

CARR AMPLIFIERS



OWNER'S MANUAL

April 2014

Skylark Instructions

Thank you for purchasing a Carr Skylark amplifier. The Skylark merges the spanky tone of our Deluxe Reverb inspired Slant 6V amplifier with the house trained manners of classic 60s Blackface practice amps, like the Harvard. Our second generation, built-in attenuator, lets you play at any volume while retaining the clarity and personality of the tone. Please take time to familiarize yourself with this manual.

Volume – Adjusts the loudness and drive of the amplifier.

Hi/Low Gain toggle – points up for classic 60s reverb tone – down for higher gain – boosted tone (the reverb output is lower in Hi Gain mode)

Treble – Varies the top end from dark to bright.

Mid – Varies the midrange frequencies and is very interactive with the Treble control. For a 60s American tone, set the Mid to 12 o'clock. The tone becomes more aggressive as you advance the Mid past 2 o'clock. When the Mid is set near full, the Treble control's effect is more subtle and the amp is easily overdriven.

Bass – Varies the low end from lean to full. To retain clarity, turn the Bass down at higher volumes.

Reverb – Controls the amount of reverb sound from none to deep and lush.

Presence – The Presence is used to emphasize top end frequencies by removing the output section Negative Feedback from the high end. For flat/even tone, set the presence to 0 (off). For typical shimmer set it to 12 o'clock. To push top end and increase bite use higher settings. This control is very useful in setting your overall brightness and cut. It is interactive with the treble control and affords a huge range of tones. *Note:* If you move the knob quickly you will hear some 'swooshing' which is normal.

Attenuator – Set the Wattage toggle up for full 12 watts with the speaker bypassing the attenuator. With the Toggle baton down the amp is in Attenuate mode and you can vary the speaker output from 1/100 to 1.2 watts continuously.

Standby – Off – Play – The Toggle switch baton in the middle position is Power Off. To play set the amp to Standby (switch baton *down*). After 1 minute of warm up, switch the Power baton *up* to Play. The amp is ready to be played. Using the Standby setting every time the amp is turned on will prolong tube life.

Bottom Panel

Fuse – In the unlikely event that a tube fails, the Skylark is protected by a 1.5 Amp slow blow fuse for 120v and 100v (North America and Japan) models or a 0.75 Amp slow blow fuse for 220v and 240v (Europe and Asia) models. Please consult us or a qualified tech for assistance in the event of a fuse blowing. The fuse is located on the bottom of the chassis by the power cord.

Speaker output jack – The speaker output jack is located behind the power tubes on the chassis (see *Chassis Diagram*). The Skylark is designed to drive an 8 ohm load. Maximum tone will be realized when connected to a 8 ohm speaker or cabinet. The speakers in Skylark combos and extension cabinets are configured to provide the amplifier with an 8 ohm load.

To run an external cabinet, turn the Skylark OFF, unplug the internal speaker (combo amps) and plug in the external cabinet's speaker cord. Alternatively, a "Y" speaker cord can be used to run a 16 ohm external cabinet along with the internal speaker(s) of a combo amp without damage to the amp (the total impedance or speaker load in this case will be 5.3 ohms – see the previous paragraph).

Damage will result from operating the Skylark without a speaker load or into a 4 ohm load.

Biassing your Skylark

The Skylark is a cathode bias (self bias) amplifier and as such does not require a bias adjustment when changing tubes. Please use matched pairs of output tubes for maximum performance. The Skylark can only use matched pairs of 6V6 power tubes.

Carr Amplifiers selects and tests the finest current production tubes specifically for each amplifier model. Caution should be used when buying replacement tubes from any dealer who does not have a return policy as all tubes can have problems (NOS tubes are susceptible to microphonics and failure too).

Recommended Settings (These give you a place to start – the Skylark has a huge range of possible tones – have fun experimenting and remember that guitar pickups vary a lot and you will need to tweak to your guitar and ear!)

Sound	Volume	Treble	Middle	Bass	Reverb	Presence
60s American Clean Toggle L						
Thick BF Toggle H						
Low Volume Grind Toggle H Use Attenuator For desired volume						
Texas Overdrive Toggle L Use Attenuator For desired volume						

Sound	Volume	Treble	Middle	Bass	Reverb	Presence
Scoop Ambient Toggle L						
Hollow OD Toggle H Use Attenuator For desired volume						
Mild OD Toggle L Use Attenuator For desired volume						
11 Toggle H Use Attenuator For desired volume						

CARR AMPLIFIERS CHASSIS DIAGRAM



Power Connection
100W Max

Speaker
- Jack -
16/8 ohms

Fuse

Reverb Return Jack
(on speaker side of chassis)

Reverb Send Jack
(on speaker side of chassis)



