Congratulations! You have purchased a rock & roll monster. The Peavey 5150 is the result of an extensive research and development project with guitar legend Edward Van Halen to produce the ultimate rock & roll guitar amp. You’re ready to experience super rock crunch, harmonic-rich sustain, and screaming metal drive like you’ve never heard from another amp.

Before you begin, please take the time to read this operating guide, familiarizing yourself with the 5150’s controls and functions.

**1 INPUTS**
The 5150’s input block features HIGH [1] and NORMAL [2] gain inputs. The HIGH gain input has twice the gain of the NORMAL gain input and should be used when maximum overdrive is desired. When both inputs are used simultaneously, the 5150 automatically switches to the normal gain mode (6 dB pad). Situations where both inputs are used at once (alternating between two guitars on stage using both inputs, etc.) should be avoided if peak overdrive is expected from the amp. Experimentation with your particular guitar/pickup into each input will determine which input is best for your sound.

**2 CHANNEL SELECT SWITCH**
Allows selection of the RHYTHM or LEAD channel. Depressing the switch to the “in” position activates the LEAD channel. The red LED light will illuminate to indicate that the LEAD channel is active. In the “out” position the RHYTHM channel is activated and the green LED illuminates. Channels may be remotely selected using the 5150’s footswitch. If remote selection is desired the channel select switch must be set to the “in” position (LEAD channel).

**3 LEAD PRE & POST GAIN**
The LEAD CHANNEL PRE GAIN [8] controls the input level and works with the LEAD CHANNEL POST GAIN [13] to determine the overall volume/overdrive of the LEAD channel. Lower settings of the PRE GAIN control produce a relatively clean, undistorted sound while the middle to high settings produce harmonically rich distortion and screaming overdrive/sustain. Since both PRE and POST GAIN controls work in “combo,” a basic rule-of-thumb set-up procedure is to begin with both controls in the lower settings (0 - 2). Using the PRE GAIN control, dial in the amount of overdrive/sustain you want for the LEAD channel. Then, with the POST GAIN control adjust for overall volume.

**4 RHYTHM PRE & POST GAIN**
The RHYTHM channel PRE [4] and POST GAIN [12] operate in the same manner as the LEAD channel gain controls. For most applications, the RHYTHM channel should be set up with the PRE GAIN at the lower, “cleaner” settings (0 - 4) and the POST GAIN set for overall volume. The RHYTHM channel can be converted to a second “lead” channel by activating the CRUNCH SWITCH [6].

**5 BRIGHT SWITCH**
Activates a preset boost in the treble frequencies (6 dB at 2 kHz) and affects only the rhythm channel.

**6 CRUNCH SELECT SWITCH**
Boosts the gain of the rhythm channel to create a second “lead” channel. Depress to the “in” position to activate.

**7 EQUALIZATION**
The 5150’s equalization block features passive LOW, MID, and HIGH EQ that is custom tailored to Edward Van Halen’s sound.
Unique to the 5150, the RESONANCE control can be set to boost the gain of the power amp in the low frequencies at the resonance/attenuation point of the speaker cabinet. In simple terms, the RESONANCE control works like a low EQ to offset low-end frequency drop-out. The PRESENCE control works in the same manner, boosting the high frequencies. Experimentation using your particular speaker cabinet along with personal taste will determine your setting for these important controls.

STANDBY SWITCH

Allows the 5150 to be placed in a non-operational standby mode. When the standby switch is activated the tubes remain hot and ready for instantaneous operation, eliminating warm-up time. The STANDBY LED indicator light will illuminate when the amp is in the operational mode.

POWER SWITCH

Supplies power to the unit. Depressed to the "ON" position, the POWER LED indicator light will illuminate indicating power is being supplied to the unit.

A 5 amp fuse is located within the cap of the fuseholder. It must be replaced with the same type and value in order to avoid damage to the equipment and to prevent voiding the warranty. If the amp repeatedly blows fuses, it should be taken to a qualified service center for repair.

