

AMP 1™ IRIDIUM EDITION



ADDITIONAL MANUAL

BluGuitar® AMP1™ | 100 Watts Tube Guitar Amp designed by Thomas Blug

BluGuitar
TONE INNOVATION



PUNCH.POWER.PORTABILITY

THE NANOTUBE™ AMP THAT DOES THE CHUG

AMP 1™ IRIDIUM EDITION

Congratulations on the purchase of your **AMP 1™ IRIDIUM EDITION**! In cooperation with experienced, international metal guitarists, BluGuitar founder and professional guitarist Thomas Blug has developed this new amp from the ground up and, unlike the **AMP 1™ MERCURY EDITION**, he voiced it uncompromisingly towards modern metal. Thomas is the intellectual creator of tube-driven pedal amps. He started developing products for well-known manufacturers in the early 1990s, some of which today are regarded as the milestones of true tube pedals. Both the **AMP 1™ MERCURY EDITION** and the **AMP 1™ IRIDIUM EDITION** are the results of this unique expertise.

The original version of the **AMP 1™** has been – and still is – a real game changer for many guitarists worldwide, because it combines boutique tube sound and power in a super-compact and lightweight format. Plus, it always sounds the same using any power socket on this earth without an isolation transformer. Today, thousands of guitarists worldwide - from amateur guitarists to world-class artists - rely on this little tone monster. With the **IRIDIUM EDITION**, the **AMP 1™** family has now been expanded to include a high-gain specialist offering tight, characterful sounds.

The advertisement features two guitar amplifiers, the AMP 1 Mercury Edition and the AMP 1 Iridium Edition, set against a background of a guitar neck with a fretboard. The Mercury Edition is a light grey unit with a blue logo and is associated with the text 'VINTAGE DYNAMICS ANALOG TUBE FEEL'. The Iridium Edition is a dark grey/black unit with a blue logo and is associated with the text 'TIGHT LOW END MASSIVE GAIN'. The background includes a diagonal line representing the guitar neck, with years from 1950 to 2020 marked along it. The text 'CLASSIC ROCK' is written along the neck, and 'MODERN METAL' is written along the fretboard. The AMP 1 logo is prominently displayed at the top left and bottom center of the image.

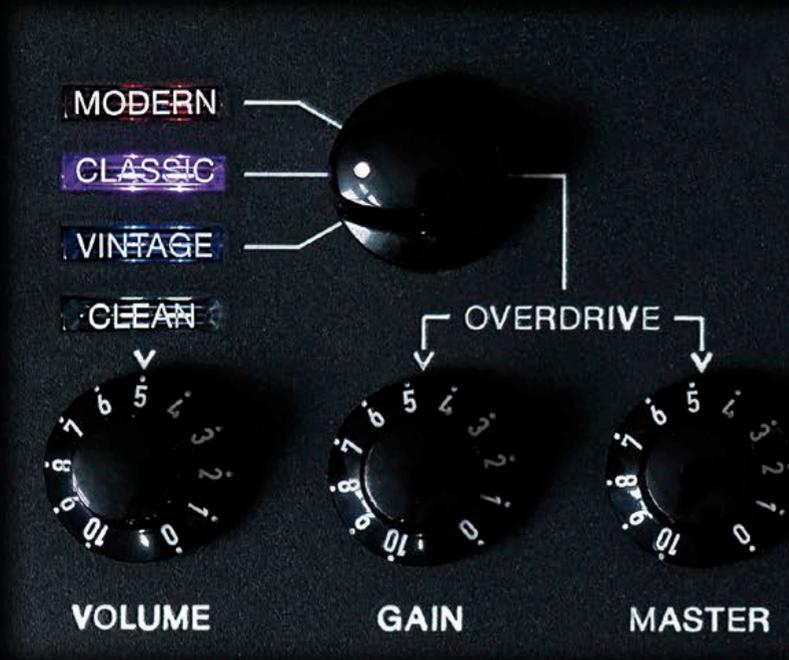
AMP 1™ MERCURY EDITION
VINTAGE DYNAMICS
ANALOG TUBE FEEL

AMP 1™ IRIDIUM EDITION
TIGHT LOW END
MASSIVE GAIN

CLASSIC ROCK
MODERN METAL

THE 4 PREAMPS OF AMP 1™ IRIDIUM EDITION

Three independent, discrete OVERDRIVE channels deliver rich and tight distortion sounds that can be changed in gain structure and timbre. Each of these channels offers different attack, response and dynamics. The **CLEAN** channel with its massive headroom and treble reserves gives even mid-heavy humbuckers transparent, sparkling clean sounds.



MODERN – With its extremely high gain reserves, this channel delivers crystal-clear string separation through a massive low-cut, and the Custom Control TONE knob lets you dial a “cut thru the mix” solo sound to the typical “maximum brutality” mid scoop.

CLASSIC – Due to the hard distortion characteristics and the specially tuned bass filter, this channel is percussive and significantly wider and harder in the mid-range than VINTAGE. The mid-range can be shaped by the Custom Control TONE from “Hot Rodded British High Gain” to “German wall of sound”.

