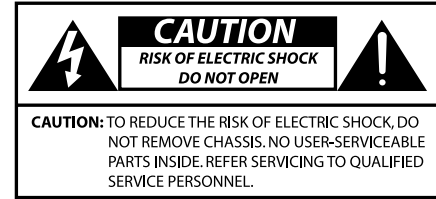


# IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

Exposure to high noise levels may cause permanent hearing loss. Individuals vary considerably to noise-induced hearing loss but nearly everyone will lose some hearing if exposed to sufficiently intense noise over time.

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

DURATION PER DAY (HOURS)	8	6	4	3	2	1
SOUND LEVEL (dB)	90	93	95	97	100	103



According to OSHA, any exposure in the above permissible limits could result in some hearing loss. Hearing protection must be worn when operating this amplification system in order to prevent permanent hearing loss.



This symbol is intended to alert the user to the presence of non-insulated "dangerous voltage" within the product's enclosure.



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



Apparatus shall not be exposed to dripping or splashing. Objects filled with liquids, such as vases, shall not be placed on the apparatus.

- The apparatus shall not be exposed to dripping or splashing. Objects filled with liquids, such as vases, shall not be placed on the apparatus.  
L'appareil ne doit pas être exposé aux écoulements ou aux éclaboussures et aucun objet ne contenant de liquide, tel qu'un vase, ne doit être placé sur l'objet.
- The main plug is used as disconnect device. The main plug of apparatus should not be obstructed OR should be easily accessed during intended use. To be completely disconnected from the power input, the main plug of apparatus shall be disconnected from the mains. La prise du secteur est utilisé pour déconnecter le système. La prise du secteur ne doit pas être obstruée ou doit être facilement accessible pendant son utilisation. Pour être complètement déconnecté de l'alimentation d'entrée, la prise doit être débranchée du secteur.
- An appliance with a protective earth terminal should be connected to a mains outlet with a protective earth connection. Un appareil avec la borne de terre de protection doit être connecté au secteur avec la connexion de terre de protection.
- **WARNING:** To reduce the risk of fire or electric shock, do not expose this apparatus to rain or moisture.  
Avertissement: pour réduire le risque d'incendie ou de choc électrique, ne pas exposer cet appareil sous la pluie et l'humidité.

1. Read all safety and operating instructions before using this product.
2. All safety and operating instructions should be kept for future reference.
3. Read and understand all warnings listed on the operating instructions.
4. Follow all operating instructions to operate this product.
5. This product should not be used near water, i.e., bathtub, sink, swimming pool, wet basement, etc.
6. Only use dry cloth to clean this product.
7. Do not block any ventilation openings, it should not be placed flat against a wall or placed in a built-in enclosure that will impede the flow of cooling air.
8. Do not install this product near any heat sources such as radiators, heat 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 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.
10. Protect the power cord from being walked on or pinched, particularly at plugs, convenience receptacles, and the point where they exit from the apparatus. Do not break the ground pin of the power supply cord.
11. Only use attachments specified by the manufacturer.
12. Use only with the cart, stand, tripod, bracket, or table specified by the manufacturer or sold with the apparatus.  
When a cart is used, exercise caution when moving.
13. Unplug this apparatus during lightning storms or when unused for a long period of time.
14. Care should be taken so that objects do not fall and liquids are not spilled into the unit through the ventilation ports or any other openings.
15. Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel. Servicing is required when the apparatus has been damaged in any way.
16. When a mains plug is used as the disconnect device, the disconnect device shall remain readily operable.



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# acoustic®

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### WELCOME

Congratulations on your purchase of a new Acoustic® electric guitar tube amplifier. Founded as the Acoustic Control Corporation in Van Nuys, California in 1967, Acoustic® is the rig of choice for many legendary touring musicians. If you're new to Acoustic® amps, we encourage you to get in tune with its rich heritage at [www.acousticamplification.com/history.cfm](http://www.acousticamplification.com/history.cfm).

Your comments are important. We constantly improve our products based on feedback from musicians like you. Please feel free to contact us at [www.acousticamplification.com](http://www.acousticamplification.com) or send us an email at [info@acousticamplification.com](mailto:info@acousticamplification.com).

Welcome to Acoustic®, the Pro's Tone Since 1967.

