

## Darkglass Electronics AO900

# Darkglass Alpha Omega 900 Bass Head User Manual

Model: AO900 | Brand: Darkglass Electronics

## 1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides comprehensive instructions for the Darkglass Alpha Omega 900 Bass Head. It covers setup, operation, maintenance, troubleshooting, and technical specifications. Please read this manual thoroughly before operating the device to ensure proper use and to maximize its performance and longevity.

The Alpha Omega 900 is a 900-watt bass amplifier head featuring a built-in compressor, IR cabinet simulation, a 6-band graphic EQ, and MIDI capabilities, offering unparalleled tonal flexibility and power for the modern bass player.

## 2. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

### Front Panel Controls



Figure 2.1: Front panel of the Alpha Omega 900 Bass Head, showing input, compression, drive, level, EQ, and master controls.

- **Input:** Connect your instrument here. Features Passive/Active switch for different pickup outputs.
- **Comp:** Controls the amount of compression.

- **Drive:** Adjusts the amount of distortion.
- **Level:** Sets the overall output volume of the distortion circuit.
- **Mod:** Selects between Alpha (punchy, tight) and Omega (brutal, raw) distortion circuits.
- **Blend:** Mixes the clean signal with the distorted signal.
- **Gain:** Controls the input gain of the amplifier.
- **Graphic EQ:** 6-band graphic equalizer for precise tone shaping (250 Hz, 500 Hz, 1.5 kHz, 3 kHz, 5 kHz).
- **Mute:** Mutes the output signal.
- **Master:** Controls the overall output volume of the amplifier.

## Rear Panel Connections



Figure 2.2: Rear panel of the Alpha Omega 900 Bass Head, detailing speaker outputs, effects loop, auxiliary input, headphone output, USB, DI outputs, MIDI, and footswitch connections.

- **Speaker Output:** Connect to your bass cabinet.
- **Send/Return:** Effects loop for external effects pedals.
- **Aux In:** Connect external audio devices for practice.
- **Headphone Output:** For silent practice.
- **USB:** Connect to a computer for Darkglass Suite software access and firmware updates.
- **Pre DI/Post DI:** Balanced XLR outputs for direct connection to mixing consoles or audio interfaces.
- **MIDI:** For external MIDI control.
- **Footswitch:** Connect the Darkglass Intelligent Footswitch for remote control of functions.

## 3. SETUP

1. **Power Connection:** Connect the power cable to the AC inlet on the rear panel and then to a grounded power outlet. Ensure the power switch is in the OFF position before connecting.
2. **Speaker Connection:** Connect your bass cabinet(s) to the Speaker Output jacks using appropriate speaker cables. Ensure the impedance of your cabinet(s) matches the amplifier's output capabilities (minimum 2 Ohm load).
3. **Instrument Connection:** Plug your bass guitar into the Input jack on the front panel. Select the Passive or Active input mode based on your instrument's pickups.
4. **Footswitch Connection (Optional):** Connect the Darkglass Intelligent Footswitch to the Footswitch jack on the rear panel for remote control of distortion and mute functions.
5. **Auxiliary Devices (Optional):** For practice, connect an external audio source (e.g., smartphone, MP3 player) to the

Aux In jack. Adjust the Headphone Volume for monitoring.

6. **DI Output (Optional):** For recording or live sound, connect the Pre DI or Post DI XLR outputs to a mixing console or audio interface. Use the Ground Lift switch if hum is present.

## 4. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

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### Basic Operation

1. **Power On:** After all connections are made, set the Master volume to minimum and then turn on the power switch.
2. **Volume Adjustment:** Slowly increase the Master volume to your desired listening level.
3. **Tone Shaping:** Use the 6-band Graphic EQ sliders to adjust your tone. Experiment with the frequency bands to find your desired sound.
4. **Compression:** Adjust the Comp knob to control the dynamic range of your signal.
5. **Distortion:** Engage the distortion circuit using the dedicated switch. Use the Drive, Level, Mod, and Blend knobs to sculpt your distorted tone.

### Advanced Features

- **IR Cabinet Simulation:** The Alpha Omega 900 features built-in Impulse Response (IR) cabinet simulation. These can be accessed and managed via the Darkglass Suite software.
- **Darkglass Suite Software:** Connect the amplifier to your computer via the USB port. Download and install the Darkglass Suite software from the official Darkglass website. This software allows for firmware updates, loading custom IRs, and fine-tuning various amplifier parameters.

