

EBS MICROBASS 3

USERS MANUAL



CHANNEL CONTROLS, SWITCHES & OUTPUTS

REFERENCE GUIDE

- CLEAN CHANNEL = WHITE KNOBS
- DRIVE CHANNEL = BLACK KNOBS
- BOTH CHANNELS = GRAY KNOBS

BLEND sets the mix level between the *clean channel* and *drive channel* when the drive channel is active. To jump between the *Clean* and *Drive* channels, set this knob to the *Max* position and set the Serial switch to *Off*.

MASTER controls the volume on the Output jack. The balanced outputs (XLR) are not affected by the setting of this knob.

COMP. This control knob sets the compression ratio, i.e. The signal strength relation between the input and output; the higher the ratio the more compression. The LED indicates when the compressor responds during play. It is a low noise compressor/limiter that will tighten up the sound and prevent the preamp from saturating at peaks when approaching the headroom limit.

BASS is a 'shelving' type 12dB/oct slope phase compensated bass filter with a wide gain range.

BYPASS. This switch bypasses ALL filters in the clean channel and sets a flat frequency response.

MUTE FOOT SWITCH. Mutes the balanced outputs and the master output. Fx Send is not affected by this function. The Mute switch also enables the built-in tuner for silent tuning.*

* An internal switch can set the tuner to be active at all times.

MID is a peaking filter for the drive channel. The two knobs works in conjunction. Pick your frequency with the right control, and boost or cut with the left control in the chosen range.

LEVEL sets the output volume for the Drive channel.



MID. These two knobs works in conjunction. Use the right control to pick a frequency. Use the left control to boost or cut the gain in the range of the chosen frequency. **Note:** When the left control is set to *Notch*, you can use the right control to find and erase a precise frequency that causes unwanted feedback (a common issue with upright basses in larger rooms).

GAIN selects between a low- and high-gain drive engine.

TONE shapes the tone range of the drive engine. Flat setting when turned all the way up.

TYPE sets the drive tone character to THIN or DEEP (neutral in the between position). The deep position compensates for low-frequency loss at very high gain.

DRIVE controls the amount of gain in the tube emulation stages (engines), and provides an extra gain all the way up to 40 dB. This control also compresses the sound when turning up level up to maximum, producing pure limitation.

GAIN adjusts the input signal level for the EBS MicroBass 3. An optimum level is when the *peak* led starts flashing when playing hard on your instrument. A correctly set gain is vital for the signal processing to work properly.

TREBLE is a shelving type filter controlling the higher mids and treble registers, giving presence and ambiance to the sound.

CHARACTER FILTER
When active, bass and treble are boosted while the midrange gain will be slightly dropped, known as a smiley EQ curve. This way the sound will be reshaped before the final adjustments using the other features of the preamp.

BRIGHT is an advanced high pass filter that produces a bright high-treble timbre, without adding any noise. This switch gives a gain of 10 dB at 10kHz.

DRIVE FOOT SWITCH - Engages the drive channel. The clean channel is always active, but if the BLEND control is turned all the way up, in parallel mode, this switch will make the sound jump from the clean channel to the drive channel when activated.

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A/B FX SEND & RETURN. EBS MicroBass3 is provided with an effects loop for use with external units such as box or rack effects. The loop puts the external effects after both channels EQs and the channel selector (Drive footswitch).

C STEREO MODE ON/OFF. By pushing this switch the return jack goes into TRS operation for stereo mode. When active, the Balanced Outputs will turn into Left and Right outputs rather than post/pre. The stereo effect will also be heard through the headphones output. For the stereo effect, use an external effect with stereo output last in line, and connect to the FX return using a Y-split cable, such as the EBS ICY-30.

D OUTPUT. This is the master output jack to be connected to another amp or power amplifier.



E DRIVE INPUT. This input is a direct input to the Drive channel in parallel mode and can be used to mix two sources, e.g. between two pickups on an instrument where applicable. Note: In conjunction with the *Blend* knob at max, and by choosing the *LO* gain engine (and modest or minimum *Drive* setting) it can serve as an input for a second instrument. Then you will use the drive channel to tweak the EQ individually for that instrument (not necessarily using any overdrive).

F SERIAL ON/OFF. This switch controls from where the Drive channel should take its' signal. In default mode, parallel, the source is taken from the main input or the Drive Input when used. In serial mode, the source is taken from the output of the Clean channel, so the channels are connected in serial.

