

# Users Guide for the



# SVPCL Bass Preamp



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	<b>CAUTION</b> RISK OF ELECTRIC SHOCK DO NOT OPEN	
<small>WARNING: TO REDUCE THE RISK OF FIRE OR ELECTRIC SHOCK, DO NOT EXPOSE THIS APPARATUS TO RAIN OR MOISTURE. TO REDUCE THE RISK OF ELECTRIC SHOCK, DO NOT REMOVE COVER. NO USER-SERVICEABLE PARTS INSIDE. REFER SERVICING TO QUALIFIED SERVICE PERSONNEL.</small>		

	<b>PRECAUCION</b> RIESGO DE CORRIENTAZO NO ABRA	
<small>PRECAUCION: PARA REDUCIR EL RIESGO DE INCENDIOS O DESCARGAS ELECTRICAS, NO PERMITA QUE ESTE APARATO QUEDA EXPUESTO A LA LLUVIA O LA HUMEDAD. PARA DISMINUIR EL RIESGO DE CORRIENTAZO, NO ABRA LA CUBIERTA. NO HAY PIEZAS ADENTRO QUE EL USUARIO PUEDA REPARAR DEJE TODO MANTENIMIENTO A LOS TECNICOS CALIFICADOS.</small>		

	<b>ATTENTION</b> RISQUE D'ELECTROCUTION NE PAS OUVRIR	
<small>ATTENTION: PROTEGEZ CET APPAREIL DE LA PLUIE ET DE L'HUMIDITE AFIN D'EVITER TOUT RISQUE D'INCENDIE OU D'ELECTROCUTION. POUR REDUIRE D'ELECTROCUTION NE PAS ENLEVER LE COUVERCLE. AUCUNE PIECE INTERNE N'EST REPARABLE PAR L'UTILISATEUR. POUR TOUTE REPARATION, S'ADRESSER A UN TECHNICIEN QUALIFIE.</small>		

### IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

- READ, FOLLOW, HEED, AND KEEP ALL INSTRUCTIONS AND WARNINGS.
- DO NOT OPERATE NEAR ANY HEAT SOURCE AND DO NOT BLOCK ANY VENTILATION OPENINGS ON THIS APPARATUS. FOR PROPER OPERATION, THIS UNIT REQUIRES 3" (75CM) OF WELL VENTILATED SPACE AROUND HEATSINKS AND OTHER AIR FLOW PROVISIONS IN THE CABINET.
- DO NOT USE THIS APPARATUS NEAR SPLASHING, FALLING, SPRAYING, OR STANDING LIQUIDS.
- CLEAN ONLY WITH LINT-FREE DAMP CLOTH AND DO NOT USE CLEANING AGENTS.
- ONLY CONNECT POWER CORD TO A POLARIZED, SAFETY GROUNDED OUTLET WIRED TO CURRENT ELECTRICAL CODES AND COMPATIBLE WITH VOLTAGE, POWER, AND FREQUENCY REQUIREMENTS STATED ON THE REAR PANEL OF THE APPARATUS.
- PROTECT THE POWER CORD FROM DAMAGE DUE TO BEING WALKED ON, PINCHED, OR STRAINED.
- UNPLUG THE APPARATUS DURING LIGHTNING STORMS OR WHEN UNUSED FOR LONG PERIODS OF TIME.
- ONLY USE ATTACHMENTS, ACCESSORIES, STANDS, OR BRACKETS SPECIFIED BY THE MANUFACTURER FOR SAFE OPERATION AND TO AVOID INJURY.
- WARNING: TO REDUCE THE RISK OF ELECTRIC SHOCK OR FIRE, DO NOT EXPOSE THIS UNIT TO RAIN OR MOISTURE.
- SERVICE MUST BE PERFORMED BY QUALIFIED PERSONNEL.
- OUR AMPLIFIERS ARE CAPABLE OF PRODUCING HIGH SOUND PRESSURE LEVELS. CONTINUED EXPOSURE TO HIGH SOUND PRESSURE LEVELS CAN CAUSE PERMANENT HEARING IMPAIRMENT OR LOSS. USER CAUTION IS ADVISED AND EAR PROTECTION IS RECOMMENDED IF UNIT IS OPERATED AT HIGH VOLUME.



