

# Amplification **Taurus**

## GUITAR AMPLIFIER OWNER'S MANUAL

### **SH8** Qube Stomp-Head



**DESIGNED BY MUSICIANS FOR MUSICIANS**

## Thank you for trust and choosing our amplifier.

In 2011, Taurus was the first that introduce to the amp's world a new type of a professional guitar amplifier designed in a compact shape, especially dedicated for pedalboards. Since then, eight different models of Stomp-Head have been produced under Taurus logo. In the case of SH-8.Qube, our goal was to design an amplifier that has all features of tube amplifiers, very functional and unlike classic amplifiers very light and as small as possible.

The SH-8 as all our amps is built based on the Master Tube Design (MTD) technology. This is our innovative concept of building guitar amplifiers in a compact size. This technology uses all the most important features of tubes that determine the sound of guitar amps. We give guitarists an amplifier with exceptionally small weight and dimensions but still with truly pro, powerful sound.

The actual volume and sonic character of amps based on Master Tube Design is exactly the same as the traditional tube amplifiers of the same power.

In order to achieve the expected parameters, the amp is driven by a much higher power stage amplifier.

Usable amp's power is 50 Watts, while the actual power of the power amp and power supply is 130 Watts. Preservation of greatest possible sound's headroom is one of the main reasons of the difference between usable and actual power of the amp. Speakers with different resistance of 4, 8 or 16 ohms can be connected. The adjustment of the amplifier power to the speaker resistance is automatic. No matter which resistance is used, the amp always play with full power of 50 Watts.

The amplifier is equipped with a unique feature that allows to connect both a guitar cabinet and a full-range PA or Hi-Fi cabinet. The analog module with the SPEAKER CABINET SELECTOR switch is used for this purpose.

### SH8.Qube can be used in various configurations:

- as a classic amplifier. There are 2 power levels to choose from: 25W and 50W.
- as a preamp connected directly to the mixer and PA system using the built-in speaker cabinet simulation.

The amplifier can be used without connecting a speaker. If a speaker cabinet is not connected, the power stage of the amp is not active.

## Specification

- Power stage efficiency: 130Watt
- Power output selector: 50W, 25W
- Speakers impedance auto detection: 4,8 and 16ohm
- Tubes: 12AX7 / ECC83
- 2 channels: CLEAN i DRIVE
- 3- footswitches: REVERB, CLEAN-DRIVE and BOOST
- CONTROLS:  
BASS, MIDDLE + RANGE switch, TREBLE, PRESENCE, DRIVE , DRIVE LEVEL, BOOST LEVEL, REVERB, VOLUME
- MASSIVE – sound saturation
- DRIVE selector – Classic Drive / HIGH GAIN Drive
- USA/BRITISH - Sound selector
- SPEAKER CABINET SELECTOR: guitar cabinet / full range cabinet
- BOOST increases output signal level
- Serial EFFECT LOOP
- LINE-OUT with Speaker Simulation. Allows send linear signal with simulation (PIN) or without simulation (RING) or both simultaneously
- PHONES output
- AUX-IN for phones section
- BLUETOOTH the ability to play background music from the phone, tablet, etc.
- Power supply for effect pedals: 9V/300mA output
- Main power supply range: 90-240V
- Housing dimensions: (H x W x D) 60 x 185 x 175 mm
- Overall dimensions: (H x W x D) 78 x 185 x 175 mm
- Weight: 1,5kg