C INPUT - The main input is a low noise, high impedance instrument input.



Note: The balanced outputs offers high-quality 'line box' signals for connecting to PA mixing consoles or to studio or broadcast recording units, with high noise immunity. The output level controlled by the MASTER knob does not affect these outputs.

H POST BAL OUT. Post EQ signal that is taken immediately before the Master knob (serve as the *Left channel* output when using FX Return in 'stereo mode').

I PRE/POST BAL OUT. This output send various signals depending on which mode is selected:

- J** 1) When the switch is in its' outer position the signal is taken before (PRE) any of the pedals the EQ.
- J** 2) When the switch is engaged this output normally serves as post *Clean channel EQ only*-output. However, if the 'stereo mode' for the FX return is activated at the same time, it will serve as the *Right channel* output, post EQ.

K GND LIFT. Eliminates ground noise and hum. When required, press the Gnd Lift switch to disconnect the ground from the balanced outputs.

L AUX IN. Auxiliary input to be monitored only with headphones. This input has no level control and the volume should be adjusted by the source.

M PHONES. Connect your headphones here for silent practicing. The volume from the MB3 is controlled by the MASTER knob where the Aux In needs to be adjusted from the signal source.

N DC INPUT. Connect the power supply here, only 9V DC, 1000 mA (supplied in package).

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS - MICRO BASS 3

Clean Channel:

Input Impedance:	Parallel mode	1.5 Mohms // 44 pF
	Serial mode	10 Mohms // 22 pF
Gain:	Gain Range	min/max -oo/+30 dB
	Gain Peak LED	+10 dBv
	Frequency Response	+0/-3 dB 20-20.000 Hz
Character:	Filter Type	Shelving High/Low Pass
	Gain:	Lo +6 dB @ 80 Hz
		Mid -2 dB @ 900 Hz
	Hi +3 dB @ 7.5 kHz	
Bright:	Filter Type	Shelving.
	Gain:	+10 dB @ 10 kHz
Filter Section:		
Bass Filter:	Type	12 dB/oct. Shelving.
	Gain Range	+/- 18 dB @ 60 Hz
Mid Filter:	Type	Bandpass Filter.
	Freq Range	50 - 5.000 Hz.
	Q - Boost	0.5 - 1.3.
	Q - Cut	0.5 - >5.
	Gain Range	+/- 12-15 dB
Treble Filter:	Type	Shelving.
	Gain Range	+/- 18 dB @ 8 kHz
COMP/LIMIT:	Comp Gain	0 dB
	Attenuation	max 24 dB
	Compression Ratio	max 3:1
	Attack	(80%) typ <10 ms
	Release	(80%) typ 100 ms

Drive Channel:

Input Impedance:		1.8 Mohms // 22 pF
Drive:	Gain Range	40 dB
Drive Engines:		
Lo:	Type	2nd harmonics soft
Hi:	Type	Symmetrical 2-stage with +18 dB gain
Type Switch:	Thin/Normal/Deep	Pre Drive EQ
Filter Section:		
Tone Filter:	Type	6 dB/oct. Low Pass.
	Frequency Range	700 - 20k Hz
Mid Filter:	Type	Bandpass Filter.
	Frequency Range	100 - 4.500 Hz.
	Q	1.2
	Gain Range	+/- 15 dB

Common Features:

Effects Loop:	Loop Signal Level	nominal -10 dBv
	Gain Unity	(1:1)
	Output Impedance	<100 ohms
	Input Impedance	>200 kohms // 22 pF
Phones Out:	Recommended Imp.	32 - 200 ohms
Aux Input:	Input Impedance	20 kohms
	Nominal Level	-10 dBv
Output:	Output Impedance	<1 kohms
	Signal Level	nominal 0 dBv
Balanced Outputs:	Output Level	nominal -20dBv
	XLR Connections	1-GND, 2-Hot, 3-Cold
	Options	Pre/Post EQ, L/R Ch. in stereo mode

Auxiliary Info:

Power Requirements	Idle	450mA @9V.
	Max	750mA @9V (with headphones at max output level)
Dimensions (WxDxH):	max	168 x 124 x 53 mm / 6.6" x 4.9" x 2.1"
Weight:		660 g (1.5 lbs.)

Specifications are subject to change without notice.

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BLOCK LAYOUT SCHEME - MICRO BASS 3

