



# THE DIRT



model: The Dirt  
User Manual

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## INTRODUCTION

"The Dirt" is a single channel guitar tube based amplifier. Born with the idea of being the quintessential of '80s rock/hard rock/metal in a very lightweight and portable format is now available in 35 limited edition pieces worldwide.

Additional information and audio/video demos can be found at [www.redseven-amplification.com](http://www.redseven-amplification.com) or you can contact us any time at [info@redseven-amplification.com](mailto:info@redseven-amplification.com)

## POWER SUPPLY

The Dirt is shipped with hardwired primary voltage. 240V, 230V or 115V must be chosen at order time.

## DIMENSION AND WEIGHT

The Dirt is 490mm wide, 240mm height, 230mm depth. Weight is 13Kg

## NOTE: IMPORTANT...NOT TO DO!

- Do not try to change output jacks (impedance) while the amplifier is on. You must turn STANDBY and POWER switches to OFF position before changing the output impedance.
- Do not try to change input/output levels of you devices plugged into fx loop while the amplifier is on. You must turn STANDBY and POWER switches to OFF position before changing input/output levels of your gear plugged into fx loop or at least disconnect cables form SEND and RETURN jacks.

THIS OPERATIONS CAN LEAD TO FINAL BREAK OF THIS AMPLIFIER. IN THESE PARTICULAR CASES RED SEVEN AMPLIFICATION WILL NO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR DAMAGES TO AMPLIFIER ITSELF OR PEOPLE. PLEASE KEEP IN MIND YOU ARE HANDLING A DEVICE WITH POTENTIALLY LETHAL VOLTAGE. PLEASE CAREFULLY READ THIS MANUAL BEFORE TURING ON THE AMPLIFIER.

RED SEVEN AMPLIFICATION ARE NOT RESPONSABLE FOR ANY PARTS SUBJECT TO WEAR (LIKE TUBES, POTS, CAPACITORS, ETC).

## WARNING!!

This amplifier uses potential lethal voltage, it must be inspected only by expert people!

## WARNING!!

Before insert power cord inside The Dirt, check the voltage plate written near IEC socket and be sure to match wall voltage of your country.

## PREMISE

By developing this amplifier we had few visions in our minds:

*– THE AMPLIFIER MUST SOUND GOOD IN A MUSICAL CONTEST AND NOT IN YOUR BEDROOM EXCLUSIVELY.*

This can be hard to understand to some people, but in every step of our developing process we recorded it through a professional studio recording system, making sure that all useless frequencies which can fight with bass guitar, synths or maybe cymbals in a live/recording environment are gone. A huge quantity of useless gain can be a bad thing and we have taken care of this issue as well.

*- NEW IMPROVED LOOP FX AND TOTAL BYPASS*

For first time since 2018 we update our fx loop circuit and we give the chance of entirely bypass it. What this means? Anyone in the business know loop fx stage change a little bit the sound of the amp, it's a written law and you can't do anything about it. A great designer can only try to minimize this tonal change to a point where it's near to 0. Bypassing loop fx in The Dirt will completely remove both send and return stage, for a direct and purer connection between preamp and power amp.

*- MANTA RV24 MIL STYLE POTENTIOMETER*

Research for tone is endless but we're enjoying the travel so far. For this episode, we discovered a new brand of audiophile grade, military style potentiometers which we believe to be very fine and superior to what we used until today. We're happy to have introduced them in this design and we're looking forward to integrate them in future designs.

*- MIXED BUILDING METHOD*

Endless debate on PTP vs PCB. Thirty-five units seems a little number but once you hand build all of them can be considered a quite high number. For The Dirt we choose best of both worlds: main circuit is design on PCB, to offer a virtually infinite life, when we wired every single cable and connection by hands, putting all our experience in the work.

## SOUND DESCRIPTION

First born in 2020 as a custom request by our dear friend/customer Giovanni, "The Dirt" showed up couple years later in 2022 at our laboratory for some fresh tubes, when we almost forgot about it.

Once set it up and polished a little bit, we have a moment of joy and love for this amplifier, moment who led us to think it was really a waste of time to have just one example of this custom developed circuit in the world for just one guy.

This is how the limited edition "The Dirt" was born.

As the name suggest, "The Dirt" was thought with the aim of recreate the iconic distorted sounds of the biggest '80s rock/glam/hardrock/metal bands.

For the first time in our history, we approached a different philosophy and style of build. A single channel amplifier with not so many options, voted to simplicity and purity (opposite to our Duality series, for example).

The only one channel available is the epitome of "british" distorted sounds, from the lightest crunch to what can be considered a lead sound and everything in between.

The "set and forget" approach for the player was another thing we wanted to offer, by limiting various tonal option and to be able to focused on playing only. Matter of fact there's no footswitch or possibility to change sound on the fly. This can be considered a perfect amplifier for recording session due to his simplicity and immediate usage, but also can be used in any live situation.

## TECHNICAL FEATURES

### FRONT PANEL:



(from left to right)

- **POWER ON / POWER OFF SWITCH:** turn the amplifier on or off.
- **STANDBY / ON SWITCH:** turn the amplifier in standby mode or in operative mode.
- **ORANGE LED:** this led will indicate the state of incoming power supply. It will turn on if everything is ok.
- **INPUT JACK:** this is where you want to insert your guitar cable.