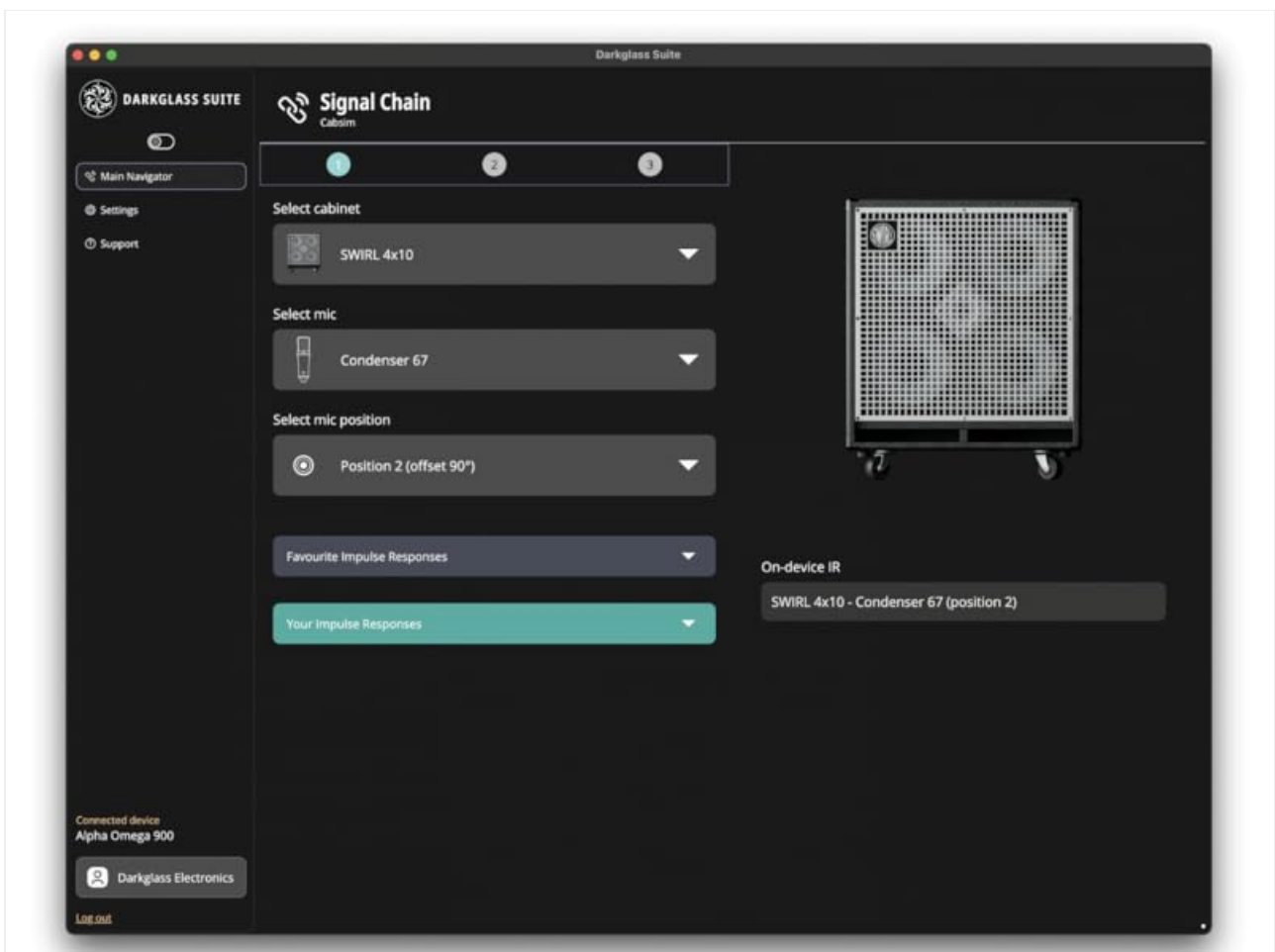


Figure 4.1: Darkglass Suite software interface for managing IRs and settings.

- **MIDI Control:** The amplifier supports MIDI control for various functions. Refer to the Darkglass website or Darkglass Suite for detailed MIDI implementation charts.

