

PHIL JONES BASS



D-400



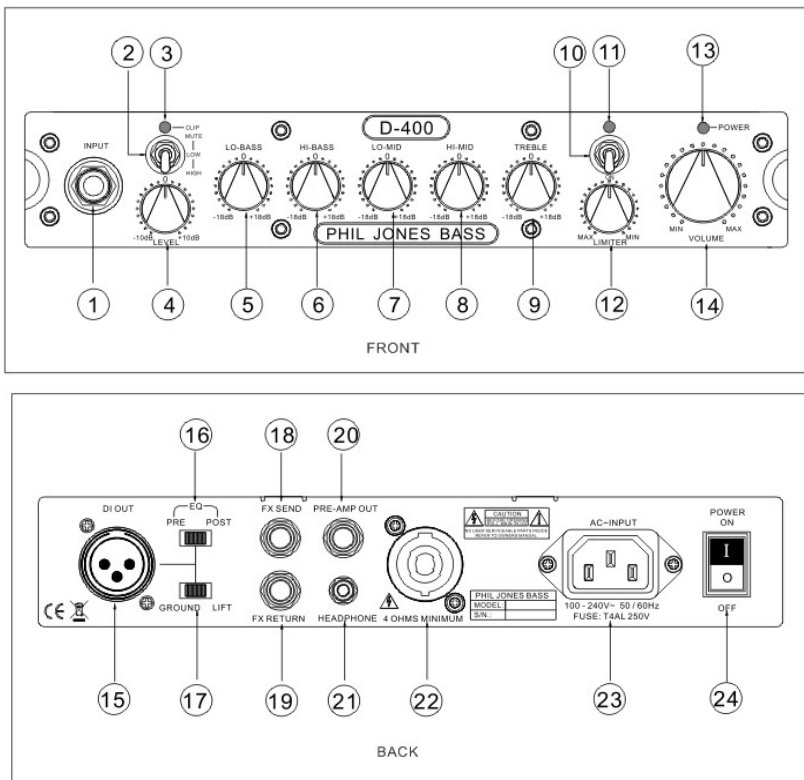
OWNER'S MANUAL

Thank you for purchasing the D-400 bass amp. A great deal of dedication and passion went into designing and building this no-compromise, high performance compact amplifier. It was conceived to be a dedicated amplifier for the “connoisseur” bassist. Reading and following this manual will enable you to get the best performance from the amp and ensure its longevity.

READ THIS FIRST

- Before using the D-400 please read ALL the instructions.
- On receipt of product, check for any signs of physical damage arising from shipping. If any damage is visible, contact your retailer.
- Keep all original packing.
- Do not use this amplifier in a way that would compromise its ventilation system. When operating, never cover the heat sink on rear panel.
- Do not locate this amplifier near any heat source.
- This amplifier must be connected only to a power source specified in this manual.
- For safety do not leave the amplifier plugged into a power source for long periods of time when not in use.
- Do not let liquid or any foreign objects fall into any openings on the amplifier.
- Never use this amplifier if it has:
 1. Suffered any physical damage.
 2. Been subjected to any liquids, rain or moisture.
 3. Damaged cables connected to it.
- If any of the above occurs, the amplifier should be examined by qualified service personnel.
- Always operate this amplifier with the correctly rated fuse.
- Never use this amplifier without proper grounding.
- The mains plug is used as disconnect device, the disconnect device shall remain readily operable.
-  Protective earthing terminal. The amplifier should be connected to a mains socket outlet with a protective earthing connection.
-  Correct Disposal of this product. This marking indicates that this product should not be disposed with other household wastes throughout the EU. To prevent possible harm to the environment or human health from uncontrolled waste disposal, recycle it responsibly to promote the sustainable reuse of material resources.
- Minimum distances should be over 15cm around the amplifier for sufficient ventilation. The ventilation should not be impeded by covering the ventilation openings with items such as newspapers, table-cloths, curtains, etc.
- No naked flame sources, such as lighted candles, should be placed on the amplifier.