### SPECIFICATIONS

Model	GT50H
Power	50 Watts Maximum into 4, 8, or 16 ohms
Equalizer	3 Band + Bright switch and Presence control
Channels	2 + High/Low Gain switch and Boost Control
Effects	Accutronics™ Spring Reverb + Effects Loop
Preamp Tubes	2 x ECC83S & 2 x 12AX7WB
Power Tubes	2 x 5881/6L6WGC
Mains Fuse	250V/T 3.15A (slo-blo)
Anode Fuse	250V/T 500mA (slo-blo)
Heater Fuse	250V/T 5A (slo-blo)
Dimensions	H 10.83" x D 10.69" x W 29"
Weight	35.61 lbs.

#### CAUTION!

Replace fuses with IEC type  
127 (5x20 mm) and specified rating only!

**3** **Three Year Limited Warranty:** Subject to the limitations set forth below, Acoustic® hereby represents and warrants that the components of this product shall be free from defects in workmanship and materials, including implied warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose, subject to normal use and service, for three (3) years to the original owner from the date of purchase.

**Thirty (30) Day Limited Warranty (Tubes):** Subject to the limitations set forth below, Acoustic® hereby represents and warrants that any tube components of this product shall be free from defects in materials and workmanship, including implied warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose, subject to normal use and service, for thirty (30) days to the original owner from the date of purchase.

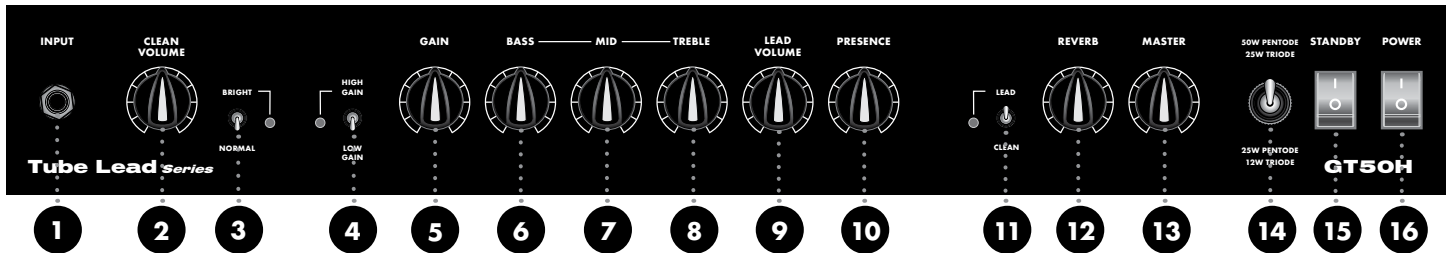
For information on warranty replacement tubes please visit <http://acoustic.custhelp.com/app/ask/>

Retailer and manufacturer shall not be liable for damages based upon inconvenience, loss of use of product, loss of time, interrupted operation or commercial loss or any other incidental or consequential damages including but not limited to lost profits, downtime, goodwill, damage to or replacement of equipment and property, and any costs of recovering, reprogramming, or reproducing any program or data stored in equipment that is used with Acoustic® products. This guarantee gives you specific legal rights. You may have other legal rights which vary from state to state. Some states do not allow limitations on how long an implied warranty lasts, so the above limitation may not apply to you.

