



Manual for RockBoard® Power MOD

Pedalboard Power Amp



RockBoard® PowerMOD 75
75 Watt Pedalboard Power Amp



RockBoard® PowerMOD 150
150 Watt Pedalboard Power Amp

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Introduction

Thank you for purchasing a RockBoard® PowerMOD - the new compact amplifier for your pedalboard.

The RockBoard® PowerMODs are specially designed Class D transistor amplifiers that can drive speaker cabinets directly from your pedalboard without the need for an additional amplifier. The PowerMODs feature a 3-band EQ, switchable cabinet simulation for full-range speakers, and a mute function. The PowerMODs can be mounted directly into the MOD slot (available on all RockBoard® pedalboards except the DUO series) or onto pedalboards from other manufacturers, allowing for space-saving integration into any system

The combination of the compact, lightweight design, the powerful sound and the low-noise operation makes the RockBoard® PowerMODs an affordable and reliable pedalboard power amplifier for beginners, discerning musicians and experienced professionals.

Precautions

Power Supply

The RockBoard® PowerMOD is powered by an included power supply unit with a 4-pin plug via the Power Input on the back of the device. Unplug the unit when not in use or during lightning storms.

CAUTION: *Please use only the included power adapter to avoid overheating and damage to the unit.*

Connections

Always turn off the power to all other equipment before connecting or disconnecting. This will help to prevent malfunction and damage to any of the equipment being used.

Cleaning

Clean only with a soft, dry cloth.

Handling

Do not apply excessive force to the switches or controls. Do not block any ventilation openings. Install in accordance to the instructions. Do not let paper, metal, dirt or other objects come into contact with the device or its connections. Take care not to drop the device and do not subject it to shock or excessive pressure. To avoid deformation, discoloration, or other serious damage, do not expose this unit to any of the following conditions:

- Direct sunlight
- Strong magnetic fields
- Excessively dusty or dirty environments
- Strong vibration or shock
- Heat sources
- Extreme temperature
- High humidity or moisture

Risk of Electric Shock

To reduce the risk of fire or electric shock, do not remove the screws or open the unit. The RockBoard® PowerMOD has no user-serviceable parts inside. Only allow qualified service personnel to service. Do not expose the units to rain or moisture.

FCC Certification

This device complies with Part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions:

- This device may not cause harmful interference.
- This device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

Volume 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 the unit is operated at high volume for extended periods of time. If you experience hearing loss or ringing in your ears, consult a physician.

Recycling Information



This symbol indicates this product is classified as Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) in the European Union and should not be discarded with household waste. Other territories may vary.

Main Features

- Compact amplifier for pedalboards
- Solid-state design, class D amplifier circuitry
- Power:
 - 50 W at 4 Ohm / 30 W at 8 Ohm (PowerMOD 75 at 1% THD)
 - 118 W at 4 Ohm / 70 W at 8 Ohm (PowerMOD 150 at 1% THD)
- 3-band EQ
- Mute function
- Switchable cabinet simulation for full-range speakers
- Speaker output, DI output, headphone output
- Aux In input, instrument input

Controls

Front Panel POWER MOD 75 (similar to POWER MOD 150)



Rear panel POWER MOD 75 (similar to POWER MOD 150)



1. – Volume Control

This Master Volume controls the output volume for the speaker and headphone outputs of the amplifier. It does not affect the DI OUT signal.

2. – Tone Stack

This is an active EQ control which can boost or attenuate bass, middle and high frequency bands. The 12 o'clock position is neutral, 7-12 is attenuation, 12-5 is boost.

Center frequencies: LOW: 50 Hz MID: 450 Hz HIGH: 6.5 kHz

3. – Speaker output

The RockBoard® PowerMOD has a speaker output for connecting external speaker cabinets using a speaker cable with a 6.35 mm (1/4") TS plug. **The minimum load for the amplifier is 4 Ohm!** The MAIN OUT is located on the front panel. This makes it easy to connect the cabinet directly to your pedalboard.

Note: The PowerMOD can be operated without a connected speaker cabinet, e.g. for practicing with headphones only.