EXPLANATION OF GRAPHICAL SYMBOLS:  
EXPLICACION DE SIMBOLOS GRAFICOS:  
EXPLICATION DES SYMBOLES GRAPHIQUES:

= "DANGEROUS VOLTAGE"  
"VOLTAJE PELIGROSO"  
"DANGER HAUTE TENSION"

= "IT IS NECESSARY FOR THE USER TO REFER TO THE INSTRUCTION MANUAL"  
"ES NECESARIO QUE EL USUARIO SE REFIERA AL MANUAL DE INSTRUCCIONES."  
"REFEREZ-VOUS AU MANUAL D'UTILISATION"



### ***An Introduction to your new Ampeg SVPCL Bass Preamplifier:***

The harmonically rich sound and legendary performance of the classic AMPEG SVT are redefined in the SVPCL. This dynamic preamp delivers a thunderous unsurpassed quality, reliability and tonal flexibility, offering the classic vibrance of tubes as well as contemporary features. The SVPCL has the best of both worlds. It is true to the design of an early-70's SVT with the addition of modern tone-shaping and output selection.

All of the features and controls of your SVPCL Preamp are covered in detail within the pages of this user's guide. We recommend going over them before you use the preamp.

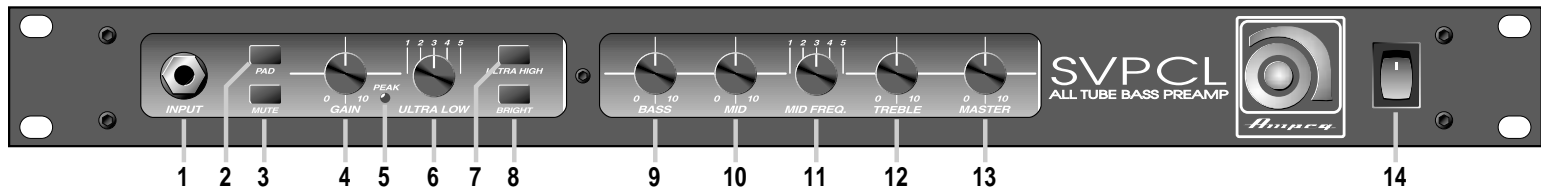
### ***Features:***

In the world of high performance bass amps, Ampeg's SVT amplifiers stand alone. Keeping with true Ampeg tradition, the SVPCL Bass Preamp offers you more performance and flexibility than any other preamp in its class. Listed below are some of the outstanding features of your new preamp: features which set it apart from the competition! Additional information on these features can be found on the pages indicated.

- **PAD SWITCH:** A switchable input pad, this feature is perfect for basses with active electronics or very "hot" pickups (page 4)
- **MUTE SWITCH, TUNER OUTPUT JACK:** Lets you cut the sound from the amp, letting you tune your bass in private (page 4,5)
- **5-POSITION ULTRA LOW SWITCH:** Five different settings for the Ultra Low provide the ultimate in bottom end response (page 4)
- **ULTRA HIGH AND BRIGHT SWITCHES:** Lets you tailor your high frequency response in many different ways "with the touch of a button" (page 4)
- **5-POSITION MIDRANGE SELECTOR:** Take your pick from the five center frequency points available to get just the right midrange voice (page 4)
- **TRANSFORMER BALANCED LINE OUTPUT:** Lets you send a high quality line level signal to the house mixing board, a recording console, or another amplifier - switchable for pre or post EQ with switchable ground lift (page 5)



## The Front Panel:



**1. INPUT:** Connect your instrument here by means of a shielded instrument cable.

**2. PAD:** This switch, when depressed, attenuates the input signal by 10dB. Attenuation allows the Gain control (#4) to be used at a higher setting. If clipping is indicated with the Gain control close to fully counter clockwise, attenuation is needed.

**3. MUTE:** This switch, when depressed, mutes the signal at all outputs *except* the Tuner Output (#21).

**4. GAIN:** Use this control to adjust the level of the signal going into the preamp. For the best signal to noise ratio, set this control so the Peak LED (#5) flashes occasionally during loud passages.

**5. PEAK:** This LED flashes when the signal level into the preamp approaches clipping. When the Mute switch (#3) is depressed, this LED remains illuminated as a visual indicator that the Mute function is active.

