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## IK Multimedia IP-ZTONE-DI-IN

# IK Multimedia Z-Tone DI Instrument Preamp User Manual

Model: IP-ZTONE-DI-IN

## INTRODUCTION

The IK Multimedia Z-Tone DI is an advanced direct box and preamp designed for guitar and bass players. It offers unique tone-shaping capabilities and flexible re-amping options, allowing you to capture both processed and clean DI tracks simultaneously. This manual provides comprehensive instructions for setting up, operating, and maintaining your Z-Tone DI.

## PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The Z-Tone DI features a robust metal construction and intuitive controls for optimal sound manipulation.



Front view of the IK Multimedia Z-Tone DI, showing the Input, Link, Gain, and Z-Tone controls.



Rear view of the IK Multimedia Z-Tone DI, displaying the Balanced Output, Unbalanced Output, Ground Lift, and Pad switches, along with the battery compartment.

## SETUP

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### Powering the Unit

The Z-Tone DI can be powered via 9V battery or 48V phantom power from a connected mixer or audio interface. Ensure the power source is correctly connected before operation.

### Connecting Your Instrument

Connect your instrument (guitar or bass) to the **INPUT** jack using a standard 1/4" TS instrument cable.

### Connecting to an Audio Interface/Mixer

For recording, connect the **BALANCED OUT** (XLR) to an XLR input on your audio interface or mixer. Alternatively, use the **UNBALANCED OUT** (1/4" TS) for unbalanced connections.

### Using the Link Output (Re-amping)

The **LINK** output allows you to send a clean, unprocessed signal to an external amplifier or pedalboard while simultaneously sending the processed signal to your interface. Connect the **LINK** jack to your amplifier's input or the first pedal in your pedal chain.

Your browser does not support the video tag.

Official video demonstrating the re-amping capabilities of the Z-Tone DI and its integration with audio interfaces like the AXE I/O.

## OPERATING CONTROLS

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### Gain Control

Adjust the **GAIN** knob to set the input level. The LED indicator next to the gain knob will illuminate green for a healthy signal and red if the signal is clipping. Adjust the gain to ensure the LED remains green during playing, occasionally flashing red on peaks.

## Active/Passive Pickup Selector

Use the **ACTIVE/PASSIVE** switch to match the impedance to your instrument's pickups. Select **ACTIVE** for instruments with active pickups and **PASSIVE** for instruments with passive pickups. This optimizes the signal for the best tone.

## Z-Tone Knob

The **Z-TONE** knob allows you to continuously vary the input impedance from 1 M $\Omega$  (SHARP) to 2.2 k $\Omega$  (BOLD). This unique feature interacts with your instrument's pickups, altering the tone and feel. Experiment with different settings to find the sweet spot for your instrument and desired sound.

## Pure/JFET Channel Selector

The **PURE/JFET** switch selects between two distinct preamp circuits:

- **PURE:** Provides an ultra-linear, transparent sound, preserving the natural tone of your instrument.
- **JFET:** Engages a Class A JFET input buffer, adding subtle harmonic enhancement and a warm, tube-like character to your sound.

## Ground Lift Switch

The **GND LIFT** switch disconnects the ground connection between the Z-Tone DI and the connected equipment. Use this switch to eliminate hum or buzz caused by ground loops.

## Pad Switch (-20dB)

The **PAD -20dB** switch attenuates the output signal by 20dB. Engage this switch if the output signal is too hot for the input of your audio interface or mixer, preventing clipping.

## MAINTENANCE

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To ensure the longevity and optimal performance of your Z-Tone DI, follow these maintenance guidelines:

- Keep the unit clean and free from dust. Use a soft, dry cloth for cleaning.
- Avoid exposing the unit to extreme temperatures, humidity, or direct sunlight.
- When not in use for extended periods, remove the 9V battery to prevent leakage.
- Handle all cables and connectors with care to prevent damage.

## TROUBLESHOOTING

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### No Sound Output

- Check all cable connections to ensure they are secure and correctly plugged in.
- Verify that the Z-Tone DI is receiving power (either from a 9V battery or 48V phantom power). The "ON" LED should be illuminated.
- Ensure the input gain is set appropriately and not too low.
- Check the input selection on your audio interface or mixer.

### Hum or Buzzing Noise

- Engage the **GND LIFT** switch to break potential ground loops.
- Ensure all power cables are properly grounded.
- Check for faulty cables or connections.

## Distorted Sound

- Reduce the **GAIN** knob on the Z-Tone DI.
- Engage the **PAD -20dB** switch if the output signal is too strong for your interface's input.
- Check the input levels on your audio interface or mixer to prevent clipping.

## SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Product Dimensions	1.73 x 5.35 x 5.83 inches
Item Weight	0.039 ounces
ASIN	B085JFT8MF
Item model number	IP-ZTONE-DI-IN
Manufacturer	IK Multimedia
Brand	IK Multimedia
Color	black
Compatible Devices	Guitar
Material	[LIKELY] Metal
Output Wattage	20 Watts

## WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For warranty information and technical support, please visit the official IK Multimedia website or contact their customer service. Keep your proof of purchase for warranty claims.

Official Website: [www.ikmultimedia.com](http://www.ikmultimedia.com)



### Related Documents - IP-ZTONE-DI-IN

 AmpliTube <b>TONEX Pedal</b> USER MANUAL 	<a href="#">AmpliTube TONEX Pedal User Manual</a> Comprehensive user manual for the IK Multimedia AmpliTube TONEX Pedal, detailing its features, connections, setup, and usage for guitar and bass tone modeling.
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	<p><a href="#">IK Multimedia TONEX ONE Quick Start Guide</a></p> <p>A concise guide to operating the IK Multimedia TONEX ONE guitar effects pedal, covering main operation, performance modes, global setup, and software integration.</p>
	<p><a href="#">IK Multimedia TONEX Pedal Quick Start Guide</a></p> <p>A quick start guide for the IK Multimedia TONEX Pedal, covering its user interface, workflow, parameters, and librarian software.</p>
	<p><a href="#">iRig HD X Universal Guitar Interface User Manual</a></p> <p>This user manual provides comprehensive instructions for the IK Multimedia iRig HD X, a universal guitar interface designed for iOS and Mac/PC. Learn about its features, setup, operation, and troubleshooting.</p>
	<p><a href="#">iRig HD X Universal Guitar Interface User Manual</a></p> <p>User manual for the IK Multimedia iRig HD X, a universal guitar interface for iOS, Mac, and PC. Covers installation, features, modes like FX/THRU, Direct Monitoring, Loopback+, Tuner mode, troubleshooting, and specifications.</p>
	<p><a href="#">IK Multimedia iLoud MTM MKII User Manual</a></p> <p>Comprehensive user manual for the IK Multimedia iLoud MTM MKII studio monitor speakers, detailing installation, setup, control panel functions, ARC calibration, X-MONITOR software, MTM design principles, positioning, troubleshooting, specifications, and regulatory information.</p>