



**Ampex**<sup>®</sup>

Frequently Asked Questions

## V-4B

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**Question:** What's the difference between the classic V-4B and this reissue?

Answer: The most notable difference is in its cosmetics; the power and standby switch are toggle switches instead of rocker switches. The '71 original also has a pilot and a standby light while the new one does not. If you look closely, you'll also see that the new one is a single channel amp instead of a 2-channel amp like the original. On the output side, the new V-4B has a balanced line-level direct output and the speaker output does not have an impedance selector switch. Instead, it features different connectors for specific load impedance.

**Question:** I don't like tube that you put in it. Can I change it?

Answer: You may change the tubes to a different brand. Just make sure that they are the same type: 6L6 for the power tubes, 12AX7 and 12AU7 for the driver tubes, and 12AX7 for the preamp tubes. For the 4 power tubes, always use a matched set of 4.



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**Question:** How do I plug my cabinet to the V-4B?

Answer: If you have one 8Ω cab, use the 8Ω output. If you have two 8 cabs, connect each of them to one of the 4Ω outputs. If you have one 4Ω cab, use one of the 4Ω output. If you have two 4Ω cabs, connect each of them to one of the 2Ω outputs. If you have one 2Ω cab, use one of the 2Ω outputs.

**Question:** What's the difference between Preamp Out, Slave Out, and Balanced Out?

Answer: The signal coming out of all of the outputs are the same, namely post-Gain, post-EQ, and post-Master. The difference is that Preamp and Slave outs are unbalanced, and balanced out is, well, balanced. Also, if you are using the Power Amp input, that signal is only available in Slave and Balanced outputs, not Preamp out.



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**Question:** How do I bias the amp?

**Answer:** We highly recommend taking the amp to an authorized service center for biasing. Biasing the V-4B involves exposing yourself to heat and electric shock that may be fatal. If you insist, please use the following as reference:

- 1) Connect load to amplifier
- 2) Turn R16 (BIAS ADJUSTMENT POT) fully CCW (MINIMUM SETTING)
- 3) Turn master control fully CCW (MINIMUM SETTING)
- 4) Turn power switch to on then wait for 2 minutes.
- 5) Turn Stand by on
- 6) Make sure there is nothing plugged into the input channels
- 7) Wait for 10 minutes
- 8) Measure VDC across R12, the cathode resistor of V5
- 9) Adjust R16 until you measure 450mVDC across R12
- 10) Measure VDC across R13 (V6). It should fall between 400mVDC - 500mVDC.
- 11) Repeat step #10 for R14 (V8), then R15 (V7)
- 12) All measurements for V5, V6, V8, AND V7 should be within 400mVDC -500mVDC
- 12A) If #12 is true, enjoy 100W OF V-4B
- 12B) If #12 is false the tubes are not properly matched for the V-4B. You will need to get new tubes at this point.