Blackstar IDX50

Blackstar ID:X-50 High Power Digital Combo 50W Guitar Amplifier User Manual

Model: IDX50

1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential information for the safe and effective operation of your Blackstar ID:X-50 High Power Digital Combo 50W Guitar Amplifier. Please read this manual thoroughly before using the amplifier to ensure proper setup, operation, and maintenance. Retain this manual for future reference.

2. IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

- **Power Source:** Connect the amplifier only to a power supply of the type described in this manual and marked on the unit. Ensure the power cord is properly grounded.

- **Ventilation:** Do not block any ventilation openings. Install in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

- **Water and Moisture:** Do not use this apparatus near water or moisture.

- **Heat:** Do not install near any heat sources such as radiators, heat registers, stoves, or other apparatus (including amplifiers) that produce heat.

- **Cleaning:** Clean only with a dry cloth.

- **Servicing:** 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.

- **Power Cord:** Protect the power cord from being walked on or pinched, particularly at plugs, convenience receptacles, and the point where they exit from the apparatus.

3. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The Blackstar ID:X-50 is a 50W digital combo guitar amplifier designed for versatile tone shaping and performance. It features multiple amp voices, built-in effects, and intuitive controls.

Figure 3.1: Front-angle view of the Blackstar ID:X-50 amplifier, showcasing its compact design and speaker grille.

3.1 Front Panel Controls

The front panel provides access to all primary sound shaping and effect parameters.

Figure 3.2: Detailed view of the ID:X-50 amplifier's top-mounted control panel, showing input, voice, gain, EQ, effects, and master sections.

- **INPUT:** Connect your guitar here.
- **VOICE:** Selects one of six distinct amp voices (Clean Warm, Clean Bright, Crunch, Super Crunch, OD 1, OD 2).
- **GAIN:** Controls the amount of overdrive or distortion.
- **VOLUME:** Adjusts the overall output level of the selected voice.
- **BASS, MIDDLE, TREBLE:** Standard 3-band equalizer controls.
- **ISF (Infinite Shape Feature):** Blackstar's unique tone control, sweeping from a classic British sound to a modern American tone.
- **EFFECTS Section:** Includes controls for Pre-FX, Modulation, Delay, and Reverb effects.
- **MASTER Volume:** Controls the final output volume of the amplifier.
- **POWER:** Selectable power levels (1W/10W/50W).
- **RESPONSE:** Emulates different valve amplifier responses (EL84, EL34, 6L6).
- **Display Screen:** Shows patch names, effect selection, and parameter values.

3.2 Rear Panel Connections

The rear panel provides connectivity for power, footswitch, audio output, and USB.

Figure 3.3: Rear view of the ID:X-50 amplifier, detailing the power input, footswitch, USB, line out, and effects loop connections.

- **MAINS INPUT:** Connect the supplied power cord here.
- **FOOTSWITCH:** Connect an optional Blackstar footswitch for remote control of functions.
- **USB:** For connecting to a computer for recording or software updates.
- **LINE OUT / HEADPHONES:** For connecting to headphones or an external mixing console/recording interface.
- **EFFECTS LOOP (SEND/RETURN):** For integrating external stompboxes or effects processors.

4. SETUP

1. **Unpacking:** Carefully remove the amplifier from its packaging. Inspect for any signs of damage.
2. **Placement:** Place the amplifier on a stable, level surface. Ensure adequate ventilation around the unit.
3. **Power Connection:** Ensure the amplifier's power switch is in the OFF position. Connect the supplied power cord to the MAINS INPUT on the rear panel and then to a suitable grounded power outlet.
4. **Guitar Connection:** Connect your guitar to the INPUT jack on the front panel using a high-quality instrument cable.
5. **Optional Connections:**
   - If using a footswitch, connect it to the FOOTSWITCH jack on the rear panel.
   - For headphones or direct recording, connect to the LINE OUT / HEADPHONES jack.
   - For external effects, connect your effects unit to the EFFECTS LOOP (SEND/RETURN) jacks.

5. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

5.1 Powering On and Basic Sound

1. Turn the MASTER volume control to its minimum setting.

2. Flip the power switch to the ON position. The display will illuminate.

3. Select a VOICE (e.g., Clean Warm).

4. Adjust the GAIN and VOLUME controls to achieve your desired level of drive and output for the selected voice.

5. Slowly increase the MASTER volume to a comfortable listening level.

5.2 Amp Voices

The ID:X-50 offers six distinct amp voices:

- **Clean Warm:** Smooth, dynamic clean tone.
- **Clean Bright:** Brighter clean tone with more sparkle.
- **Crunch:** Classic rock crunch with good articulation.
- **Super Crunch:** Higher gain crunch for heavier rhythm.
- **OD 1:** Modern overdrive with tight bass and singing highs.
- **OD 2:** Aggressive, high-gain lead tone.

Rotate the VOICE knob to cycle through these options. The selected voice will be shown on the display.

5.3 Equalization (EQ) and ISF

Use the BASS, MIDDLE, and TREBLE knobs to fine-tune the tonal characteristics of your sound. The ISF control allows you to shift the amplifier's tonal response between a British-style (counter-clockwise) and American-style (clockwise) sound.

5.4 Built-in Effects

The ID:X-50 includes over 35 effects, categorized into Pre-FX, Modulations, Delays, and Reverbs. Use the dedicated EFFECT section controls and the display to select and adjust parameters.

Figure 5.1: A hand demonstrating adjustment of a control knob on the amplifier's front panel, highlighting user interaction with the effects section.

- **Selecting Effects:** Use the dedicated buttons or knobs within the EFFECTS section to navigate through effect types and select a specific effect.
- **Adjusting Parameters:** The display will show the selected effect and its parameters. Use the associated controls to modify these parameters. Up to 4 parameters per effect can be fine-tuned.

5.5 Valve Response Emulation

The RESPONSE control allows you to emulate the characteristics of different power amp valves:

- **EL84:** Bright, chimey, and dynamic.
- **EL34:** Classic British rock tone, rich and powerful.
- **6L6:** American-style tone, tight low-end and clear highs.

5.6 Patch Saving and Recall

The ID:X-50 allows you to save your custom amp and effect settings as patches for quick recall. Refer to the display and associated controls for specific instructions on saving and recalling patches.

5.7 Power Level Selection

The POWER switch allows you to select between 1W, 10W, and 50W output levels. This is useful for adapting the amplifier's volume and headroom to different environments, from bedroom practice to stage performance.

6. MAINTENANCE

- **Cleaning:** Disconnect the amplifier from the power supply before cleaning. Use a soft, dry cloth to wipe down the

exterior. Do not use liquid cleaners or abrasive materials.

- **Storage:** When not in use for extended periods, store the amplifier in a dry, dust-free environment.
- **Transportation:** When transporting the amplifier, ensure it is securely packed to prevent physical damage.

7. TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
No power	Power cord not connected; Power outlet faulty; Amplifier power switch off.	Ensure power cord is securely connected. Test outlet with another device. Turn power switch ON.
No sound	Guitar cable faulty; Volume controls too low; Incorrect input selected; Speaker disconnected (internal).	Check guitar cable. Increase GAIN, VOLUME, and MASTER controls. Ensure guitar is plugged into INPUT. Contact service if speaker is suspected.
Distorted sound	GAIN too high for clean voice; Faulty cable; Speaker damage.	Reduce GAIN. Test with a different cable. If distortion persists at low gain, contact service.
Effects not working	Effect level set to zero; Effect bypassed; Incorrect effect selected.	Check effect parameters on the display. Ensure effect is active and not bypassed.

If you encounter issues not listed here or if the suggested solutions do not resolve the problem, please contact Blackstar customer support or a qualified service technician.