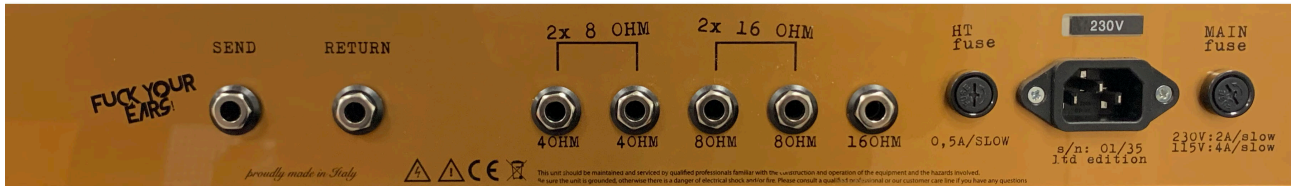
### POTS:

- **PRESENCE:** global setting for presence control. It acts on every channel.
- **MASTER VOLUME:** global volume for the amplifier, placed after return jack;
- **TREBLE:** treble control for EQ section;
- **MIDDLE:** middle control for EQ section;
- **BASS:** bass control for EQ section;
- **GAIN:** global amount of gain for the amplifier.

### SWITCHES:

- **LOOP FX:** ON/OFF for loop fx;
- **FLAT/MID BOOST:** standard or boosted setting for mid frequencies;
- **NORMAL/+++:** dual mode for gain structure. Normal had the less gain and less compression. +++ mode has more gain and compression.

## REAR PANEL



(from left to right)

- **SEND & RETURN:** Connection between pre amp and power amp. D100 is shipped with pedal friendly signal level.
- **OUTPUT:** output jacks for connect the amp to cabinets. Please read carefully the impedance before connect your cabinets.
- **HT FUSE:** high tension fuse. Replace **ONLY** with same type.
- **IEC SOCKET:** connect power cable here.
- **MAIN FUSE:** input voltage fuse. Replace **ONLY** with same type.



## FIRST USAGE

Before plugging in the power cord, make sure to check input voltage of the amplifier and be sure to match it with your wall voltage, and then insert the power chord. Before plugging in the speaker cable, check the impedance of your cab and match the output impedance of the amplifier with the impedance switch on the rear panel, then connect the speaker cable from cabinet to amplifier.

Now you are ready to put the Power Switch in "POWER ON" position. Leave the amplifier in this state for at least thirty seconds. Plug your signal cable into input jack then you are ready to put the Standby Switch to "ON" position. Now you can rock'n'roll!

## LOOP FX

Loop effects on "The Dirt" is placed between preamp output and power amp input, right before master volume. It's a buffered 100% serial loop fx with instrument level signal.

When loop effect is engaged 100% of your sound will pass thru the effect wired to send/return jacks. When it's bypassed, the signal goes straight from preamp to power amp.

## TUBE LAYOUT

This amplifier comes with EL34B type tubes in the power amp section and 12AX7B in preamp.

Power tube can't be changed with other type of tubes (i.e 6L6s, KT88s, etc), they can be substitute only with other EL34 type tubes. You need to check the bias every time power amp tubes are changed. For any assistance please contact us at [info@redseven-amplification.com](mailto:info@redseven-amplification.com)

Do not try swap P.A. tubes without adjusting bias current. In the most case this can lead to a simply tube failure, in some other you can make some serious damages!

(from left to right):

V1: 12ax7. Gain stage 1 & 2.

V2: 12ax7. Gain stage 3 & 4.

V3: 12ax7. Phase inverter.

V4 & V5: EL34. Power amp tubes.

## CABINET AND SPEAKERS

For the best sonic experience ever we highly suggest to play this amplifier with RedSeven Pro Cab series, especially with 4x12 model.

We develop this amplifier thru this cabinet so this is the natural extension for it.

We suggest you to try "the Dirt" with Creamback 65W (G12M). This is our first choice. Other speakers model/brand can be good too.

## TROUBLESHOOTING

- The Dirt IS NOT TURNING ON  
Check the power chord, sometimes it will be loose and cannot make good contact with IEC socket. Replace it. If this doesn't work check MAIN fuse, if it's blown replace with SAME type and try again to turn on again. If fuse continue to blown, turn off the amp and contact RedSeven Amplificaton.
- The Dirt IS TURNING ON (ORANGE LED IS ON) BUT WITH NO SOUND  
First of all be sure to connect speaker cable properly, both amplifier as the cabinet. Check the input signal from guitar too. If this doesn't work check HT fuse, if it's blown replace with SAME type and try again to turn on again. If fuse continue to blown, turn off the amp and contact RedSeven Amplificaton.
- The Dirt IS MAKE NO SOUND  
If everything works properly be sure to master volume and gain not at 0.

For any problem and in any time you can contact a qualified tech at: [info@redseven-amplification.com](mailto:info@redseven-amplification.com)

We will replay to you as soon as possible.

## WARRANTY DISCLAIMER

Please, do not try to open the amplifier in any case. For any problem contact your seller or write to us. This amplifier runs at very high voltage that can lead to death. Any inexperienced person should not even think of doing anything inside this amplifier. RedSeven Amplification offers a standard two-year fully warranty for any component (except for wear subjects). By removing the amplifier from its wood cabinet or by making any modification to the original state will violate standard warranty and RedSeven Amplification will not be responsible for any damage to people, things or animals.

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