CAUTION: Always connect a load of at least 4 Ohm to the speaker output. If the unit is operated with a lower load, it will be irreparably damaged! Use only passive loudspeakers. The use of active loudspeakers can damage the PowerMOD as well as the speakers. Connect speaker cabinets with designated speaker cables.

4. – DI OUT

You can use the XLR DI (Direct Injection) output to send a balanced line level output signal to external audio equipment such as active PA systems, mixing consoles etc. The output will be a pre-EQ mix of the input signal and the AUX IN signal.

5. – CAB SIM (cabinet simulation)

The cabinet simulation can be turned on/off with the CAB SIM switch. The feature is designed for full-range speaker systems, but can also be used for classic guitar or bass cabinets. The cabinet simulation works completely analog and emulates the sound character of a slant 4x12 cabinet by combining several filters. CAB SIM is located pre-EQ and affects all outputs.

6. – MUTE switch

You can use this switch to mute the main speaker output, but not the headphone and DI outputs. This can be useful for silent practicing.

7. – AUX IN

This is a 3.5 mm (1/8") connection for audio signals from sources like mobile phones, tablets, MP3 players etc. The signal will be played through the PowerMod and routed to all outputs, but is not affected by the tone stack controls. Please control the volume of the incoming audio signal at its source to avoid clipping.

8. – POWER/CLIP LED

This LED is lit GREEN when the power supply is connected and flashes RED when the input signal is clipping (i.e. the input signal is too strong and causes distortion). Reduce volume on your guitar or the output signal of the previous device to control clipping.

9. – HEADPHONES

This is a 3.5 mm (1/8") TRS headphone output for silent practice or for routing the output signal to external audio equipment.

10. – POWER IN (back panel)

Connect the included power supply unit here. Only use the provided power supply to prevent damage to the Power Mod.

11. – Input (back panel)

The RockBoard® PowerMOD pedalboard power amps are designed to accept input signals directly from your instrument or upstream effects pedals. Simply connect your instrument or the last device in the signal chain to the input of the PowerMOD.

Mounting

There are several ways to mount your new PowerMOD on a RockBoard® pedalboard. You can mount it directly into the MOD slot (available on all RockBoard® pedalboards except the DUO series), or you can remove the front panel of the MOD and mount it on the top or bottom of your pedalboard.

Mounting on a RockBoard® pedalboard

Please follow the steps below to mount your MOD into the MOD slot of your RockBoard® pedalboard.



STEP 1

Remove the rubber frame of your RockBoard®'s MOD slot.



STEP 2

Turn the RockBoard® pedalboard upside down.



STEP 3

MOD mounting screws are self-tapping, they will cut their own threads into the pre-drilled mounting holes in the RockBoard®'s front. Use a TX10 screwdriver to screw the mounting screws in and cut the threads. In case you do not possess a TX10 screwdriver, a wrench is included with the MOD. For the first couple of rotations the screws will be screwing with difficulty, as they have to cut the threads into the surrounding material. Please be careful not to screw them in at an angle.



STEP 4

Once the tips of the screws are sticking out on the other side of the holes and the screws become easier to turn, the threads have been cut properly. Now remove the screws again.



STEP 5

Next, load your chosen MOD from the front into the slot and screw in the mounting screws until the MOD's front plate sits flush with the face of the board.



STEP 6

For added security, screw on the counter nut on the back. Now the MOD is ready to be connected to your setup!

A simple solution to mount the PowerMOD to your RockBoard® pedalboard in a safe and secure fashion is the RockBoard® MOD Brace (sold separately). The RockBoard® MOD Brace is designed to provide additional support for your MOD by reinforcing the connection to your RockBoard® pedalboard. For further information, please visit our website www.rockboard.net

Detaching the PowerMOD's front plate

To mount the RockBoard® PowerMOD on top or underneath your pedalboard, you must detach the front plate, so it will fit flush onto/under the board surface.



Remove the marked screws to remove the front plate from your MOD using a PH2 Phillips head screwdriver. The mounting nuts of the jack sockets do not have to be removed!