**6. ULTRA LOW:** Use this five-position rotary switch to select a setting for the ultra low control, as follows:

- 1: Off – flat frequency response
- 2: Sub Cut – reduces frequencies below the bass range to protect the speakers
- 3: Low Cut Classic – provides a low cut equal to the original SVT
- 4: Ultra Low Classic – contours the sound to emphasize the low end just like the original SVT
- 5: Ultra Low Modern – provides a substantial low end boost

**7. ULTRA HIGH:** This switch, when depressed, adds about a 16dB boost to the high frequencies around 8kHz, depending on the setting of the Gain control (#4).

**8. BRIGHT:** This switch, when depressed, adds a 6dB boost to the high frequencies at 3kHz.

**9. BASS:** Use this control to adjust the low frequency output level. This control provides +17/-13dB at 20Hz.

**10. MID:** Use this control to adjust the midrange frequency output level. This control provides +/-20dB at the frequency selected by the Mid freq control (#11).

**11. MID FREQ:** Use this control to select the center frequency for the Mid control (#10), as follows:

- 1: 220Hz
- 2: 450Hz
- 3: 800Hz
- 4: 1.6kHz
- 5: 3kHz

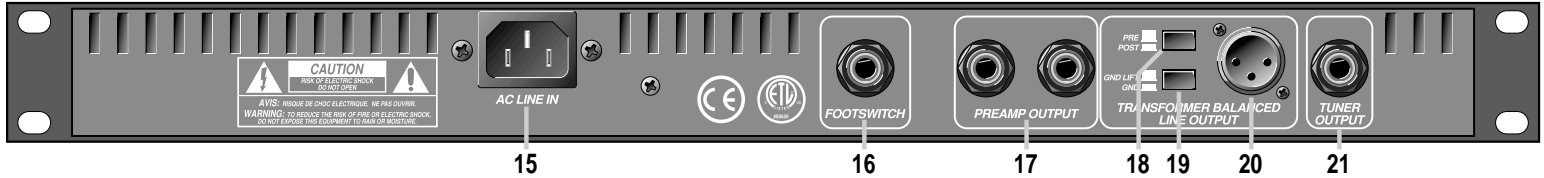
**12. TREBLE:** Use this control to adjust the high frequency output level. This control provides +18/-20dB at 7kHz.

**13. MASTER:** Use this control to adjust the overall output level of the preamp.

**14. POWER:** Use this switch to turn the preamp on (top of the switch depressed) and off (bottom of the switch depressed). The adjacent Ampeg logo illuminates green when the preamp is on and the tubes are warmed up.



## The Rear Panel:



**15. AC LINE IN:** Firmly insert the female end of the supplied AC power cord into this socket. The grounded power cord should only be plugged into a grounded power outlet that meets all applicable electrical codes and is compatible with the voltage, power, and frequency requirements stated on the rear panel.

**16. FOOTSWITCH:** Use this jack to connect the mono plug of a single button footswitch for remote control of the Mute function.

**17. PREAMP OUTPUT:** Use these jacks to send the output signal to the input jacks of your power amplifier.

**18. PRE/POST:** Use this switch to select either a Pre or Post EQ signal at the Line Output jack (#20). When this switch is depressed, the signal is Post EQ and is affected by the settings of the front panel tone controls. With this switch in the out position the signal is Pre EQ, taken directly after the first tube stage.

**19. GND LIFT/GND:** When this switch is in the out position, the chassis ground at the Line Output jack (#20) is electronically disconnected. This helps reduce hum in the Line Output signal.

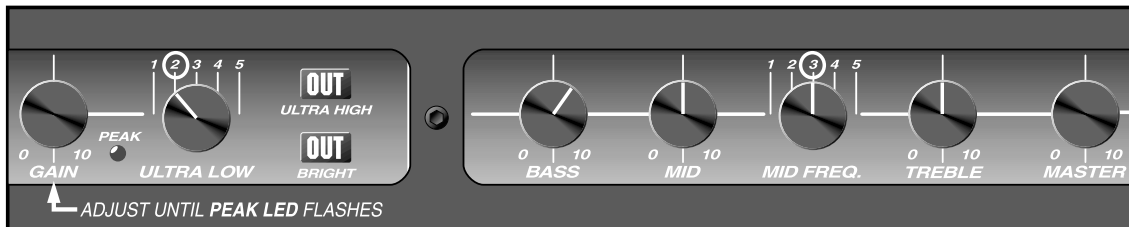
**20. TRANSFORMER BALANCED LINE OUTPUT:** Use this jack to send a line level signal from the preamp to a house mixing board, recording console, or external amplifier.