Acoustic P.O. Box 5111 Thousand Oaks, CA 91359-5111

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## GT50H FRONT PANEL

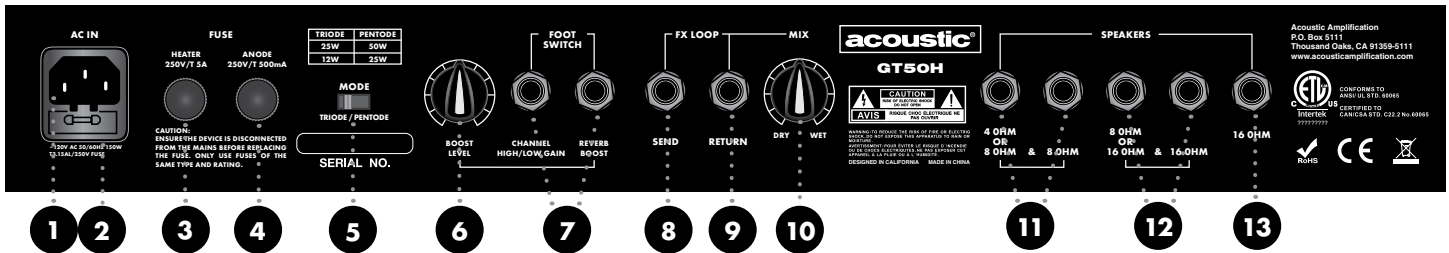


1. **GUITAR INPUT:** 1/4" two-conductor jack.
2. **CLEAN VOLUME:** Adjusts the relative volume of the clean channel.
3. **BRIGHT/NORMAL SWITCH:** Enhances the high frequencies on both the Clear and Lead channels when switched to the "Bright" position.
4. **HIGH GAIN/LOW GAIN:** This switch increases the preamp gain level on both the Clean and Lead channels when switched to the "High Gain" position.
5. **GAIN:** This control increases or decreases the gain level on the Lead channel.
6. **BASS:** This control increases or decreases bass frequencies for both channels.
7. **MID:** This control increases or decreases mid range frequencies for both channels.
8. **TREBLE:** This control increases or decreases treble frequencies for both channels.
9. **LEAD VOLUME:** This control adjusts the relative volume of the Lead channel.
10. **PRESENCE:** This control adjusts the upper high frequencies when the Lead Channel is selected.
11. **LEAD/CLEAN:** Switches between the Lead and Clean Channels.
12. **REVERB:** This control adjusts the level of the spring reverb effect.
13. **MASTER:** This control adjusts the overall volume of the amplifier.
14. **HALF POWER SWITCH:** This switch reduces the power transformer output level to half power without changing the sound of the amplifier. Switch between 50 watts and 25 watts when in Pentode mode. Switch between 25 watts and 12.5 watts when in Triode mode. *CAUTION: The amplifier should be switched to "STANDBY" before changing the transformer power switch setting.*
15. **STANDBY:** The Standby switch is used in conjunction with the Power switch on tube amplifiers. The Standby switch should be left in the off position for 2-3 minutes after turning the Power switch on. This allows the tubes to come up to operating temperature and will extend the life of the tubes. The Standby switch should be turned to the off position before turning the Power switch off. The Standby switch can be used to turn off sound from the amplifier while keeping the tubes at operating temperature. Finally, the Standby switch should be turned to the off position when changing the position of the Half Power switch or the Triode/Pentode switch in order to protect the amplifier and extend the life of the tubes.
16. **POWER:** Turns the power on and off.

# GT50H USER'S MANUAL

## LEAD SERIES GUITAR AMPS

### GT50H REAR PANEL



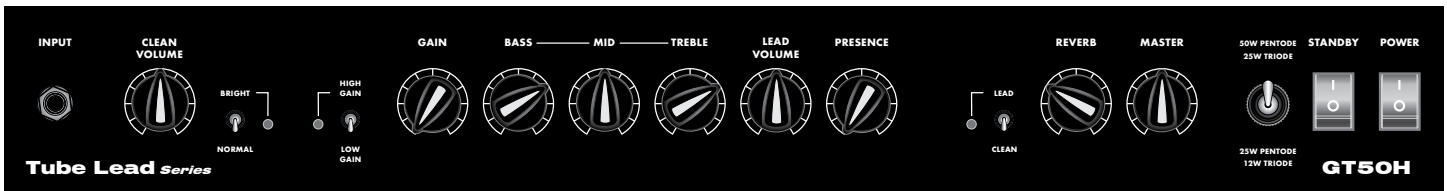
1. **AC INPUT:** Attach the included AC power cable here.
2. **MAINS FUSE:** Contains the fuse for the amplifier mains. Replace with the same type and value only.
3. **HEATER FUSE:** Contains the heater fuse for the preamp and power amp tubes. Replace with the same type and value only.
4. **ANODE FUSE:** Contains the anode fuse for the power tubes. Replace with the same type and value only.
5. **TRIODE/PENTODE SWITCH:** Use this switch to select Triode or Pentode mode for the tubes. **CAUTION:** The amplifier should be switched to "STANDBY" before changing the Triode/Pentode setting.
6. **BOOST LEVEL:** This adjust the level of the Boost Function when engaged. This acts as a Lead Boost of up to 15dB. This function can only be accessed and turned on with the included GFS4 footswitch attached.
7. **FOOTSWITCH JACKS:** Connection for the GFS4, 4 button footswitch (included) via a 2 stereo 1/4" cables (included). Switches Clean/Lead channel, High/Low Gain, Reverb On/Off & Boost On/Off.
8. **EFFECTS LOOP SEND:** Accepts 1/4" instrument connectors.
9. **EFFECTS LOOP RETURN:** Accepts 1/4" instrument connector.
10. **EFFECTS LOOP MIX CONTROL:** Blends the parallel effect loop signal with the main dry signal when an external effect is connected via the effects loop. This should be set to the "Dry" position when no external effect is connected.
11. Speaker Jacks for (1) 4 Ohm cabinet or (2) 8 Ohm cabinets
12. Speaker Jacks for (1) 8 Ohm Cabinet or (2) 16 Ohm cabinets
13. Speaker Jack for (1) 16 Ohm cabinet.