Mounting on a non-RockBoard® pedalboard

There are multiple ways to mount your PowerMOD on a non-RockBoard® pedalboard. You can either mount it directly to the board surface using hook & loop tape or another reusable fastener. In addition, RockBoard® offers the MOD Rack (sold separately) to mount your PowerMOD in various ways onto, into or underneath the pedalboards of other manufacturers. To mount your PowerMOD using the RockBoard® MOD Rack, please refer to the MOD RACK manual. Please follow the steps below to mount your PowerMOD on top of your non-RockBoard® pedalboard.



STEP 1

Detach the MOD's front plate by removing the marked screws.



STEP 2

Apply self-adhesive hook tape or another reusable fastener to the bottom of the MOD housing.



STEP 3

Apply self-adhesive loop tape or another reusable fastener to the position on top or underneath your pedalboard where you want to place your MOD.

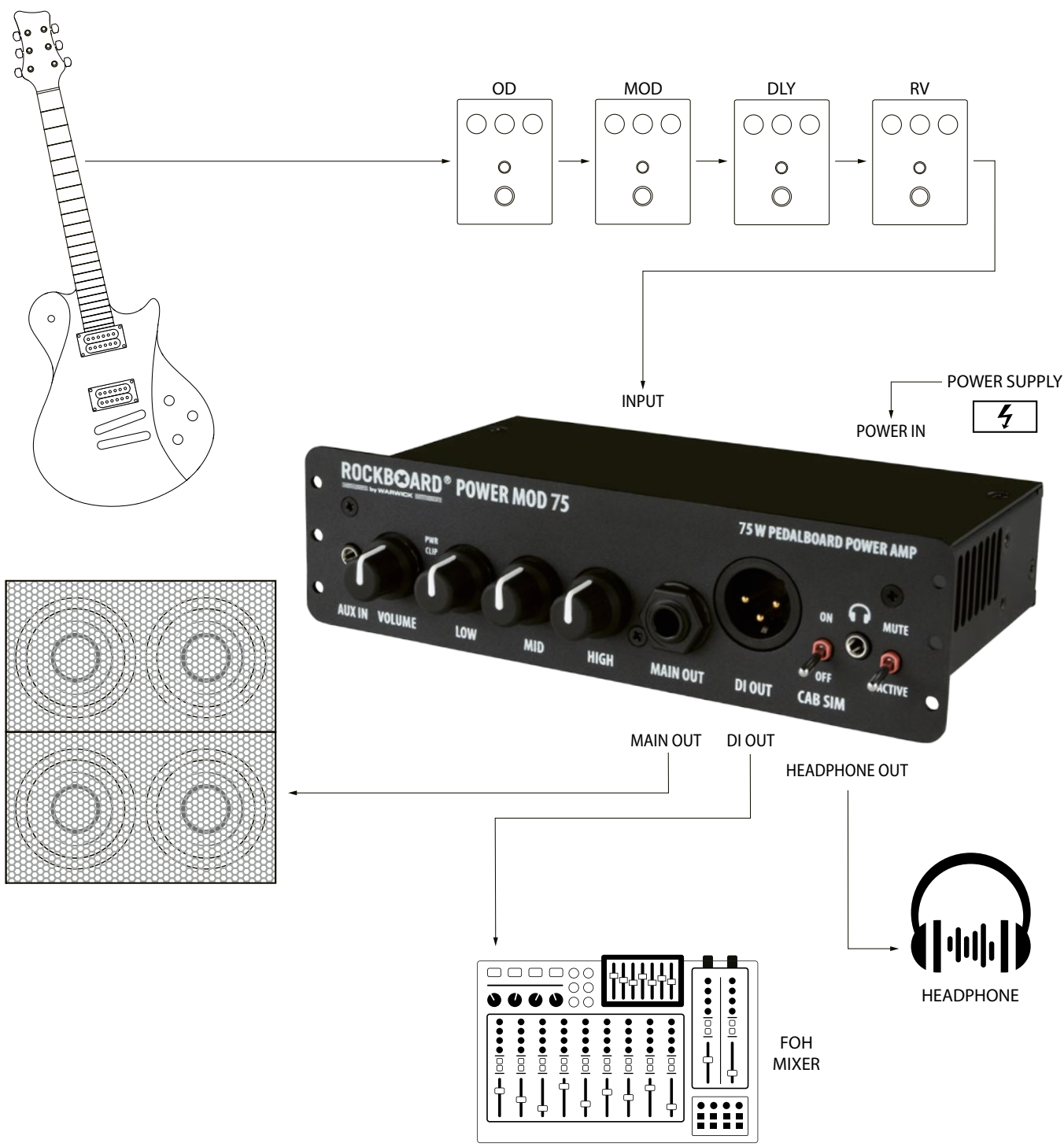


STEP 4

Bring the two sides of hook & loop tape or your other reusable fastener together to attach your MOD to the pedalboard. Now the MOD is ready to be connected to your setup!

Setup & Operation

Setup Example



Quick Start Guide

To use your new RockBoard® PowerMOD, follow the quick start instructions:

1. Unpacking – Carefully unpack the power amplifier from the box.
2. Mounting – If desired, mount the PowerMOD on, in or under your pedalboard according to the instructions in the **Mounting** section of this manual.
3. Powering up – Connect the power amplifier to the mains outlet using the included power supply unit.
4. Connecting speaker cabinets – Connect speaker cabinet(s) to the speaker output using a compatible speaker cable. The recommended minimum load for the amplifier is 4 Ohm.
5. Connecting an instrument – Turn the Volume control all the way down, then connect your instrument or the end of your effect chain to the input jack on the back.
6. Turn the Volume control to the desired level. Set the EQ controls according to your preferences.
7. Start playing!

Protective Circuits

Your new RockBoard® PowerMOD is equipped with several protective circuits to prevent malfunctions under inappropriate operating conditions.

Over-Current / Short-Circuit Protection