**21. TUNER OUTPUT:** Use this jack to send a signal to an electronic tuner. When the Mute function is engaged (#3, #16), the signal at this jack is unaffected and remains present, allowing for silent tuning during a performance.



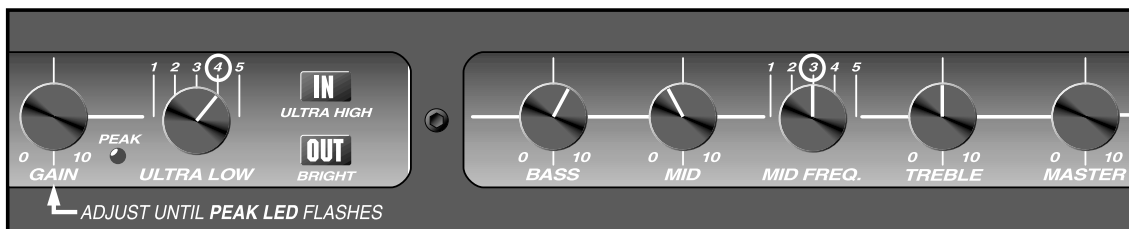
## Some Suggested Settings:

### JAZZ:



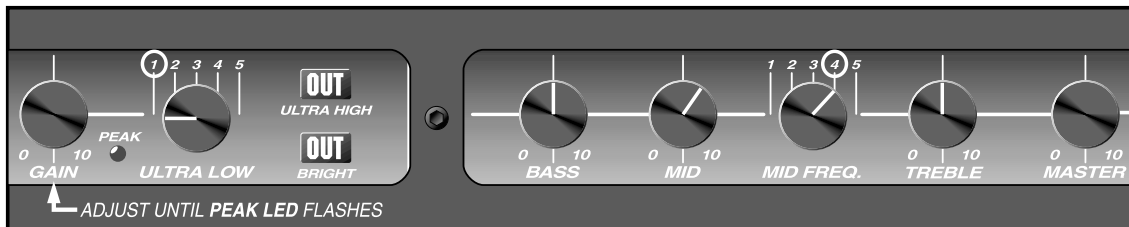
The setting of the Gain control depends on your particular instrument.

### FUNK:

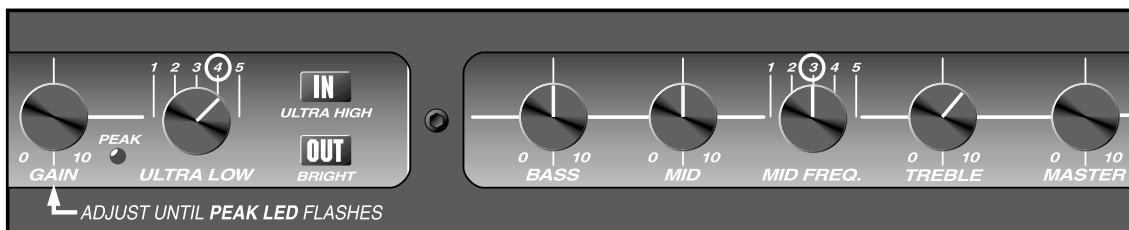


The Master should be set to produce the appropriate output volume level.

