

Warwick[®] **AMPLIFICATION**

OWNER'S MANUAL

BASS COMBO AMPLIFIERS

BC80



BC150



CONTENT

FEATURES	2
INTRODUCTION.....	3
SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS.....	4
GETTING STARTED.....	5
PANEL CONTROLS.....	6
SPECIFICATIONS	8
TROUBLESHOOTING	9

FEATURES

- Combo amplifier for bass instruments
- Passive and active inputs
- Line Out on front panel
- Send/Return on front panel
- Class-A preamp with Low-Z circuitry for minimum noise and maximum headroom
- 4-Way EQ with controls for bass, mid and treble
- DDL (Dynamic Distortion Limiter) for distortion-free reproduction at all levels
- Aux-In mini jack stereo input (Smartphone, MP3 player, CD player)
- Self-cooling construction (fanless operation)
- Dedicated stereo headphone amplifier
- Bass reflex speaker cabinet
- Speaker protection grille made of rugged steel
- **BC 80:**
 - 80 watt power amp
 - 12" Warwick WXC 12/8 bass driver
 - 2" Warwick WTR 2/8 neodymium high-frequency driver
- **BC 150:**
 - 150 watt power amp
 - 15" Warwick WXC 15/8 bass driver
 - 4" Warwick WTR 4/8 high-frequency driver

INTRODUCTION

A series of compact amplifiers for Bass instruments like nothing you have seen or heard before. These full frequency, extended headroom, integrated combo amps could be used for virtually any amplified instrument but are specifically tuned to the unique needs of Electric and Upright Bassists. Our considerations in these amp designs were multifold and our objectives are to provide:

- an affordable amplifier for the discerning musician,
- a gigging amplifier for the seasoned professional,
- a teacher's amp where both the student and the teacher can plug in simultaneously while playing musical examples with a music player through the auxiliary input,
- an amp for rehearsals, where space and sound levels are limited.

Here is a short explanation of the underlying design concepts:

INTEGRATED SPEAKER DESIGN

All speaker drivers and cabinets have been designed in tandem with the electronics to create units that work together efficiently. Careful consideration has been taken to modify all parameters, thereby achieving the best results in sound and performance. All components reflect a custom designed solution to give the end user perfect control over tone, volume and configuration.

CLASS A OPERATION

Class A amplifiers are typically more linear and as such are less complex than other amplifier classes. In Class A amplifiers, the amplification circuitry is designed so that it is always conducting electrical current. This means that the active elements are always on, thus avoiding the problem of crossover distortion.

LOW-Z CIRCUITRY

Thermal noise is a critical design issue when it comes to audio electronics. By lowering the impedance of components inside an electronic circuit, the overall thermal noise is substantially reduced. The Low-Z circuitry inside all of our amplifiers makes it possible to achieve consistent noise-free operation.

DYNAMIC DISTORTION LIMITER™

Distortion occurs when an amplifier works beyond its range, when the power supply cannot supply any more power to take the amp higher. A common method to control distortion in amps is to use a limiter, a device that stops the signal going beyond a specific level. Audio limiters work by setting a threshold signal level where the circuit kicks in and keeps signal levels within the capabilities of the power supply. This method is not very precise and often causes audible effects such as pumping and thumps. We designed a circuit that instead reads the distortion level in the power amp and starts limiting as soon as the amp shows even miniscule amounts of distortion. This means our amps always stay within 0.3% distortion (THD) when most amps are rated at between 5-10% distortion (meaning that to get your 20 Watt out of a 20 Watt amp you will get it audibly distorted and if you want a clean signal the power will be a lot less). There are desirable types of distortion, but these are not usually associated with transistor amplifiers, but more commonly associated with tube amps and effect pedals. Warwick's goal is to provide a great, clean sounding amp, allowing the user to decide how much, and what kind of distortion to employ.

SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

Caution: To reduce the risk of electrical shock, do not remove the cover as there are no user serviceable parts inside. Refer servicing to qualified personnel.



This symbol, wherever it appears, alerts you to the presence of non-insulated dangerous voltage inside the enclosure - voltage that may be sufficient to constitute risk of shock.



This symbol, wherever it appears, alerts you to important operating and maintenance instructions in the accompanying literature. Read the manual.



WARNING!