FRONT PANEL AND BACK PANEL OVERVIEW



FRONT AND BACK PANEL DESCRIPTION

1. PASSIVE BASS INSTRUMENT INPUT JACK.

This is a standard 1/4 inch mono jack socket.

For the best possible sound we recommend you use the PJB BI-12 instrument cable as it has very low self-capacitance and absolute shielding resulting in greater transparency of sound and less noise.

2. INPUT /MUTE SWITCH.

Top Position: Mute On

Middle Position: Low sensitivity for mainly active basses. For basses with onboard electronics. Input matched for low signal to noise ratio and optimum transfer of electrical signal from modern high-end basses.

Bottom position: High sensitivity for passive basses that do not have active electronics, suitable for older 'vintage' basses. This setting is precisely matched to high impedance pickups, enabling them to faithfully reproduce the true frequency and dynamic range of the instrument.

3. LED Clip/Mute Indicator.

Green is Mute, Red is overloaded input.

4. Input Level Adjustment.

This is a fine-tuning adjustment (+/-10dB) to get the precise match between your instrument and the D-400. When the RED LED is continuously lighting up, reduce the level on the input level control.

5. LOW BASS EQ CONTROL.

This will adjust the fundamental tones of E and A strings on 4 string basses and B, E & A on 5 string basses.

6. BASS EQ CONTROL.

This will adjust the fundamental tones of D and G-strings on 4 & 5 string basses.

7. MID RANGE EQ CONTROL.

8. LOW TREBLE EQ CONTROL.

9. HIGH TREBLE (PRESENCE) EQ CONTROL.

10. LIMITER IN/OUT SWITCH.

Sends signal through limiter or bypass.

11. COMPRESSOR INDICATOR.

This blue L.E.D (Light Emitting Diode) will light up when the signal is being compressed.

This will vary on how hard the instrument is played and how the threshold is adjusted.

12. COMPRESSOR THRESHOLD LEVEL CONTROL.

This will vary the level and the limiter threshold. The compression ratio is 3dB to 1. Adjust this to suit your playing style and output power of your instrument. The blue LED will light up when the signal is being compressed. This will vary on how hard the instrument is played and how the threshold is adjusted.

13. LED POWER ON INDICATOR.

Auto standby function:

When connected to AC power, turn on the power, the power LED will light up in red, that shows the amplifier is in standby mode.

Under standby mode, when the input socket has a signal more than 20mV, the power LED will turn green, that shows the amplifier is working.

In working mode, if the input signal was smaller than 20mV, the amplifier will turn into standby mode, and power LED will turn red.

Note: when turning off the amplifier at standby mode, the power LED will stay red for about 30 seconds or more. This is normal because the amplifier was discharging.

14. MASTER VOLUME CONTROL.

This is the master volume control. It controls how much power you send to the speakers as well as the line out socket on the back of the amp. When setting up your tone or plugging in your instrument, you should keep this control at a low level. Instruments are all different when it comes to how much output is from the pickups. It is likewise for players depending on how hard or soft you play. Note this control is a true "Audio Taper" control so that the level position may be set higher compared to amps that use a "Linear Taper" control. An "Audio Taper" control has far more precision in controlling your output and uses the full rotation to control the level. A Linear control on the other hand uses the first few degrees of turn to give the impression that the amplifier has more volume than what it actually does.

15. BALANCED LINE OUT.

This is an ultra-low impedance (200Ω) balanced line out for use with recording or PA mixing consoles. This output is not controlled by the volume control. Changing the level on your instrument, or input level will however, vary the DI output.

16. BALANCED LINE PRE/POST EQ.

This switches the EQ in or out on balanced line. You may choose the tone you have on your amp to go into the PA or for recording or you can use external EQ on mixing console the signal is sent to.

17. BALANCED LINE OUT GROUND LIFT SWITCH.

Sometimes, AC Hum is induced into a sound system due to the reason that PA and bass amp are connected to different ground potential (known as ground loop). This switch disconnects the amps grounding to PA or recording system to eliminate this hum.

18. FX SEND SOCKET.

Connect the FX send to auxiliary FX unit input.