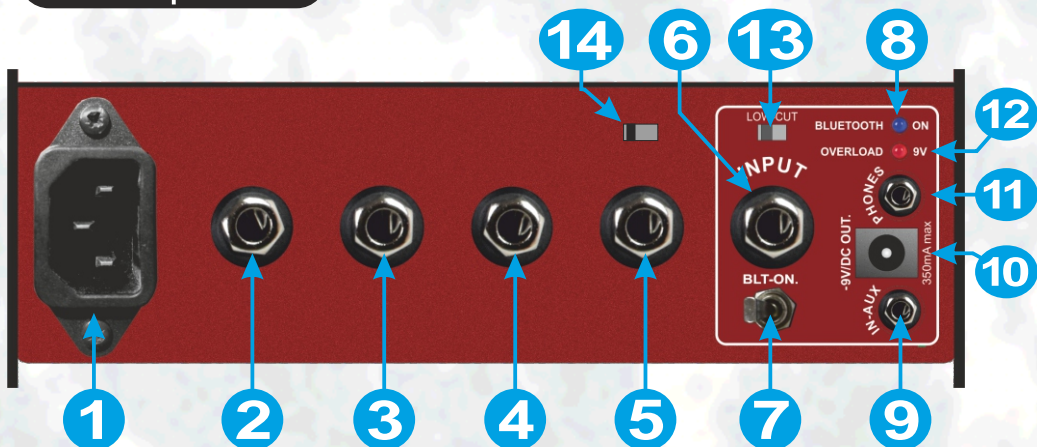
# Front panel



- [1] - BASS control
- [2] - MIDDLE control
- [2A] - MID-RANGE switch - changes range of MIDDLE control parameters.
- [2B] - USA/BRITISH sound selector
- [3] - TREBLE control
- [4] - DRIVE gain control
- [4A] - DRIVE MODE: CLASSIC / HIGH-GAIN / HIGH-GAIN & BOOST
- [5] - PRESENCE control
- [6] - REVERB control
- [7] - VOLUME control
- [8] - Power selector: 50Watt/25Watt
- [9] - Speaker cabinet selector - two options to choose from:  
guitar or full range cabinet
- [10] - BOOST DRIVE level adjustment
- [11] - Overall DRIVE level adjustment
- [12] - MASSIVE sound saturation level switch
- [13] - TUBE BOOST
- [14] - REVERB footswitch
- [15] - DRIVE footswitch
- [16] - **BOOST** footswitch
- [17] - Power switch



## Rear panel



- [1] - AC POWER input. Range: 90-240V / 50-60Hz
- [2] - Speakers output: 4-8-16ohm (auto detect. impedance)
- [3] - LINE OUTPUT with speaker cabinet simulation. Signal can be lead in different ways: with simulation, without simulation or both.
- [4] - Effect-loop RETURN (or PA input)
- [5] - Effect-loop SEND
- [6] - INPUT
- [7] - BLUETOOTH wireless communication switch
- [8] - BLUETOOTH communication status LED indicator
- [9] - AUX-IN socket for connecting an external audio source for example, background music for practice or recording. Signal connected to the AUX-IN will only be heard through headphones. You can use a mono or stereo jack
- [10] - output for powering external effects pedals directly from the amplifier
- [11] - Headphones output
- [12] - OVERLOAD indicator for -9V/DC power supply
- [13] - LOW CUT filter - recommended for use with 4x12" loudspeakers or powerful humbucker pickups.
- [14] - NOISE GATE ON/OFF switch

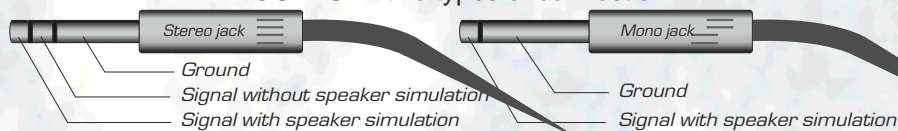
## AC Supply

The amplifier can be powered with the voltage in the range of 90-240V, which makes it easy to use it in various world regions without additional voltage converters.

## LINE OUT

The LINE OUTPUT is equipped with a stereo 1/4" (jack) socket, which sends two signals: with speaker cabinet simulation (tip), without simulation (ring) or both at the same time. (tip + ring)

### LINE OUTPUT - two types of connection



## DRIVE

The DRIVE option allows you to get a distorted sound in a very wide range. You can get light OVERDRIVE, CLASSIC DRIVE and HIGH GAIN.

The “4A” selector allows you to choose a sound in the following options:

- in the middle position we get a CLASSIC DRIVE ideal for rock and blues music
- the upper position activates the HIGH-GAIN sound
- the lower position allows you to switch between the CLASSIC and HIGH-GAIN sound using the BOOST footswitch. In addition, you can set the HIGH GAIN signal level with the BOOST LEVEL potentiometer.

## MASSIVE

The MASSIVE option that's a unique feature of the amp, which makes the guitar sound very saturated with a great sustain. MASSIVE is activated by a switch (12-front). In the middle position MASSIVE is OFF, in positions 1 and 2 two different saturation levels are to choose from. MASSIVE perfectly complements guitar sound, especially improves the performance of Single Coil pickups. The signal of this pickups usually is too weak to achieve strong distortion. MASSIVE changes this situation, making each configuration of pickups sounding much richer and warmer.

