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› Peavey MAX 100 100-Watt Bass Amp Combo Instruction Manual

Peavey 3616810

Peavey MAX 100 100-Watt Bass Amp Combo

INSTRUCTION MANUAL

1. INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

The Peavey MAX 100 bass combo amplifier is designed to deliver powerful and clear bass tone for various musical applications. Featuring 100 watts of power and a premium 10-inch speaker, this amplifier incorporates Peavey's exclusive psycho-acoustic low-end enhancement technology, which adds bass without overdriving the speaker. Its robust construction and versatile controls make it suitable for practice, studio, and live performance environments.



Figure 1: Front view of the Peavey MAX 100 Bass Amp Combo, showcasing the speaker grille and Peavey logo.

2. IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

To ensure safe operation and prevent damage to the amplifier or injury, please read and adhere to the following safety guidelines:

- Read these instructions thoroughly before operating the unit.
- Keep these instructions for future reference.
- Heed all warnings on the product and in this manual.
- Follow all instructions for use and maintenance.

- Do not use this apparatus near water or in damp environments.
- Clean only with a dry cloth.
- Do not block any ventilation openings. Install in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- Do not install near any heat sources such as radiators, heat registers, stoves, or other apparatus (including amplifiers) that produce heat.
- Do not defeat the safety purpose of the polarized or grounding-type plug. A polarized plug has two blades with one wider than the other. A grounding-type plug has two blades and a third grounding prong. The wide blade or the third prong are provided for your safety. If the provided plug does not fit into your outlet, consult an electrician for replacement of the obsolete outlet.
- Protect the power cord from being walked on or pinched, particularly at plugs, convenience receptacles, and the point where they exit from the apparatus.
- Only use attachments/accessories specified by the manufacturer.
- Unplug this apparatus during lightning storms or when unused for long periods of time.
- Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel. Servicing is required when the apparatus has been damaged in any way, such as power-supply cord or plug is damaged, liquid has been spilled or objects have fallen into the apparatus, the apparatus has been exposed to rain or moisture, does not operate normally, or has been dropped.
- **Proposition 65 Warning:** This product may contain chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm.

3. KEY FEATURES

The Peavey MAX 100 offers a range of features designed for optimal bass amplification:

- Up to 100 watts of power output.
- Equipped with a premium 10-inch speaker for clear and powerful sound.
- Features DDT™ speaker protection to prevent damage from excessive power.
- Pre-gain control with TransTube® gain boost for versatile tonal shaping.
- Comprehensive three-band EQ with additional switches: Overdrive, Contour, Mid-Shift, Bright, and Kosmos-C.
- Built-in chromatic tuner for accurate instrument tuning.
- Auxiliary input for connecting external audio devices.
- Headphone output for silent practice.
- FX Loop (Send/Return) for integrating external effects pedals.
- DI Output (XLR) for direct connection to mixing consoles or recording interfaces.

4. SETUP GUIDE

4.1 Unpacking and Placement

Carefully remove the Peavey MAX 100 from its packaging. Inspect the amplifier for any signs of damage that may have occurred during shipping. Place the amplifier on a stable, flat surface, ensuring adequate ventilation around the unit. Avoid placing it directly against walls or in enclosed spaces that could restrict airflow.

4.2 Connections

Before connecting any cables, ensure the amplifier is turned off and unplugged from the power outlet. Use high-quality instrument cables for all connections.

- **Power Connection:** Connect the supplied AC power cord to the amplifier's power inlet and then to a grounded electrical outlet.
- **Instrument Input:**
 - Use the **PASSIVE** input for instruments with standard passive pickups.
 - Use the **ACTIVE** input for instruments with active pickups, which typically have a higher output level.
- **FX Loop (Send/Return):** Connect the "SEND" jack to the input of your external effects pedal(s) and the output of your effects pedal(s) to the "RETURN" jack. This allows you to integrate external effects into the amplifier's signal path.
- **DI Output (XLR):** Use the "DI OUTPUT" XLR jack to send a balanced signal directly to a mixing console, recording interface, or PA system. This is useful for live sound reinforcement or studio recording.
- **Aux In:** Connect an external audio source (e.g., MP3 player, smartphone) to the "AUX IN" jack using a 3.5mm stereo cable. This allows you to play along with backing tracks.
- **Phones:** Connect headphones to the "PHONES" jack for silent practice. Plugging in headphones will mute the amplifier's internal speaker.
- **Footswitch:** Connect an optional footswitch to the "FOOTSWITCH" jack for remote control of certain amplifier functions (e.g., tuner mute, gain boost).



Figure 2: Rear panel of the Peavey MAX 100, detailing the FX Loop, DI Output, Aux In, Phones, and Footswitch connections.

5. OPERATION

5.1 Control Panel Overview

Familiarize yourself with the controls on the top panel of your Peavey MAX 100 amplifier:



Figure 3: Detailed view of the Peavey MAX 100 control panel.