This amplifier is capable of producing high sound pressure levels. Continued exposure to these high sound pressure levels can cause permanent and irreversible hearing damage. Ear protection is recommended if unit is operated at high volume for long period of time. If you experience any hearing loss or ringing in the ears you should consult a physician.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

1. Read and keep these instructions.
2. Observe all warnings and follow all instructions.
3. Do not use this device near water.
4. Clean only with dry cloth.
5. Do not block any ventilation openings.
6. Do not use the amp near any heat sources such as radiators, heat registers, stoves, or other devices (including amplifiers) that produce heat.
7. Do not defeat the safety purpose of the polarized or grounding plug. A polarized plug has two blades with one wider than the other. A grounding plug has two blades and a third grounding prong. The wide blade or the third prong is provided for your safety. If the provided plug does not fit into your outlet, consult an electrician for replacement of the obsolete outlet.
8. Protect the power cord from being walked on or pinched particularly at the plugs, convenience receptacles, and at the point where they exit from the device.
9. Only use attachments / accessories specified by the manufacturer.
10. Use only with a cart, stand, tripod, bracket, or table specified by the manufacturer. When a cart or rack is used, use caution when moving the cart with the device to avoid injury from tip-over.
11. Unplug the apparatus during lightning storms or when you do not use it for an extended of time.
12. Refer all servicing to qualified personnel. Servicing is required when the device has been damaged in any way, such as the power cord or plug being damaged, liquid has been spilled or objects have fallen into the device or if the device has been exposed to rain or moisture, does not operate normally, or was dropped.



13. **WARNING:** To reduce the risk of electric shock, do not expose this device to rain or moisture. Do not expose the device to dripping or splashing liquids and do not place liquid-filled objects, such as bottles, on the device.
14. Never place the amplifier on a support that might give out under its weight.
15. BC 150 only: Replace the fuse with a replacement of the rated value, never bridge defective fuses. Disconnect the power cable before changing the fuse!
16. Correct Disposal of this product. This symbol indicates that in EU countries this product should not be disposed with other household waste. 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. To dispose of a used device, please use the official return and collection systems or contact the retailer where the product was purchased.



BC80: This equipment is a Class II or double insulated electrical appliance. It has been designed in such a way that it does not require a safety connection to electrical earth (grounding).



BC150: The device must be connected to a mains outlet using a 3-wire power-cord with a protective earth /ground connection.

GETTING STARTED

1. **Connect to power** – Set the power switch on the back panel to the "O" position, connect the supplied power cord first to the amplifier and then to an AC outlet supplying the correct voltage as indicated on the back of the amp.
2. **Adjust the front panel controls** – Set VOLUME control to zero, all other controls should be set to neutral / middle position.
3. **Connect your instrument** – Use an instrumental cable to connect your guitar to the proper ACTIVE or PASSIVE input. Turn all volume controls of your guitar to their maximum setting.
4. **Turn the amp on** – Set the power switch on the back panel to the "I" position.
5. **Adjusting your individual settings** – Set the VOLUME to a desired value - you should now hear sound from the speaker. Adjust the other controls to your liking.

Caution: If the COMP LED on the front panel is continuously lit or if you hear distortion or clipping in the output signal, please reduce the output by turning back the VOLUME control and / or reduce the input signal by turning down the output of amplifying pedals in front of the amp (booster, overdrive, etc.).

Excessive and distortion of the output signal or a continuously lit COMP LED are indications for an overloaded power amp circuit and can result in damage to the power amp stage.

PANEL CONTROLS



- ACTIVE** Input to plug in instrument using shielded guitar cable. This input is low sensitivity to suit the output from instruments with active electronics.
- PASSIVE** Input to plug in instrument using shielded guitar cable. This input is high sensitivity to suit the output from instruments with passive electronics.
- BASS** Shelving Bass control: +/- 12 dB gain at 60 Hz. The control is flat in the center position.
- LOW MID** Peaking Middle control: +/- 8 dB gain at 800 Hz. The control is flat in the center position.
- HIGH MID** Peaking Middle control: +/- 8 dB gain at 2.5 kHz. The control is flat in the center position.
- TREBLE** Shelving Treble control: +/- 12 dB gain at 10 kHz. The control is flat in the center position.
- VOLUME** Controls the output volume
- AUX VOLUME** Controls the sound level of the aux input. Adjust this for your preferred mix with your instrument level.
- COMP** Compressor indicator LED. This LED illuminates when the signal exceeds a specific threshold and the limiter circuit is triggered.
CAUTION: A continuously lit LED indicates an overload condition. Please reduce the VOLUME and / or the output level of amplifying pedals (booster, overdrive etc.) in front of the amp so that the COMP LED illuminates only occasionally for signal peaks.
- AUX IN** 3.5 mm input for connection to an external sound source. This can be used for connecting a Smartphone or MP3 player into the amp or for connecting an external preamp.
- H/P** 3.5 mm headphone output for practice use in situations when speakers are too loud. The amp features a dedicated stereo headphone amplification circuit where the aux input will be played back in stereo and the instrument signal will be reproduced in the center of the stereo field.
- POWER LED** Indicates that the amp is connected to a power outlet and switched on.