## Speaker selector

The amplifier is equipped with an unique feature that allows connect not only a guitar cabinet but also a full-range PA as well as a Hi-Fi cabinet. The analog module with the SPEAKER CABINET SELECTOR switch is used to choose one of the options.

If a guitar cabinet has to be used, set the switch (9-front) to the GUITAR position, if a broadband cabinet, set the switch

(9-front) in the FULL RANGE position. Then the simulation of a guitar cabinet will be turned on, which will make the guitar sound on a PA (or Hi-Fi ) cabinet the same as throughout guitar cabinet. If a full-range speaker is used, the background music signal played from the BLUETOOTH device will be reproduced as recorded, in full range (wide-band) but the guitar will join the backing track with its own path with a sound characteristic of a guitar cabinet.

The amplifier detects the impedance of the speaker itself, adjusting the parameters of the amplifier to the connected cabinet. 4-8-16ohm speakers can be use, in each case the amplifier power remains at the same level.

## Bluetooth

Bluetooth enables wireless playback of sound files send from a phone, tablet, etc. This feature allows practicing with background music. BLUETOOTH is activated using a switch (7-back), the communication status is indicated by a blue LED (8-back). Fast flashing indicates connection searching status, slow flashing indicates connection status with another BLUETOOTH device. The signal transmitted from the BLUETOOTH device is heard in the headphones and loudspeaker.

## AUX & EFX LOOP

The AUX-IN mini-jack socket allows send a signal from an external sound source, which will be heard only in headphones. This option will be useful for recordings, exercises with background music, metronome, etc. The EFX-LOOP sockets (4-rear and 5-rear) are used to connect sound effects in the preamp path. They are led out after the EQ. and DRIVE section, are mainly used for effects such as Delay, Octaver, Volume Pedal, Noise Gate and Equalizer. The SEND in EFX LOOP section sends a signal to the external effect INPUT, while the RETURN is used to connect the signal return from the external effect OUTPUT.

## SH-8 as a preamp

The SH-8 Qube can also be used as a preamp alone, connected to an external PA system or mixer via the LINE-OUT, without speaker connection necessity. If a speaker wire is not connected to the amp's speaker OUT the amp's power stage is inactive.

## DC supply for effect pedals

The amp is designed with output that allows powering external sound effects. It means that there is no need to use an additional power supply and the set of effects in the pedalboard gains additional space. The maximum power supply load is 350mA. Assuming an average consumption of 60-80mA per effect, 4-5 pedals can be practically powered. If the maximum load of the power supply is exceeded, the red LED (12-back) will light up.

## TUBES

Optimal operating parameters of tubes 12AX7 are set during amp's manufacturing process. The characteristics of each tube in the amplifier is individually tuned at MTD system (Master Tube Design), to achieve the best performance possible. It is not recommended to replace the tubes. Replacing working tubes with some other brand will not improve the sound. The 12Ax7 are already tuned to perform at maximum capability. Only broken tubes should be replaced. The tubes in MTD technology works in perfectly designed environment which allows them to have very long life span. If not mechanically damaged there is no reason to change them for years

## Precautions

- Amplifier produces high volume levels. Staying in places of high volume levels could cause permanent hearing loss.
- Do not use the amplifier in humid and dusty places.
- Do not operate the amplifier through the unearthed socket.
- Do not leave the amplifier in the vicinity of children.
- Do not use the amplifier with broken power outlet or improper power cord.
- Do not install nor use the amplifier near any heat sources, in case of overheating the amplifier turns off and will return to work after cooling the unit. Do not cover the vent holes!
- In order to ensure proper air circulation, do not block any of the ventilation openings.
- Never put any liquid containers near the amplifier.
- In case of any objects or liquid access inside the amplifier, urgently switch the apparatus off and unplug the power supply cord.
- Protect the amplifier from any strikes.
- ATTENTION: To reduce the risk of electrical shock, do not remove the back cover of the amplifier. Inside parts can be repaired only by qualified service personnel.
- WARNING: To prevent the risk of electrical shock do not expose this appliance to moisture, rain or any liquid.

