

Blackstar FLY3

Blackstar FLY 3 Mini Guitar Amplifier User Manual

Model: FLY3

INTRODUCTION

The Blackstar FLY 3 is a compact and innovative 3-watt mini guitar amplifier designed for portability and exceptional tone. It features two channels, Clean and Overdrive, and Blackstar's patented ISF (Infinite Shape Feature) control, allowing for versatile tonal shaping from British to American amplifier characteristics. The amplifier also includes a digital 'tape' delay effect for added depth. Its unique design incorporates a full-range driver, eliminating the need for a subwoofer and crossover, which preserves the integrity of guitar tones and provides excellent performance for music playback. The cabinet is sealed and tuned for optimal tonal response, with materials engineered to mimic the acoustic properties of wood.

SETUP GUIDE

Unpacking

Carefully remove the Blackstar FLY 3 amplifier from its packaging. Ensure all components, including the amplifier unit and any included accessories, are present and undamaged. Retain the packaging for future transport or storage.

Powering On

The FLY 3 amplifier can be powered by 6 AA batteries or an optional external power supply (not included). To install batteries, open the battery compartment located on the rear of the unit and insert 6 AA batteries, observing the correct polarity. Once batteries are installed or the power supply is connected, press the POWER button on the top panel to turn the amplifier on. The power indicator LED will illuminate.

Connecting Your Instrument

Plug your guitar or other instrument into the **INPUT** jack on the top panel of the amplifier using a standard 1/4-inch instrument cable.



Front view of the Blackstar FLY 3 mini guitar amplifier, showcasing its compact design and speaker grille.



Top-down view of the Blackstar FLY 3 amplifier's control panel, showing the input, gain, volume, EQ, delay, and power controls.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Controls Overview

- **INPUT:** 1/4-inch jack for connecting your instrument.
- **GAIN:** Controls the amount of overdrive or distortion.
- **OD (Overdrive) Button:** Toggles between Clean and Overdrive channels.
- **VOLUME:** Adjusts the overall output level of the amplifier.
- **EQ (ISF):** Patented Infinite Shape Feature control for tonal shaping.
- **DELAY:** Controls the level of the built-in digital 'tape' delay effect.
- **DELAY LEVEL:** Adjusts the mix of the delay effect.
- **DELAY TIME:** Adjusts the speed of the delay repeats.
- **POWER:** On/Off switch for the amplifier.
- **MP3 / LINE IN:** 3.5mm stereo input for connecting external audio devices.
- **EM. OUT & PHONES:** 3.5mm stereo output for headphones or direct recording.
- **EXTENSION SPEAKER:** RJ45 jack for connecting an optional FLY 103 extension cabinet.

Gain Control

The **GAIN** knob controls the input gain of the amplifier. Turn it clockwise to increase the amount of distortion and sustain, especially when the Overdrive channel is engaged. For clean tones, keep the gain at lower settings.

Volume Control

The **VOLUME** knob adjusts the overall loudness of the amplifier. Start with a low volume setting and gradually increase it to a comfortable listening level.

EQ (ISF) Control

The **ISF (Infinite Shape Feature)** control is a unique Blackstar innovation. Turning the knob counter-clockwise provides a more American characteristic with a tight bottom-end and more aggressive middle. Turning it clockwise delivers a British characteristic, which is more 'woody' and less aggressive. Experiment with this control to find your desired tonal flavor.

Delay Effect

The FLY 3 features a built-in digital 'tape' delay effect. The **DELAY LEVEL** knob controls the mix of the delay effect with your dry signal. The **DELAY TIME** knob adjusts the speed of the delay repeats. Use these controls to add ambience and depth to your sound.

MP3 / Line In

Connect your MP3 player, smartphone, or other audio device to the **MP3 / LINE IN** jack using a 3.5mm stereo cable. This allows you to play along with backing tracks or listen to music through the amplifier's speaker.

Emulated Output & Headphones

The **EM. OUT & PHONES** jack provides a speaker emulated output, ideal for silent practice with headphones or for direct recording to an audio interface or mixer. When headphones are connected, the main speaker output is muted.



A person playing guitar with the Blackstar FLY 3 amplifier, demonstrating its use in a home practice setting.



The Blackstar FLY 3 amplifier being used outdoors, connected to a smartphone for music playback, highlighting its portability.