The amplifier features an over-current / short-circuit protected output. The current will be reduced when the amplifier exceeds the specified peak current output. This corresponds to a voltage drop across the amplifier. If the amplifier's current output exceeds its specified peak current output for an extended period of time (e.g. in the event of a short circuit at the output), the amplifier will be disabled (muted) for one second and will automatically restart.

Excessive Temperature

This circuit protects the power stage from malfunction by shutting down the unit if the temperature-controlled fan cooling is insufficient and temperature inside the unit is too high.

Specifications

- compact amplifier for pedalboards
- solid-state design, class D amplifier circuitry
- 3-band EQ
- Mute function
- switchable cabinet simulation for full-range speakers
- 1 speaker output
- fits MOD slots on RockBoard® pedalboards
- compatible with a wide variety of other pedalboards
- detachable front plate for mounting on top or underneath pedalboards

PowerMOD 75		PowerMOD 150
Power Supply	24 VDC, 2.25 A, 4-pin connector (power supply included) Mains Power: 100-240 VAC, 50/60 Hz, min. 2.0 A	36 VDC, 4.16 A, 4-pin connector (power supply included) Mains Power: 100-240 VAC, 50/60 Hz, min. 2.5 A
Power Consumption	Typical: 60 W, Maximum: 120 W	Typical: 150 W, Maximum: 300 W
SMPS	Thermal protection, over-current protection	
Power Amp Protection	Thermal protection, over-current / short-circuit protection	
Power Amp	Class D	
Min. Load	4 Ohm	
Power Output (1% THD)	50 W at 4 Ohm / 30 W at 8 Ohm	118 W at 4 Ohm / 70 W at 8 Ohm
Power Output (10% THD)	60 W at 4 Ohm / 36 W at 8 Ohm	142 W at 4 Ohm / 90 W at 8 Ohm
Noise Level	-65 dBu	-60 dBu
EQ center frequencies	Low: 50 Hz / Mid: 450 Hz / High: 6.5 kHz	
Input Impedance	> 470 kOhm	
Dimensions (W x D x H)	175 x 116 x 47 mm / 6.89" x 4.56" x 1.85" (with front plate) 160 x 116 x 35 mm / 6.30" x 4.56" x 1.38" (without front plate)	
Weight	600 g / 1.32 lbs (without power supply) 840 g / 1.85 lbs (with power supply)	600 g / 1.32 lbs (without power supply) 840 g / 2.65 lbs (with power supply)

Note: The manufacturer reserves the right to change these specifications without notice.

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