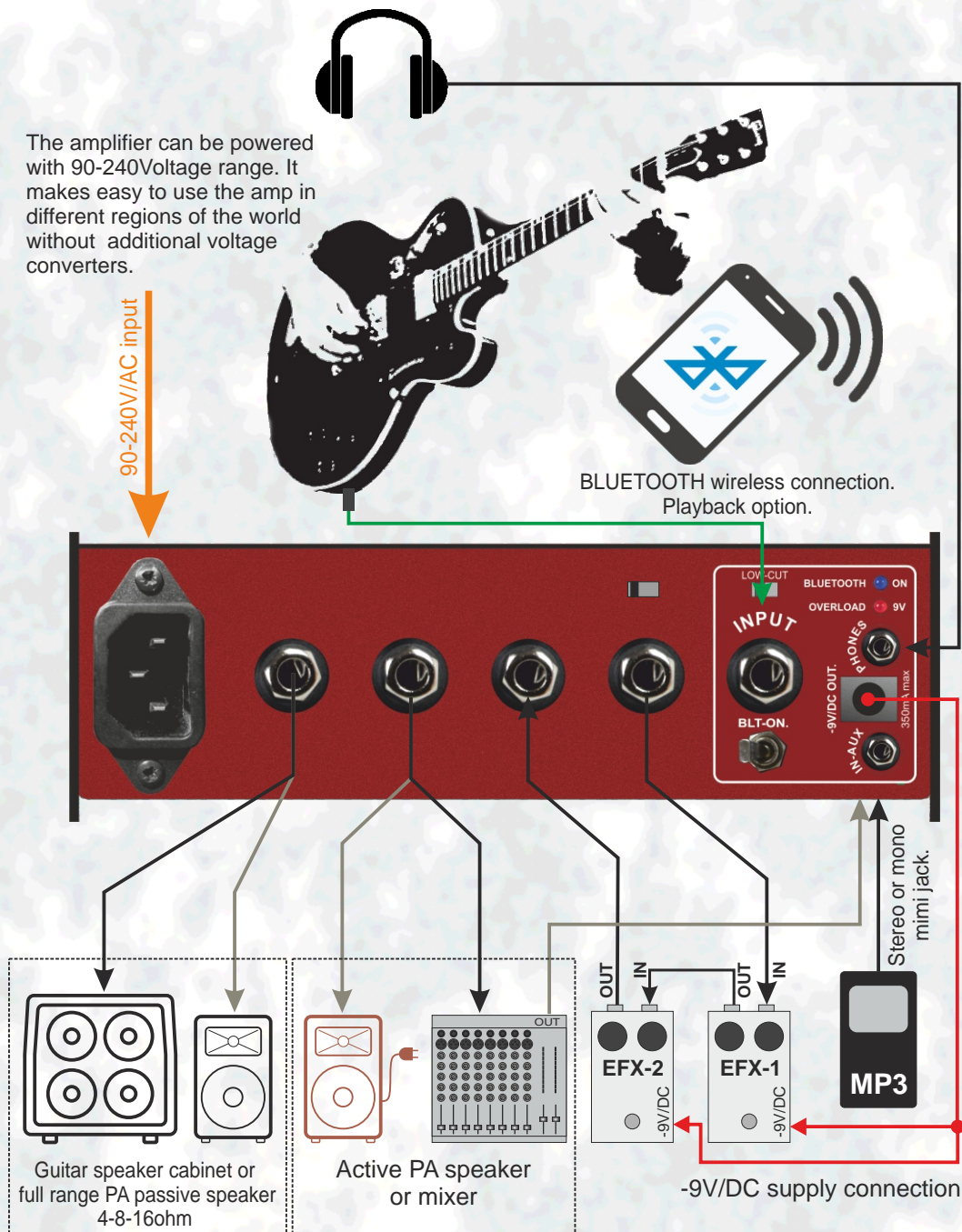


# Connection configuration

The amplifier can be powered with 90-240V voltage range. It makes easy to use the amp in different regions of the world without additional voltage converters.

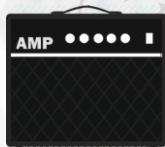
90-240V/AC input

BLUETOOTH wireless connection.  
Playback option.



# SH8 Qube

Four in one:



## Amplifier

Master Tube Design technology  
130Watt Power Amplifier  
50W and 25W Power output selector.



## Preamp

You can use Stomp-Head as a preamp without connection to cabinet.



## Cabinet Simulator

Allows you to connect a guitar speaker or full-range PA or Hi-Fi cabinet.



## Foot Controller

Allows you to quickly switch guitar sounds using the following options: Reverb, Clean/Drive, Boost,



RoHS