- **INPUTS (Passive/Active):** Select the appropriate input based on your bass guitar's pickup type.
- **GAIN:** Controls the input sensitivity and the amount of pre-amplification. Higher settings will increase distortion, especially when combined with the TransTube® gain boost.
- **OVERDRIVE Button:** Engages the TransTube® gain boost circuit, adding a tube-like overdrive effect.
- **BASS:** Adjusts the low-frequency response of your tone.
- **CONTOUR Button:** Scoops the mid-range frequencies, providing a more modern, punchy bass tone.
- **MIDDLE:** Adjusts the mid-range frequency response.
- **MID-SHIFT Button:** Shifts the center frequency of the MIDDLE control, allowing for more precise mid-range shaping.
- **TREBLE:** Adjusts the high-frequency response of your tone.
- **BRIGHT Button:** Boosts the high frequencies, adding clarity and presence to your sound.
- **KOSMOS-C Button:** Activates Peavey's psycho-acoustic low-end enhancement, which adds perceived bass without increasing speaker excursion.
- **VOLUME:** Controls the overall output level of the amplifier.
- **CHROMATIC TUNER / TUNE/MUTE Button:** Press to activate the built-in chromatic tuner. While active, the amplifier's output is muted. The LED indicators (b, #, green, red) will guide you to the correct pitch.
- **POWER Switch:** Turns the amplifier on or off.

5.2 Basic Operation

1. Ensure all connections are secure and correct.
2. Turn the VOLUME control to its minimum setting.
3. Turn on the amplifier using the POWER switch.
4. Slowly increase the VOLUME to your desired listening level.
5. Adjust the GAIN control to achieve the desired input level and amount of drive. If the signal clips excessively, reduce the GAIN.
6. Experiment with the BASS, MIDDLE, and TREBLE controls, along with the CONTOUR, MID-SHIFT, BRIGHT, and KOSMOS-C buttons, to shape your desired bass tone.

5.3 Using the Chromatic Tuner

The Peavey MAX 100 includes a convenient built-in chromatic tuner:

1. Press the **TUNE/MUTE** button to activate the tuner. The amplifier's output will be muted.
2. Play a single note on your bass. The tuner's LED display will indicate the note being played and whether it is flat (b), sharp (#), or in tune (green LED).
3. Adjust your instrument's tuning until the green LED illuminates, indicating the note is in tune.

4. Press the **TUNE/MUTE** button again to exit tuner mode and restore amplifier output.

6. CARE AND MAINTENANCE

Proper care will extend the life and performance of your Peavey MAX 100 amplifier:

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to clean the exterior of the amplifier. Do not use abrasive cleaners, solvents, or waxes. Avoid spraying liquids directly onto the amplifier.
- **Ventilation:** Ensure that the ventilation openings are clear and unobstructed at all times to prevent overheating.
- **Storage:** When not in use for extended periods, store the amplifier in a cool, dry place, away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures.
- **Transportation:** When transporting the amplifier, ensure it is securely placed to prevent physical damage.
- **Servicing:** Do not attempt to service the amplifier yourself. Refer all servicing to qualified Peavey service personnel.

7. TROUBLESHOOTING

This section addresses common issues you might encounter with your Peavey MAX 100 amplifier. If the problem persists after attempting these solutions, please contact Peavey customer support or a qualified service technician.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
No sound from speaker.	Power not connected or unit not turned on. Volume control set too low. Instrument cable faulty or not connected. Headphones plugged in. Tuner active (mute engaged).	Check power cord and POWER switch. Increase VOLUME control. Ensure instrument cable is securely connected and functional. Try a different cable. Unplug headphones. Press TUNE/MUTE button to disengage tuner.
Distorted or unclear sound.	GAIN control set too high. OVERDRIVE button engaged unintentionally. EQ settings are extreme. Using Passive input with Active bass.	Reduce GAIN control. Disengage OVERDRIVE button if clean tone is desired. Adjust EQ controls to a more neutral setting and fine-tune. Use the ACTIVE input for basses with active pickups.
Humming or buzzing noise.	Ground loop issue. Faulty instrument cable. Interference from other electronic devices.	Try plugging into a different electrical outlet or using a power conditioner. Test with a different instrument cable. Move the amplifier away from other electronic devices (e.g., computers, fluorescent lights).

8. TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Detailed specifications for the Peavey MAX 100 Bass Amp Combo:

Feature	Specification
Model Number	3616810
Output Wattage	100 Watts
Speaker Size	10 inches
Product Dimensions (L x W x H)	1 x 1 x 1 inches (Note: These dimensions appear to be placeholder. Refer to official Peavey documentation for accurate dimensions.)
Item Weight	29 pounds
Material	Metal chassis
Color	Black
Compatible Devices	Double Bass (and other bass guitars)

9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For detailed warranty information regarding your Peavey MAX 100 amplifier, please refer to the warranty card included with your product or visit the official Peavey website. Peavey Electronics stands behind its products with a commitment to quality and reliability.

For technical support, service inquiries, or to find authorized service centers, please visit the official Peavey support page or contact their customer service directly. You can also explore the [Peavey Store on Amazon](#) for additional product information and accessories.

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Example: How do I reset this device or fix this error?

Details

Model number, symptoms, what you tried, or the section of the manual you are using.

Submit question