19. FX RETURN SOCKET.

Connect the FX Return to auxiliary FX unit output.

20. PRE AMP LINE OUT.

This output can be used to drive a powered cabinet.

21. HEADPHONE SOCKET (STEREO PHONES).

We recommend the PJB H-850 headphones as they were designed for bass and high fidelity music reproduction. They are a perfect match to the D-400.

When a headphone is connected to the jack, the speaker output will be disconnected and the sound from your speakers will be muted.

22. LOUDSPEAKER OUTPUT.

The D-400 amplifier will work on any load from 16Ω down to 4Ω, which is the safe maximum load for this amplifier. We recommend that you use the PJB SS-04 high-current, low-resistance cables. Using inferior, higher resistance cables will greatly impair the performance of your system.

23. AC INPUT SOCKET.

We recommend that you use the supplied cable or a heavier gauge one. Always use a grounded plug and make sure the AC cable is more than 4A rating at 250-volt AC.

24. POWER ON/OFF SWITCH.

This switches the main power on and off in the amplifier. When you turn on the power, it will have about 2 seconds delay to protect the speaker.

Do not leave the amplifier plugged into a power source for a long period of time when not in use.

OPERATION & POSITIONING

TURN THE VOLUME DOWN or switch the MUTE on the D-400 before plugging in your instrument.

Connect the speaker or speakers to the D-400. For best results with this amplifier, you should use PJB loudspeaker cabinets and PJB cables.

ALWAYS USE A HIGH QUALITY GROUNDED AC POWER CABLE. NEVER USE THIS AMPLIFIER WITH THE GROUND CONNECTION REMOVED. We recommend you use PJB cables for speaker connections. They have virtually no loss, so there is maximum transfer of power from amplifier to speaker.

Setting Up the Limiter

Although a limiter is not essential to bass amplification, it can be a useful tool in smoothing out the character of your instrument or playing style. The D-400 limiter has a preset compression ratio of 3 to 1. For each additional increase of 3 dB above the set threshold, the increased level is actually 1 dB. So the dynamic range of your instrument is reduced.

First set up the limiter by having the compression control (8) set fully clockwise. Now switch on the limiter (12). Start playing and turn control (8) counter-clockwise. You will see the blue light starts to come on which is the indication that the limiter is now working. Set this control to suit your taste.

Power and Impedance Matching.

Solid state amplifiers are known as constant voltage devices. This means the amplifier will maintain a certain voltage to the load, just like an AC wall socket will put out the same AC voltage whether it connects to one or many light bulbs. Power increases as more load is added on the amplifier. In other words, the current will double if 2 x 8 ohm speakers are connected instead of one. The D-400 works from any high impedance down to 4 ohms. The total speaker impedance can be 16, 12, 8, 6 or 4 ohms or between these. What matters is that the current does not exceed its 4 ohm load. The lower the impedance, the greater the current and since the voltage stays pretty much the same, the power is increased. In reality there is always a small voltage drop in amplifier speaker output as the speaker load is increased. The lower the speaker impedance, the greater the load is on the amplifier.

Watts and Loudness.

To the human ear an increase in loudness is not linear. For example 300 watts is not 3 times louder

than 100 watts from the same speaker. In fact it is just noticeably louder. We need ten times the wattage for us to recognize a doubling in volume. So 1000 watts will sound twice as loud to us as 100 watts.

Loudspeakers also vary in efficiency with frequency. Most loudspeakers are louder in the mid range than in the bass or extreme high frequencies, which is one reason we need EQ in an amplifier. An EQ control is a frequency selective volume control: It boosts or cuts level at a specific frequency. So excessive boosting of frequencies, especially on bass frequencies where almost 90% of the amplifier power is used can rob a bass system of headroom.

Speaker Positioning and EQ

Nearly all bass speakers are Omni-directional at all the fundamental bass tones from about 200Hz (the fundamental of a G string on 12th Fret) down to the lowest frequency a speaker can reproduce. The open E is 41.2Hz and open B string is 31Hz.

Mid range and high frequencies tend to be directional. This is why many players angle their cabinets to ear level so they can hear the definition better.