**CAUTION:** Do not operate the GT50H without a speaker cabinet attached to the appropriate speaker jack. Operating the GT50H without a speaker attached or with speakers attached to the wrong Ohm rating jacks can damage the amplifier. Minimum Ohm load for the GT50H is 4 Ohms. Damage to the GT50H caused by operation without a speaker cabinet attached or by improper Ohm load matching is NOT covered under warranty.

## SUGGESTED TONE SETTINGS

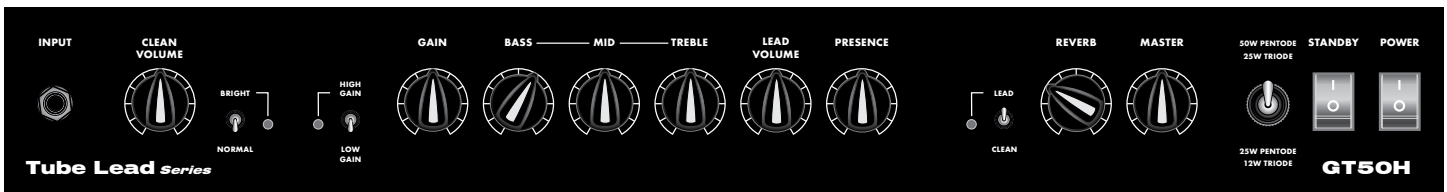
Modern guitar players use a wide variety of tones. The following setting suggestions will serve as a starting point to help you find these tones for different styles of music. Don't be afraid to experiment and "tweak" the controls

to get the most out of your lead guitar amplifiers. If a particular control setting is not shown, then it doesn't apply to the sound setting.)



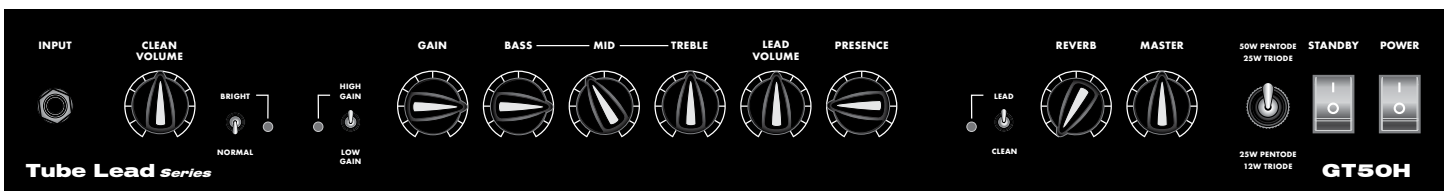
**CLEAN:** Clean Channel. These settings are good for clean sounds including rhythm guitar, country lead guitar, and funk rhythm sounds. Country and Funk sounds generally call for a brighter, more treble-edged setting. This setting

sounds great with single coil pickups. Rhythm guitar is commonly a clean, full sound, using a little less treble than the country or funk sound and a bit more midrange. Humbucking pickups will create a fatter sound.



**MEDIUM-GAIN ROCK & BLUES:** Lead Channel. This setting is useful for blues or classic rock songs. Medium-gain works well for leads, rhythm parts, and power chords. The Lead channel must be selected to engage the gain control for distortion. Blues music calls for lower gain

settings and a bit more treble. Classic rock uses more gain, bass and midrange. Adjust the gain dial to the amount of distortion you desire. Increasing the Treble will help you cut through the band.

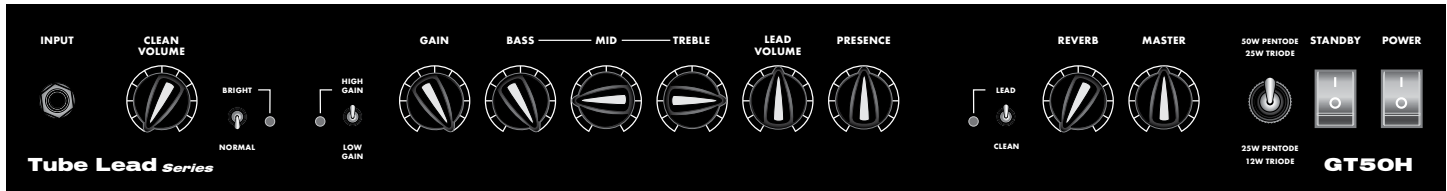


**ALTERNATIVE/HARD ROCK:** Lead Channel. For both rhythm and lead sounds, this setting will give you a fat distortion sound. If you need more "crunch", increase the gain control for more distortion. These styles of music

require a thick, harder edged tone that fills out the band's sound. Adding more gain will increase thickness and sustain. Increasing the bass and decreasing the mids will give you a slightly fatter low end.