VINTAGE – Tight and mid-emphasized woody sounds that are transmitted tightly especially using extreme low tunings while delivering creamy mid-range distortion.

CLEAN – Massive headroom thanks to the 100 watt power amp and treble reserves, which give even mid-emphasized humbuckers a transparent, sparkling clean sound. Optimal platform for pedals like shimmer reverb, modulation or delay.

BOOST

The **AMP 1™ IRIDIUM EDITION** possesses an adjustable gain/boost function that is placed in the front of the channels like a pedal. It has a moderate mid hump to give cleaner sounds more definition, or give overdriven sounds more gain without turning muddy. The **Custom Control** can adjust the gain/boost level. Cranked all the way up, it will sound more like an overdriven preamp or a Tube Screamer to get even richer tones with tons of gain that never gets muddy.

NOISEGATE

The switch (on the side of the unit) for the **noise gate** has 3 positions: **Soft**, **Off** and **Metal**.

METAL - Extremely fast and hard. High gain playing and staccato riffs become sharper, and palm muted parts clean up with no unwanted noise.

OFF - The opposite of on. If you can't figure that out, maybe you should buy a drum kit instead. (the editor would like to apologise to drummers for this comment).

SOFT - In this position the noisegate is extremely sensitive and responds to the lowest signals, so the quietest nuances are still audible without being cut off.

METAL BONUS

As soon as the reverb is switched on, the gate defaults to "soft". With the use of the reverb switch, it is possible to switch the gate between the two settings (when the toggle switch on the side is in Metal position) soft when reverb is on and Metal when reverb is off.

The settings can be saved as presets.



SPECIAL NANOTUBE POWERAMP FOR METAL

With more than 100 watts on tap, the amplifier is capable of packing a serious punch with headroom to spare. The logarithmic **master volume** works very precisely and enables you to easily find the perfect level you need at home (up to the middle position) or on stage (around middle to maximum). Don't be afraid to turn it up!

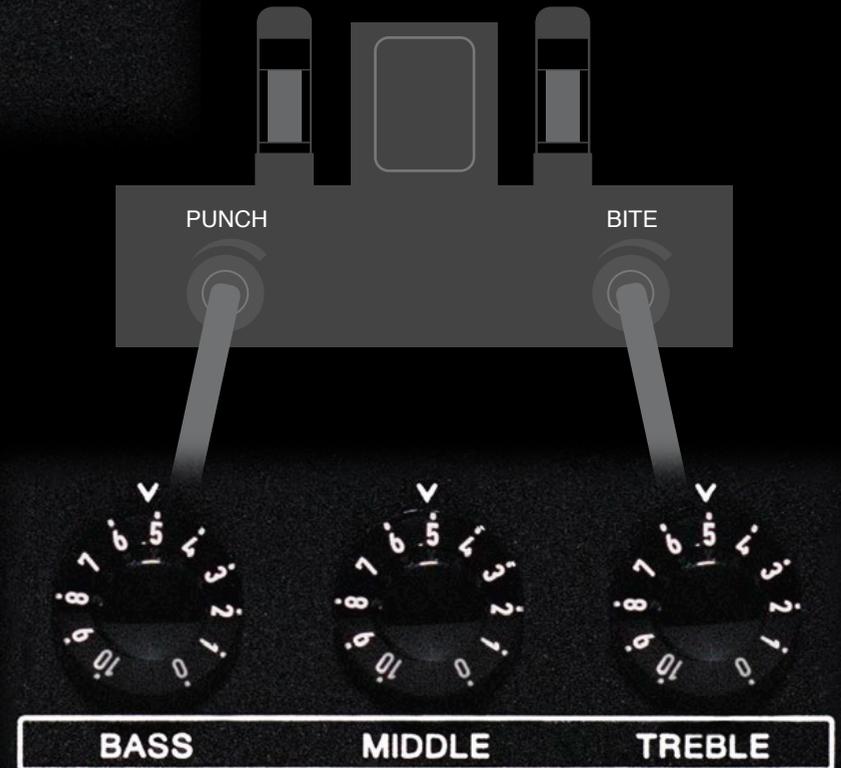


UNIQUE TONE CONTROLS

To obtain the ultimate punch and attack, many modern tube amps for Metal along side the usual tone control have extra punch and presence controls, that work with the current feedback loop the power amp stage.

The **AMP 1™ IRIIDIUM EDITION** works with that same current feedback design, which responds to the speaker and the power amp insuring a **punch** in the low end, that won't get muddy when its turned up. The same with the highs, keeping a precise **attack** and **bite**.

The trick with the **AMP 1™ IRIIDIUM EDITION** is that "bass" controls both the bass in the preamp and the **punch** from the **current feedback** design in the power amp with only the one control. The same with the treble, that is the classic **treble** of a tone stack AND **presence** with one control. That makes it even easier to dial in the perfect chug.