WARNING: The fuse should only be replaced when the power cord has been disconnected from its power source.

For your safety, we have incorporated a 3-wire line (mains) cable with proper grounding facilities. It is not advisable to remove the ground pin under any circumstances. If it is necessary to use the 5150 without proper grounding facilities, suitable grounding adaptors should be used. Greatly reduced shock hazard exists when the unit is operated with the proper grounded receptacles.

Three position, rocker-type switch which, for most applications, should be operated in the center (zero) position. If hum or noise is noticed coming from the speaker enclosure(s) with the ground switch in the center position, place the ground switch to positive or negative (+ or -) to minimize hum. Should a hum/noise problem continue, consult your authorized Peavey Dealer, the Peavey factory, or a qualified service technician. NOTE: The ground switch is not functional on 220/240 volt models.

Signals are supplied to outboard effects or signal processing units by patching from the EFFECTS SEND output into the outboard unit(s) and back into the EFFECTS RETURN input using shielded cable with 1/4" phono jacks. Only non gain effects devices (chorus, reverb, delay, etc.) should be used in the effects loop. Remote (on/off) selection of outboard effects devices can be achieved using the 5 150’s footswitch.

This output can be used to send a preamped signal from the 5150 to a mixing console, tape recorder, etc., using shielded cable. Patching from the PREAMP OUT does not affect the normal operation of the amplifier.
**REMOTE FOOTSWITCH JACK**

Provided for the connection of the supplied remote footswitch. When the footswitch is plugged into the remote footswitch jack, the channel select switch [3] must be pressed to the “in” position for remote selection to operate. Remote selection of the LEAD or RHYTHM channel (left footswitch button) or outboard devices in the effects loop (right footswitch button) is possible with the remote footswitch.

**SPEAKER OUTPUTS**

Paralleled ¼" output jacks for connecting speaker enclosure(s) to the amplifier (minimum: 4 ohms). When using more than one enclosure, be sure to calculate the total impedance and set the impedance switch [28] accordingly. (See section on IMPEDANCE SWITCH.)

Important: Use only high quality, UNshielded cable for speaker connections.

**IMPEDEANCE SELECTOR SWITCH**

Use to select the appropriate impedance of the speaker enclosure(s). If two enclosures of equal impedance are used, the switch should be set at one half of that value (e.g., two 16 ohm enclosures: set switch to 8 ohms; two 8 ohm enclosures: set switch to 4 ohms).

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**SPEAKER CONNECTION**

When connecting the amplifier to the speaker enclosure, make sure to set the impedance selector switch on the rear of the unit to the impedance that matches your enclosure. When two enclosures of equal impedance are used, set the switch to one half the impedance of one enclosure (e.g. two 16 ohm enclosures: set switch to 8 ohms; two 8 ohm enclosures: set switch to 4 ohms). The 5150 is designed to operate into a minimum of 4 ohms.

**POWER AMPLIFIER SECTION**

**Rated Power & Load:**
- 120 W RMS into 16, 8, or 4 ohms

**Power @ Clipping:**
- (Typically @ 5% THD, 1 kHz, 120 V AC line)
- 130 W RMS into 16, 8, or 4 ohms

(RMS must be reduced to measure)

**Frequency Response:**
- +0, -3 dB, 50 Hz to 20 kHz,
- @ 100 W RMS into 8 ohms

**Hum & Noise:**
- Greater than 75 dB below rated power

**Power Amp EQ:**
- Active Presence: +10 dB @ 2 kHz
- Active Resonance: +10 dB @ cabinet resonant frequency

**Power Consumption:**
- (Domestic) 400 watts 50/60 Hz, 120 V AC
- (Domestic)

**PREAMP SECTION**

The following specs are measured @ 1 kHz with the controls preset as follows:

- Low & High EQ @ 10
- Mid EQ @ 0
- Bright out

- Lead & Rhythm Posts @ 10
- Presence & Resonance @ 0 dB

**Nominal levels with Pre Gains:**
- @ 5
- Minimum levels with Pre Gains: @ 10

**Preamp High Gain Input:**
- Impedance: Very high Z, 470K ohms

**Lead Channel:**
- (with channel select in)

**Nominal Input Level:**
- 80 dBV, 1 mV RMS

**Minimum Input Level:**
- -92 dBV, -0.25 mV RMS

**CLEAN CHANNEL:**
- (with channel select out)

**Nominal Input Level:**
- -34 dBV, 20 mV RMS

**Minimum Input Level:**
- -90 dBV, 3 mV RMS

**Maximum Input Level:**
- 0 dBV, 1.0 V RMS

(Subtract 18 dB with Crunch switch in)

**Preamp Low Gain Input:**
- Low (-6 dB pad)

**Impedance:**
- High Z, 44K ohms

**All levels are increased by 6 dB**

**Effects Send:**
- Load Impedance: 47K ohms or greater
- Nominal Output: -10 dBV, 300 mV RMS

**Effects Return:**
- Impedance: Very high Z, 470K ohms
- Designed Level: -10 dBV, 300 mV RMS

**Preamp Output:**
- Load Impedance: 47K ohms or greater
- Nominal Output: +10 dBV, 3 V RMS

**Remote Footswitch:**
- Special 2 button unit with LED indicators supplied
- Channel select & Effects loop bypass

**System Hum & Noise @ Nominal Level:**
- (Clean channel)
  - (20 Hz to 20 kHz unweighted)
  - Greater than 74 dB below rated power

**Equalization:**
- Custom Low, Mid & High passive type EQ
  - Push Bright (Rhythm channel only)
    - +6 dB @ 2 kHz
  - Push Crunch (Rhythm channel only)
    - Increases gain

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**RACK MOUNT EFFECTS UNIT**

**BACK PANEL**

**5150**

**SEND**

**RETURN**

**FROM 5150 EFFECTS SEND**

**OUTPUT TO INPUT OF RACK EFFECTS UNIT**

**FROM OUTPUT OF RACK EFFECTS UNIT TO 5150 EFFECTS RETURN INPUT**

**EFFECT(s) ARE SELECTABLE USING 5150 REMOTE FOOTSWITCH (See section on REMOTE FOOTSWITCH JACK)**

**USING THE EFFECTS LOOP TO PATCH EXTERNAL, NON GAIN PRODUCING EFFECTS DEVICES (DIGITAL DELAY, REVERB, CHORUS, ETC.)**

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**BACK PANEL**

**FROM 5150 EFFECTS SEND**

**OUTPUT TO INPUT OF EFFECTS PEDAL**

**FROM OUTPUT OF EFFECTS PEDAL TO 5150 EFFECTS RETURN INPUT**

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**FLOOR PEDAL**
This limited warranty does not apply to products that are damaged due to: (a) normal wear and tear; (b) damage caused by misuse, neglect, accident, or unauthorized repair; or (c) damage caused by alterations, modifications, or unauthorized attachments or accessories. Peavey does not assume any responsibility for damage to the product or personal injury caused by failure to follow the safety instructions provided with the product.

Peavey Electronics Corporation
International Service Center
Meridian, MS 35070

Instructions-Warranty Registration Card

1. Mail the completed warranty registration card to:
   Peavey Electronics Corporation
   Post Office Box 1039
   Meridian, Mississippi 33091

2. Keep the proof of purchase in the event warranty service is required. You will need this document to prove the warranty.

3. Complete and mail the warranty registration card within 30 days of the purchase date to ensure full warranty coverage.

4. Your Peavey dealers contact information is also required for warranty service.

5. Please have the Peavey product name and serial number available when communicating with Peavey Customer Service.