MAINTENANCE AND CARE

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to clean the exterior of the amplifier. Do not use abrasive cleaners or solvents.
- **Storage:** Store the amplifier in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures.
- **Battery Replacement:** If using batteries, replace all 6 AA batteries when the power indicator LED dims or the sound quality degrades. Always use high-quality alkaline or rechargeable (NiMH) batteries.
- **Transportation:** When transporting the amplifier, ensure it is securely packed to prevent damage from impacts.

TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
No sound from amplifier.	Power off; low batteries; instrument cable faulty; volume too low; headphones connected.	Ensure power is on; replace batteries; check/replace cable; increase volume; disconnect headphones.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Distorted or weak sound.	Low batteries; gain too high for clean channel; faulty instrument or cable.	Replace batteries; reduce gain or switch to Overdrive channel; check instrument/cable.
Delay effect not working.	Delay Level set to minimum.	Increase the DELAY LEVEL knob.
External audio not playing.	MP3/Line In cable faulty; external device volume too low.	Check/replace 3.5mm cable; increase volume on external device.

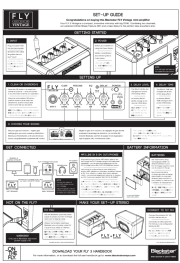

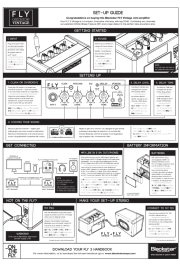

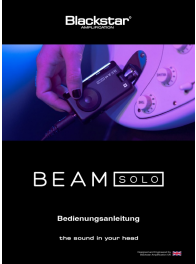
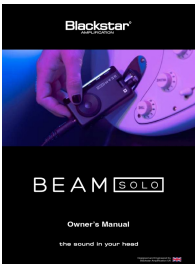
TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

- **Output Wattage:** 3 Watts
- **Speaker Size:** 1 x 3 inch
- **Channels:** 2 (Clean, Overdrive)
- **Controls:** Gain, OD (Overdrive), Volume, EQ (ISF), Delay Level, Delay Time, Power
- **Inputs:** 1/4" Instrument Input, 3.5mm MP3 / Line In
- **Outputs:** 3.5mm Emulated Output & Headphones, RJ45 Extension Speaker Out
- **Power:** 6 x AA Batteries or Optional DC Power Supply
- **Dimensions (L x W x H):** 7.59 x 5.59 x 4.29 inches (19.28 x 14.20 x 10.89 cm)
- **Weight:** 1.98 pounds (0.9 kg)
- **Material:** Metal, Plastic

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Blackstar Amplification products are designed and engineered to the highest standards. For detailed warranty information specific to your region, please refer to the warranty card included with your product or visit the official Blackstar Amplification website. Keep your proof of purchase for warranty claims. For technical support, service, or further inquiries, please contact Blackstar customer support through their official website or authorized service centers. You can also refer to the official [User Manual \(PDF\)](#) for additional information.

Related Documents - FLY3

	<p>Blackstar FLY Vintage Mini Amplifier Setup Guide</p> <p>A concise setup guide for the Blackstar FLY Vintage 3-watt mini guitar amplifier, covering getting started, setting up controls, connecting devices, battery information, and important safety instructions.</p>
	<p>Blackstar Debut 30E Guitar Amplifier Owner's Manual</p> <p>Comprehensive owner's manual for the Blackstar Debut 30E guitar amplifier, detailing safety instructions, features, front and rear panel controls, and technical specifications. Learn how to use your amplifier for optimal tone and performance.</p>
	<p>Blackstar FLY Vintage Mini Amplifier Set-Up Guide</p> <p>This guide provides setup instructions for the Blackstar FLY Vintage 3-watt mini amplifier, detailing its features, connections, and operation for optimal use.</p>
	<p>Blackstar FLY 3 CHARGE Owner's Manual: Features, Controls, and Safety</p> <p>Comprehensive owner's manual for the Blackstar FLY 3 CHARGE mini guitar amplifier. Learn about its features, front and rear panel controls, Bluetooth connectivity, safety instructions, and technical specifications.</p>
	<p>Blackstar BEAM SOLO Guitar Headphone Amplifier User Manual</p> <p>Comprehensive user manual for the Blackstar BEAM SOLO portable guitar headphone amplifier, detailing features, controls, connectivity, app integration, safety instructions, and technical specifications.</p>
	<p>Blackstar BEAM SOLO Guitar Headphone Amplifier Owner's Manual</p> <p>Comprehensive owner's manual for the Blackstar BEAM SOLO guitar headphone amplifier, detailing features, controls, safety instructions, mobile app connectivity, and technical specifications.</p>