8. SPECIFICATIONS

- **Model:** Blackstar ID:X-50
- **Output Wattage:** 50 Watts (selectable 1W/10W/50W)
- **Amp Voices:** 6 (Clean Warm, Clean Bright, Crunch, Super Crunch, OD 1, OD 2)
- **EQ:** 3-Band (Bass, Middle, Treble) + ISF (Infinite Shape Feature)
- **Effects:** Over 35 built-in effects (Pre-FX, Modulation, Delay, Reverb)
- **Valve Response Emulation:** EL84, EL34, 6L6
- **Connectivity:** Guitar Input, Footswitch, USB, Line Out/Headphones, Effects Loop (Send/Return)
- **Dimensions:** 18.23 x 12.68 x 21.73 inches (Product Dimensions)
- **Weight:** 33 pounds
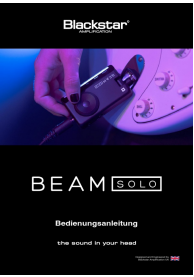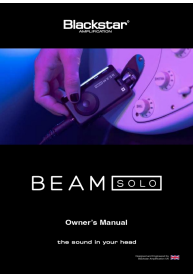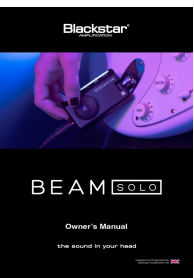- **Material:** Metal
- **Color:** Black

9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For detailed warranty information, please refer to the warranty card included with your product or visit the official Blackstar Amplification website. For technical support, service, or spare parts, please contact your authorized Blackstar dealer or Blackstar customer support directly.
Blackstar Amplification Official Website: www.blackstaramps.com

Related Documents - IDX50

	[Blackstar BEAM SOLO Guitar Headphone Amplifier User Manual](#) Comprehensive user manual for the Blackstar BEAM SOLO portable guitar headphone amplifier, detailing features, controls, connectivity, app integration, safety instructions, and technical specifications.
	[Blackstar BEAM SOLO Guitar Headphone Amplifier Owner's Manual](#) Comprehensive owner's manual for the Blackstar BEAM SOLO guitar headphone amplifier, detailing features, controls, safety instructions, mobile app connectivity, and technical specifications.
	[Blackstar St. James Series Guitar Amplifier Owner's Manual](#) Comprehensive owner's manual for the Blackstar St. James series of valve guitar amplifiers. Details features, operation, safety instructions, and technical specifications for models including 50 EL34H, 50 EL34 Combo, 50 6L6H, and 50 6L6 Combo.
	[Blackstar BEAM SOLO Owner's Manual - Portable Guitar Headphone Amplifier](#) Comprehensive owner's manual for the Blackstar BEAM SOLO, a portable guitar headphone amplifier. Learn about its features, controls, connectivity, app integration, and technical specifications.
	[Blackstar ID:X 50 & ID:X 100 Effects Descriptions Guide](#) Explore the extensive range of effects for Blackstar's ID:X 50 and ID:X 100 guitar amplifiers. This guide details each effect's parameters and sonic characteristics, helping musicians craft their ideal sound.
	[Blackstar AMPED 2 Owner's Manual: Your Ultimate Guitar Amplifier Pedal Guide](#) Explore the features, controls, and capabilities of the Blackstar AMPED 2 100W guitar amplifier pedal with this comprehensive owner's manual. Learn about its amp voices, effects, CabRig technology, and more.

Documents - Blackstar – IDX50

Owner s Manual Designed and Engineered by Blackstar Amplification UK English ID:X 50 - Front Panel 99 1100 1111 22 33 44 55 66 77 VV OO II CC EE GG AA9II NN VV OO LL UU MM EE BB 1AA0SS SS MM II DD DD LL EE TT RR 1EE1BB LL EE 11 OD 2 II NN PP UU TT OD 2 OD 1 OD 1 SUPER C RSUUNPCEH...

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