- SEND** Output to the start of an external effects chain or to the input of an external power amp.
- RETURN** Input from the end of an external effects chain or the output of an external preamp.
- LINE OUT** Line-level signal output for connection to external audio equipment such as a mixing console or active speakers.

REAR PANEL

Power switch - ON/OFF switch for mains power.

Mains connector - Figure-eight socket (BC80) or IEC socket (BC150) for connection to the mains power supply. Only connect the unit to a power outlet rated for the power specified next to the connector.



For your safety, remember to plug the power cord into the amplifier first and then into the wall outlet before turning on the POWER switch.

If you want to disconnect the unit, first turn off the POWER switch, then unplug the power cord from the wall outlet, and finally unplug the power cord from the amplifier.

SPECIFICATIONS

	BC 80	BC 150
Input sensitivity: Active input: Passive input: Aux input:	380 mV / 50 kΩ 130 mV / 500 kΩ 630 mV / 50 kΩ	440 mV / 50 kΩ 120 mV / 500 kΩ 660 mV / 50 kΩ
Tone controls:	Bass: +/- 12 dB @ 60 Hz Low Mid: +/- 8 dB @ 800 Hz High Mid: +/- 8 dB @ 2500 Hz Treble: +/- 12 dB @ 10 kHz	
Max S/R level:	Send: 500 mV Return: 150 mV	
Frequency response:	20 Hz - 20 kHz +/- 0.5 dB	
THD:	less than 0.3 % at rated output power	
Output Power:	80 W @ 8 Ω	150 W @ 8 Ω
Power consumption:	160 W	300 W
Speaker specifications:	12" Bass Driver: 80 W, impedance: 8 Ω, SPL: 94 dB frequency response: 80 Hz - 10 kHz 2" HF Driver with Horn: 10 W, impedance: 8 Ω, SPL: 97 dB frequency response: 1 kHz - 20 kHz	15" Bass Driver: 150 W, impedance: 8 Ω, SPL: 95 dB, frequency response: 70 Hz - 3 kHz 4" HF Bass Driver with Horn: 30 W, impedance: 8 Ω, SPL: 98 dB frequency response: 1.8 kHz - 16 kHz
Weight:	10 kg / 44 lbs.	24 kg / 53 lbs.
Dimensions (W/H/D):	410 x 490 x 370 mm 16.114" x 19.29" x 14.56"	530 x 545 x 380 mm 20.86" x 21.45" x 14.96"

TROUBLESHOOTING

When your unit seems to not work properly, take a few minutes to troubleshoot before calling service. You can save yourself time and money by doing it yourself, because the source of problem is often something quite simple.

What is the problem?

- The signal sounds distorted.
 - Reduce output by turning back the VOLUME control.
 - Reduce the input signal by turning down the output of amplifying pedals in front of the amp (booster, overdrive, etc.).

WARNING: Excessive and distortion of the output signal is an indication for an overloaded power amp circuit and can result in damage to the power amp stage.

- The COMP LED is most of the time or continuously lit while you are playing.
 - The signal exceeds a specific threshold and the limiter circuit is triggered. Please reduce the VOLUME and / or the output level of amplifying pedals (booster, overdrive etc.) in front of the amp so that the COMP LED illuminates only occasionally for signal peaks.

WARNING: If you continue playing with the COMP LED continuously lit, you are overloading the circuitry and this can result in damage to the power amp stage.

- There is no sound from the amp and POWER LED does not light up.
 - Check your AC outlet.
 - Check power cord, the fuse in the unit (BC150 only), and power switch.
 - Outlet delivers no power. -> Check fuse box.

- There is no sound from the amp, but POWER LED is lit.
 - Check the volume setting on your amp, check your guitar controls. If controls are ok and all set above zero then listen for hum in the speaker.
 - There is no hum in the speaker. -> Internal speaker or power amp may need servicing.
 - Faint hum coming from the speaker. -> Unplug your guitar, touch tip of cable and listen.
 - Hum is now very loud. -> Check your guitar electronics or try a different guitar.
 - Hum does not change. -> Replace your guitar cable.