## 5. MAINTENANCE

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to clean the amplifier's exterior. Avoid abrasive cleaners or solvents.
- **Ventilation:** Ensure proper ventilation around the amplifier. Do not block the cooling fan or vents on the rear panel.
- **Storage:** Store the amplifier in a dry, cool environment away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures.
- **Transportation:** When transporting, use a padded case to protect the amplifier from physical damage.

## 6. TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
No Sound	Power not connected, Master volume low, Mute engaged, faulty cables, incorrect input selection.	Check power connection, increase Master volume, disengage Mute, check all cables, ensure Passive/Active switch is correct.
Humming/Buzzing Noise	Ground loop, faulty instrument cable, interference from other electronics.	Engage Ground Lift switch on DI output, try different cables, move amplifier away from other electronic devices.
Distortion not engaging	Distortion switch not activated, Drive knob set too low.	Press the Distortion switch, increase the Drive knob.
Overheating	Blocked vents, prolonged high-volume use in poor ventilation.	Ensure vents are clear, allow amplifier to cool down, operate in a well-ventilated area.

## 7. SPECIFICATIONS

- **Output Wattage:** 900 Watts RMS
- **Input Impedance:** 1M Ohm
- **Minimum Load Impedance:** 2 Ohms
- **Dimensions (W x D x H):** 11 x 12 x 3.75 inches (27.94 x 30.48 x 9.53 cm)



Figure 7.1: Physical dimensions of the Alpha Omega 900 Bass Head.

- **Weight:** Approximately 1 pound (0.45 kg) -*Note: This weight seems unusually low for a 900W bass head. Please refer to official Darkglass specifications for precise weight.*
- **Controls:** Input, Comp, Drive, Level, Mod, Blend, Gain, 6-band Graphic EQ, Mute, Master.
- **Connectivity:** Instrument Input, Speaker Outputs, Send/Return, Aux In, Headphone Output, USB, Pre DI, Post DI, MIDI, Footswitch.
- **Features:** Built-in Compressor, Alpha/Omega Distortion Engine, IR Cabinet Simulation, MIDI Control.






8. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

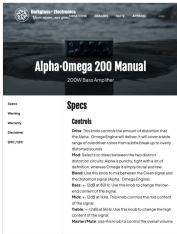
Darkglass Electronics products are covered by a limited warranty. For detailed warranty information, please visit the official Darkglass Electronics website or contact their customer support.

For technical support, troubleshooting assistance, or service inquiries, please contact Darkglass Electronics customer support through their official website: [www.darkglass.com/support](http://www.darkglass.com/support)

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Product specifications are subject to change without notice.

Related Documents - AO900

	<p><a href="#">Darkglass Alpha Omega 900 Bass Amplifier Owner's Manual</a></p> <p>Comprehensive owner's manual for the Darkglass Alpha Omega 900 bass amplifier, detailing its features, front and rear panel controls, block diagram, specifications, warranty, and troubleshooting.</p>
	<p><a href="#">Darkglass Alpha Omega 500 Bass Amplifier Owner's Manual</a></p> <p>Comprehensive owner's manual for the Darkglass Alpha Omega 500 bass amplifier, detailing its features, front and rear panel controls, block diagram, specifications, warranty information, and troubleshooting tips.</p>
	<p><a href="#">Darkglass Alpha-Omega 500 Bass Amplifier Manual</a></p> <p>Official manual for the Darkglass Alpha-Omega 500 Bass Amplifier, detailing its controls, technical specifications, dimensions, warnings, troubleshooting, and warranty information.</p>
	<p><a href="#">Darkglass Alpha Omega 500 Bass Amplifier Owner's Manual</a></p> <p>Comprehensive owner's manual for the Darkglass Alpha Omega 500 bass amplifier, detailing its features, front and rear panel controls, block diagram, warranty, and specifications. Learn about its all-analog preamplifier, digital impulse response cabinet emulator, and the Alpha Omega Engine with its distinct distortion circuits.</p>
	<p><a href="#">Darkglass Alpha Omega 500 Bass Amplifier Owner's Manual - Features, Specs, Warranty</a></p> <p>Comprehensive owner's manual for the Darkglass Alpha Omega 500 bass amplifier. Details front and rear panel features, Alpha Omega Engine, EQ, block diagram, technical specifications, warranty information, and troubleshooting guide.</p>



[Darkglass Alpha-Omega 200 Bass Amplifier Manual](#)

Official manual for the Darkglass Alpha-Omega 200 Bass Amplifier, detailing specifications, controls, warnings, warranty information, and EMC/EMI compliance.