### ROCK:



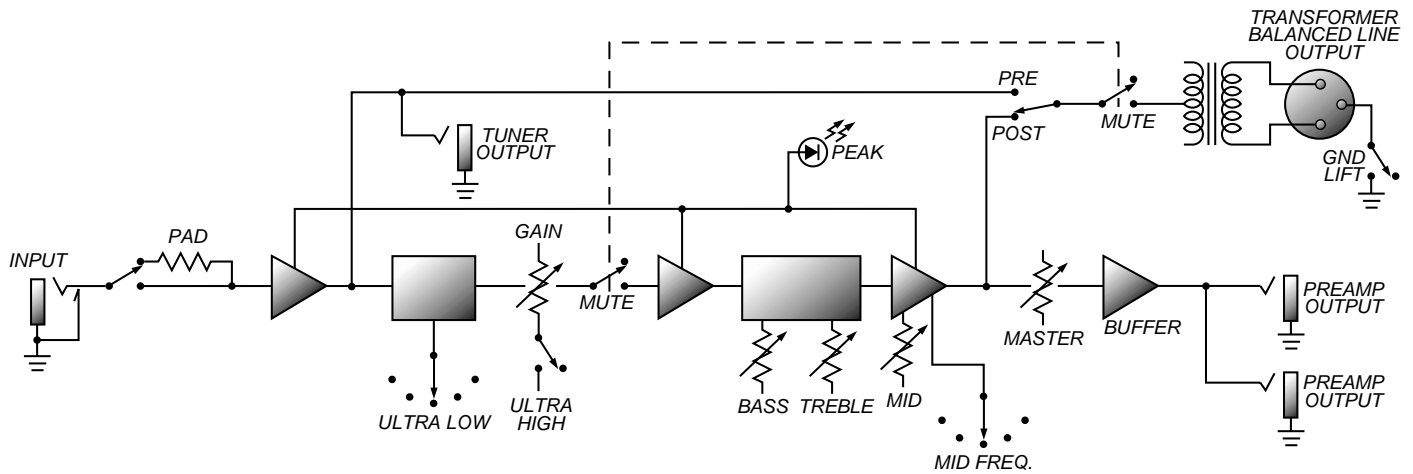
### COUNTRY:



### Changing the Tubes:

Tube wear is in direct proportion to how often and how hard you play. Preamp tubes aren't worked as hard as power tubes and typically last longer. When a preamp tube wears out, the preamp may squeal, get noisy, lose gain and sensitivity, or just quit working. A service center can determine which tube(s) may need replacing. To get to the tubes in the SVPCL, the top must be removed. **This should be left to a qualified service person.**

### System Block Diagram:





**Technical Specifications**

**TONE CONTROL RANGE**

**ULTRA LOW:** 1 = off; 2 = -3dB @ 30Hz; 3 = -3dB @ 200Hz; 4 = -20dB @ 600Hz; 5 = +9dB @ 30Hz  
**ULTRA HIGH:** +16dB @ 8kHz  
**BRIGHT:** +6dB @ 3kHz  
**BASS:** +17dB / -13dB @ 20Hz  
**MID FREQ:** +/-20dB @ 220Hz, 450Hz, 800Hz, 1.6kHz, or 3kHz  
**TREBLE:** +15dB / -20dB @ 7kHz

**GAIN** 23dB

**SIGNAL TO NOISE RATIO** 80dB typical

**TUBE COMPLEMENT** (2) 12AX7, (2) 12AU7

**POWER REQUIREMENTS** 120VAC, 60Hz, 25VA  
 100/120VAC, 50/60Hz, 25VA  
 220-240VAC, 50/60Hz, 25VA

**SIZE (W x H x D) AND WEIGHT** 19" W x 1.75" H x 9.25" D, 9 lbs.

*Ampeg reserves the right to change specifications without notice.*

<b>Declaration Of Conformity</b>	
#36, Effective 01-01-2001	
<b>Manufacturer's Name:</b>	SLM Electronics
<b>Production Facility:</b>	1901 Congressional Drive, St. Louis, MO 63146, USA
<b>Production Facility:</b>	700 Hwy 202 W, Yellville, AR 72687, USA
<b>Shipping Facility:</b>	1400 Ferguson Ave., St. Louis, MO 63133, USA
<b>Office Facility:</b>	1400 Ferguson Ave., St. Louis, MO 63133, USA
<b>Product Type:</b>	Audio Amplifier
<b>Complies with the following Standards:</b>	
<b>Safety:</b>	EN60065, E60065, C22.2, UL6500 and/or UL813
<b>EMC:</b>	Directive 89/336/EEC, EN55103, EN55013, EN61000, and/or FCC 47CFR 15B cIA
<small>Supplementary information provided by:          SLM Electronics - R &amp; D Engineering          1901 Congressional Drive, St. Louis, MO 63146, USA          Tel.: 314-569-0141, Fax: 314-569-0175</small>	



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