# GT50H USER'S MANUAL

## LEAD SERIES GUITAR AMPS



**HEAVY METAL/MAXIMUM GAIN:** Lead Channel. Modern Heavy Metal is known for high gain distortion and a signature “scooped” midrange sound. Start with the Gain control at maximum and the “High Gain” switch engaged. This gives you full distortion. Next, reduce the volume of the amplifier while maintaining the tone and allows the user to “push” the power tubes to full saturation at a lower level. If you really want a more intense “scooped” sound, roll back the mid control all the way and

boost the bass and treble controls. Fine adjustment of all three tone controls will give you access to a wide variety of heavy tones. Increasing the midrange will make the guitar cut through better for leads while pulling out mid range will give you the extreme “scooped” sound popular in the heaviest of heavy metal styles.

## SPECIAL FEATURES

**POWER TRANSFORMER SWITCH:** The half power transformer switch literally switches the GT50H between “full power” (50 watts) and “half power” (25 watts). This feature is useful in rehearsal or smaller performance venues to reduce the volume of the amplifier while maintaining the tone and allows the user to “push” the power tubes to full saturation at a lower level.

**TRIODE/PENTODE SWITCH:** Switching between Triode and Pentode changes the operating mode of the power tubes in your GT50H. Triode mode will give a darker tone and earlier breakup of the power tubes. Pentode mode give a crisper, brighter tone with less breakup of the power tubes. Triode mode also reduces the power output of the GT50H by about half and can be used in conjunction with the half power transformer switch. For Example: If the GT50H is set to half power on the transformer switch (25 watts) and set to Triode mode, the amplifier is effectively running at about 12.5 watts. This can also be very useful in small performance venues, rehearsals and recording situations. Experiment with combinations of transformer power settings and Triode/Pentode settings to find the tone & volume settings that work best for you.

*CAUTION: The Standby switch should be turned to the off position when changing the position of the Half Power Transformer switch or the Triode/Pentode switch in order to protect the amplifier and extend the life of the tubes.*

**BOOST FUNCTION:** The GT50H has a Boost function that can be accessed through the GFS4 footswitch and controlled by the Boost Level control on the rear panel of the GT50H. The boost function is effectively a variable lead boost. For best results, set the Master volume level high and the Clean and Lead channel volumes at the appropriate volume. When the boost function is engaged, it gives up to an additional 15dB of volume which can be useful for making lead guitar parts and solos cut through when playing with a band. Adjusting the Boost Level control on the rear panel of the GT50H varies the amount of additional volume.

## CARE RECOMMENDATIONS

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Tube amplifiers are more sensitive than solid state amplifiers. Extra care will extend the life of your GT50H and the life of your tubes and ensure top performance.

- When moving your amplifier from a cold environment to a warm environment, condensation can occur inside the amplifier. Always allow your amplifier to acclimate to room temperature before operation.
- Do not operate your amplifier in extreme hot or cold, or in wet conditions.
- Keep your amplifier free of dirt, dust and moisture. If the covering of your amplifier requires cleaning, use a light soapy solution on a damp cloth. Avoid getting liquid inside the amplifier or on the control panel surfaces
- Avoid rough handling, dropping or extreme vibration to your amplifier.
- Always take care when transporting your amplifier.
- Do not block the vent openings of your amplifier. This can cause the amplifier to overheat.
- If you notice a change in the performance of your amplifier, take it to a qualified service professional to diagnose the operating condition of the amplifier and the tubes.
- Tube life varies based on the frequency, duration and level of use. Tubes require replacement from time to time to maintain top performance of your amplifier. If you are not sure about the operating condition of your tubes, take the amplifier to a qualified professional for evaluation of the condition of the tubes

Here are some recommendations that will help you get the most out of the GT50H.

- Do not try to service or modify your amplifier yourself. This will void the warranty and presents danger of electrocution. There are no user serviceable parts inside.
- Always unplug your amplifier from the wall power source when not in use.
- Always have your tubes replaced by a qualified professional.
- Never operate your amplifier without a speaker cabinet connected via an appropriate speaker cable (not instrument cable!) to the speaker cabinet.
- Never operate your amplifier at an Ohm load below 4 Ohms.
- Always place your amplifier in "Standby" mode before turning it on, off, changing the setting of the Half Power transformer switch or the Triode/Pentode switch.
- When in doubt, have your amplifier evaluated by a qualified professional!