Because bass frequencies radiate all around the cabinet, the bass will sound weaker when the cabinet is placed on a large stage with no boundaries. By placing the speakers close to a wall or even to a corner, the bass frequencies will appear to be much stronger and it may not need to have much boost on EQ to allow the amp to have more headroom.

By careful positioning of your bass speakers, you may be able to get a fuller low frequency without the use of boosting too much EQ. This will give not only give your amp more headroom, but also put less stress on your speakers.

Speaker Selection

D-400 can work with speaker load of 4 to 16 Ohms. A 4 ohm cabinet will make full use of the amplifier's power.

PJB makes a few models of bass cabinets that will match the D-400. Please refer to their specs to choose one that suits you.

Speaker cables: If possible, try to use PJB SS-04 high performance cable which has Speakon connectors and are the correct length needed for speaker connection.

The PJB EAR-BOX personal bass monitor will greatly enhance your playing experience in all situations. This is a tiny 2 x3 inch speaker box that fits on a microphone stand. If you play fretless bass, this may be an essential piece of kit for you. The PJB EAR-BOX connects to speaker outputs of amplifier and does not change the speaker impedance load.

TRANSPORTING AND STORING THE D-400

When transporting or storing the D-400, it is recommended that you always use the gig bag provided.

When Storing:

- Keep in a dry location, preferably at room temperature in the gig bag.
- Do not store in temperatures below -20 Degrees C or above 40 Degrees C.
- Do not allow it to get wet. If this occurs, never turn it on in this condition.
- Do not leave the D-400 permanently connected to a power source.

SPECIFICATIONS

Amplifier

PJB 350 watt, D class amplifier with digital switch mode power supply.

Frequency Response

Passive and Active input: 30Hz -20KHz

Maximum Output Power

300 watts RMS into 4 ohms

Signal to Noise Ratio

≥85dB(A) (EQ off, Volume on Full.)

Impedance

Passive Input: >4MΩ/22pF

Active Input: >100KΩ/22pF

Line Input: >75KΩ

Pre Amp Line Out: < 2KΩ

Bal. Out: <1KΩ

Levels

Passive Input: 10mV-1V

Active Input: 20mV-3V

Pre Amp Out: 1.2V

FX send: 1.2V

Bal. Line Out: Typical 500mV

Compressor / Limiter

Gain: 0dB

Compression Ratio: 3dB: 1dB

EQ CENTER FREQUENCIES

70Hz, 160Hz, 630Hz, 2.5KHz, 12KHz at +/- 18dB

Included with D-400: Padded Gig Bag and Power cable.

SERVICE/WARRANTY INFORMATION

The D-400 carries a 2-year limited warranty on parts and labor.

Products must be purchased from an authorized PJB dealer.

Buyer must complete and return the enclosed warranty card within 15 days of purchase, or register online by www.pjbworld.com

This warranty covers defect in materials or workmanship that occurs in normal use. Within warranty period PJB or its local distributor will repair or replace the defect unit free of labor and parts charge. It is the buyer's responsibility to use the unit strictly according to instructions written in the owner's manual.

This warranty is not transferable; it is provided to original owner only.

Damage/defects caused by the following conditions are not covered by this warranty:

- Improper handling, neglect or failure to operate the unit in compliance with the instructions given in user manual;
- Connection or operation in any way that does not comply with the technical or safety regulations applicable in the country where the product is used;
- Repairs or modifications by anyone other than authorized PJB service agent;

- Damages/defects caused by force majeure or any other condition that is beyond the control of PJB.

IMPORTANT:

- In all warranty issues your first line of communication should be to the retailer you purchased from, even if you have purchased product from an online source.
- When a local distributor is available, customer who prefers to purchase across country online maybe required to pay shipping charges to retailer in order to obtain service.

Warranty policies differ in countries outside of USA. Please check with local distributors for warranty information in your region. Register first with your local distributor if available will give you better and quicker service when needed.

Further questions, please contact your local distributors, or PJB by email info@philjonespuresound.com.

PHIL JONES BASS

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