RECORDING OUT

The loudspeaker simulation of the **AMP 1™ IRIDIUM EDITION** is analog and is voiced specially for metal sounds. The power amp uses a strong current feedback and thus forms the **punch** and **bite** together with the speaker. This is used for natural sound quality when recording. Depending if there's a speaker connected to the **SPEAKER OUT** jack of the **AMP 1™ IRIDIUM EDITION** or not, the speaker emulation curve on the **REC OUT** jack is automatically adjusted.

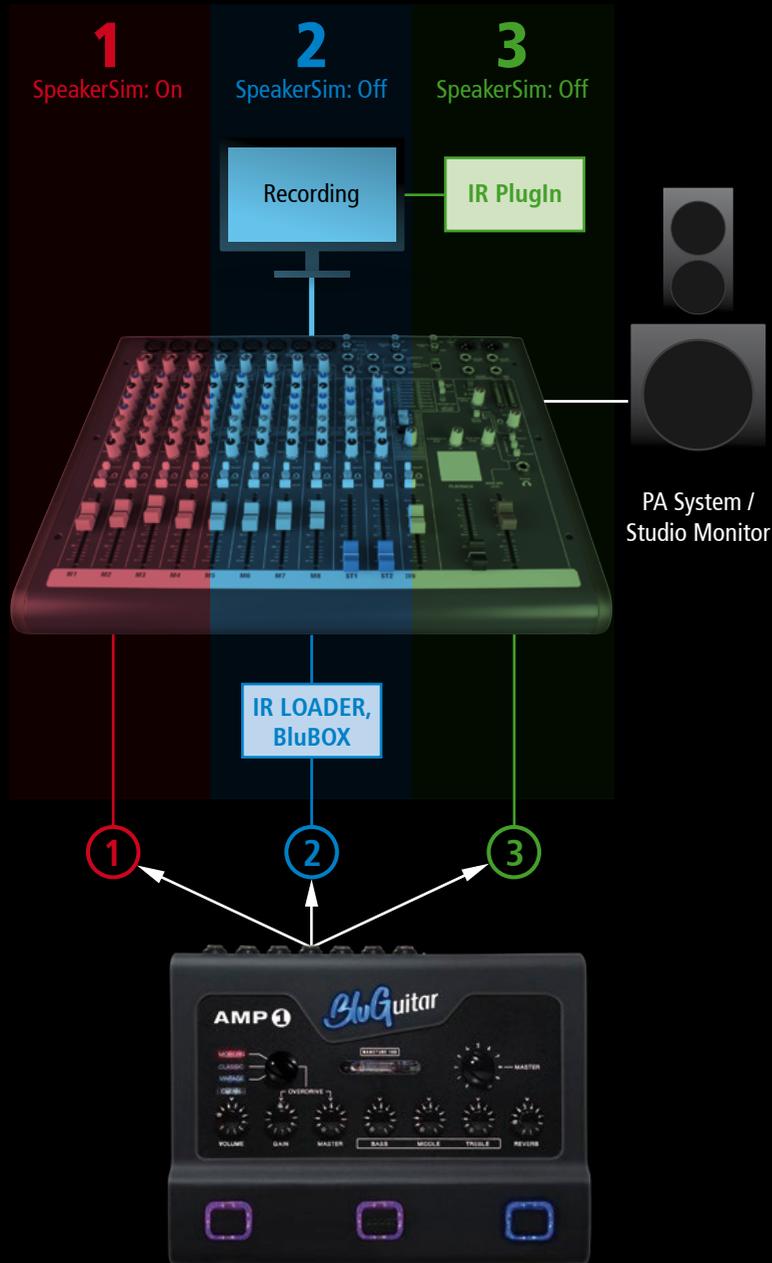
Best results are with a loudspeaker. Even at low volumes, the current **feedback loop** helps create a more organic tone.

For more choices of loudspeaker emulations, it is possible to turn off the **internal analog speaker simulation** and use external **impulse response (IR)** tools with your favorite impuls response.

- ① To use the internal analog speaker simulation, simply connect the 1/4" **REC OUT** on **AMP 1™** with your mixer or audio interface.
- ② From the recording output jack, please connect the **BluBOX™** or an impulse response loader.
- ③ You can also connect the recording straight out to your sound card and use IR's from your DAW.

Just press the **BOOST** footswitch until the left switch (the channel footswitch) is lit. The channel switch will turn the internal speaker emulation on or off, which will be signified by the **REVERB** switch being lit for on, and off for being disengaged.

The on/off function will not be active if the **REMOTE 1™** or **MIDI 1™** units are being used.



REVERB

The reverb in the **AMP 1™ IRIDIUM EDITION** is optimised for a natural room sound where as the **REVERB** for the **AMP 1™ MERCURY EDITION** has the characteristics of a spring reverb.

There are even more features available to customise the **AMP 1™ IRIDIUM EDITION** (to your personal preference like finetune the gain structure for each of the 4 channels, automatically switch on/off for internal presets or half power-mode) that you can find on the *BluGuitar®* website.

Note:

- Please note that the activated **REVERB** always sets the noise gate to soft mode when in the **METAL** position.



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