



# ValveTrain Saratoga

## User Guide

ValveTrain Amplification, LLC  
1119 Robie Avenue  
Mount Dora, FL 32757  
407 886-7656  
[www.valvetrainamps.com](http://www.valvetrainamps.com)  
[sales@valvetrainamps.com](mailto:sales@valvetrainamps.com)

## Table of Contents

Thank You.....	3
Getting Started.....	3
Operating the Amplifier .....	4
Technical Info.....	5
Tricks & Recommendations.....	5
Warranty Information .....	6

# Thank You

We would first and foremost like to thank you for purchasing your amplifier from ValveTrain Amplification. Your selection means a great deal to us.

Just so you know where we stand on things...

We are committed to providing the most discriminating guitarists in the universe the best possible products in amplification.

We build a limited portfolio of hand wired amplifiers based off the most sought after circuits in history using the best parts available.

## Getting Started

There are several things you should know to get started with your new amplifier.

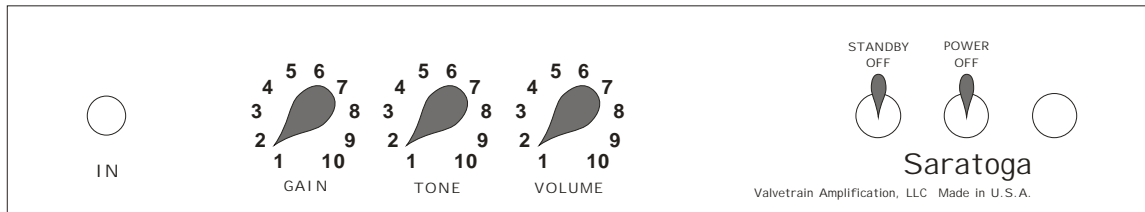
- There are no user serviceable items inside the chassis of this amplifier. For your own safety contact us directly, or take it to a qualified technician.
- ValveTrain Amplification is not responsible for your safety when using this device. We give you these basics to protect you as well as ourselves.
- Use Common Sense.
- Do not use the amplifier, or leave it plugged in when it is exposed to liquids. (This includes rain, water, soft drinks and beer.)
- Do not change tubes or fuses without first unplugging the amplifier.
- Use the correct replacement fuse in the event that it needs to be changed.
- Tubes can get extremely hot when the amplifier is in use. Please keep your children and everyone else away from them. Anyone will get severely burned if they come in contact with the tubes when the amplifier is in operation or recently powered off.
- Do not use the amplifier when it is near drapery, furnishings, paper or anything else flammable. The heat from the tubes may possibly cause them to ignite. Maintain at least 6 inches of space around the unit while it is in operation.
- Instrument amplifiers by nature are intended to get loud. Respect your hearing and the hearing of others. Permanent damage may result.
- This amplifier comes with a grounded power cord (3 prong). Do not alter this and always make sure the unit is connected to properly grounded power of the correct voltage. (United States 120VAC)
- Never run the amplifier without speaker(s) connected. You may cause major damage (not under warranty by the way) to the amplifier.

We've tried to do our part, you do yours...

Don't take chances.

# Operating the Amplifier

The control panel of the ValveTrain Saratoga looks like this:

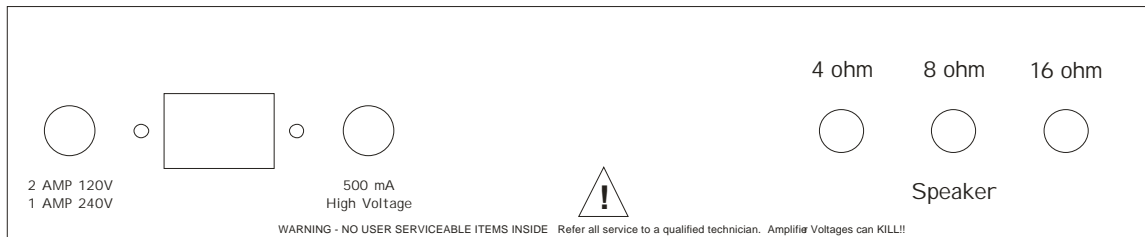


It's really pretty simple to use...

Let's start from the way we're actually going to use the amp.

1. The input jack is where you plug in your instrument cable.
2. There are 3 knobs on the amplifier, one that controls the overall Volume of the amp, a Tone control and a Gain control.
3. The Tone control removes high frequency response as the indicator gets closer to 1.
4. The pilot lamp is also located on the top panel and is illuminated when the amplifier is powered on.
5. Make sure that the amp is plugged into a grounded outlet at 120 Volts A.C (Standard U.S. Electricity)
6. Flip the power switch to the on position and the pilot lamp will begin to glow.
7. **WAIT AT LEAST 30 SECONDS.** The tubes in this amp need a little time to warm up... You could shorten the life of the tubes by rushing things...
8. Flip the Standby switch to the on position.
9. Next, turn the gain, tone and volume controls to the desired levels and play!!

## Back Panel Features



The speaker jacks are on the back panel.

That's about it...

## Technical Info

Power Requirement:	120 A.C. (Alternating Current) – Grounded Outlet
Fuse:	2 AMP Slo-Blo MAINS on the back of the Chassis. 500mA (1/2A) Slo-Blo High Voltage on the back of the Chassis.
Power Output:	Approximately 16 Watts R.M.S
Tuber Order:	Numbered 1 through 4 from RIGHT to LEFT as you look at the back of the amplifier.
Preamp Tube:	12AX7 in position 1. Alternatives (Position 1 Only): any 12AX7, 12AY7, 12AT7 or 5751
Phase Splitter:	12AX7 in position 2.
Power Tube:	6V6GT – These tubes are located in position 3 and 4.
Rectifier Tube:	5Y3GT in position 5
Speaker Output Load:	4, 8 or 16 ohms.
Speaker Outputs:	There are 3 speaker jacks located on the back of the chassis. The internal speaker should be plugged into the 8 ohm jack for normal use. The 4 ohm jack can be used to power a single 4 ohm speaker or a pair of 8 ohm speakers.  The total recommended load for the amplifier is 8 Ohms. The amps should operate without damage at 4, 8 or 16 Ohms. Never run the amplifier without a speaker load connected
Speaker:	Eminence Wizard 12” speaker at 8 ohms. (Combo Only)

## Tricks & Recommendations

### #1

Learn to use the Volume control on your guitar...

Back it down to cleanup the signal and get clean, shimmering tones.  
Open it up to get a more distorted tone...

### #2

The Tone control has a fairly wide response. Start with the control at 7 and then play around to find your favorite tones.

### #3

Enjoy!!

# Warranty Information

Please be sure you understand the information on this page, we do our best, but we've got to have a few rules...

## **Our Warranty:**

We stand behind our products. We warrant our products to the original purchaser for a period of 1 year from the date of purchase.

If you send us the registration card within 30 days of purchase (proof of purchase required), we will extend the warranty 1 additional year.

The warranty covers parts and labor for our workmanship and all components except tubes and speakers, which are covered for 60 days.

For warranty service, send us the amp and we'll fix it. You pay the shipping costs both ways.

If the amp has been modified, abused or repaired by someone else, the warranty is void.

Any abused or damaged items are not eligible for warranty claims.