

LADNER

ENGINEERING GROUP



Tontone  Deluxe™

Owner's Manual

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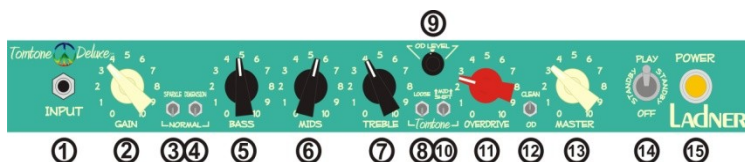
INTRODUCTION

"IT'S HARD TO DESCRIBE "TONE" BUT LADNER ENGINEERING KNEW EXACTLY WHAT I WAS LOOKING FOR AND NAILED IT WITH THE TOMTONE™ DELUXE. THAT'S BY FAR THE MOST DYNAMIC AND MUSICAL SOUNDING AMP I'VE EVER PLAYED. ACTUALLY IT'S NOT AN AMPLIFIER, ITS' A MUSICAL INSTRUMENT ... " - Tom Riepl

Fall 2011 we were introduced to Tom Riepl via Rick Hirsch. Tom came to Mobile Alabama from Germany to record his new record "Play" which Rick was producing. Rick asked us to bring a few amps by for Tom to try out and maybe he could use one on a few tracks. After hearing Tom through a prototype model, it was clear they were meant for each other. Based off that prototype we collaborated with Tom to create an amplifier that enhanced his voice on guitar. The end result is the Tomtone Deluxe, crafted to Tom's specification and close collaboration. We are honored to have Tom as an artist and friend. Through this collaboration, we are able to share his vision of tone and provide inspiration to his incredible playing style. Enjoy your Tomtone Deluxe and be sure to play it loud!

Andrew & D.C. Ladner
LADNER ENGINEERING GROUP

FRONT PANEL



1 - INPUT - 1/4" jack that delivers the signal from the guitar to the first stage of gain in the amplifier.

2 - GAIN - Controls the level of the first gain stage, and is very important down the line with response to the tone stack and overdrive circuits. With response to the overdrive it acts as the first of the cascading gain stages.

3 - Sparkle – Delivers more brilliance to the tone circuit and increases the treble response in the preamp. This switch can help to make darker instruments (*such as those with humbuckers*) to cut through and improve attack.

4 - Dimension – This is a unique switch that reconfigures the tone stack to deliver a flatter response (*like on many early tube hi-fi amplifiers*). Most amplifiers have scoop within the mid range response of the amplifier to counter the hump of mid frequency response within the speaker. The normal position will make the

amplifier respond in the traditional fashion. The **Dimension** position brings a flatter response, which can benefit certain instruments (*such as lap-steel, pedal steel, electric violin, etc...*). The **Dimension** feature also works great for the jazz guitarist, helping to show the true tone of a classic hollow body instrument.

5 – BASS – adjusts the response of bass frequencies within the tone stack. This is a very dominant control and can bring the response of the amplifier from “woofy” to “boomy” and everything in between. All the knobs on the TOMTONE DELUXE significant range and slight adjustments of one can radically change the response of the others.

6 - MIDS – This very powerful knob in guitar amplifiers can bring a sound from harsh to beautiful just by the turn of a knob. Changing the amount of mid range, this knob has a significant control over the overall tone.

7 - TREBLE – Controls the amount of highs, and is as equally as important as the mid. The treble is very important and powerful knob in respect to the overall tone. The Treble knob can bring the amplifier from dark singing, full on mid range punch, to bright crisp attack.

8 – Loose – Details, or tightens low-end response of the amplifier, **NOTE: This control does not cut**

or boost any bass. This enhancement can tighten and produce a more detailed bottom sound if desired.

9 – OD LEVEL – Sets the output level of the overdrive channel. It provides a way to balance the overdrive signal to the clean signal for a balanced sound or even a boost or cut within the overdrive function.

10 – Tomtone– Embodies three mid-range variations. The bottom selection captures Tom Riepl's signature tone, crafted to his exact specifications. Tom asked for a switch that captures Steely Dan meets Steve Morse, the result was capturing the high mid attack while retaining the silky smooth overtones. The middle selection offers a "spongy" midrange response for a looser feel and sound. The top selection tightens the midrange without adding the high mid attack.

11 - OVERDRIVE – Adjust the amount of overdrive or crunch. Switched by either footswitch or front panel toggle switch (*with footswitch unplugged*). The adjustment of the first-stage GAIN knob is crucial to the response of the OVERDRIVE knob. Another way to describe this knob is your "overdrive sound" or how much gain you can get out of the amplifier adding dirty tones to the clean in response to the position of the gain knob. The **GAIN** and

OVERDRIVE controls represent a cascading gain stage in a fashion that delivers smooth singing gain.

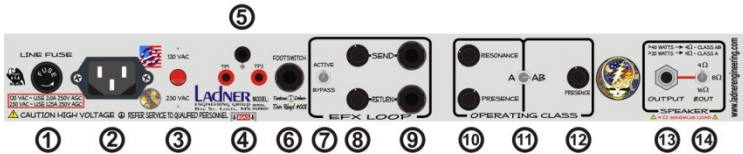
12 – CLEAN / OD – Switches between **CLEAN** and **OVERDRIVE** channels. **NOTE: This switch is disabled when the footswitch is plugged into the rear of the amp. The footswitch takes precedence when connected.**

13 – MASTER – Controls the overall volume and output of the amplifier.

12 – PLAY/STANDBY/OFF – An all-inclusive function control - go from **OFF/STANDBY/PLAY**, with one switch. When powering the amplifier on, the unit should be switched to the **STANDBY** position for at least five (5) minutes before switching to the **PLAY** position. Additionally, when shutting down the amplifier, place the switch in the **STANDBY** position for at least five (5) minutes before switching to the **OFF** position. After placing the unit in the **OFF** position, allow the unit to cool down before transporting, as the tubes are still hot and more likely to be damaged due to shock or vibration. Taking these precautions can help to greatly extend the life of the tubes, especially the output tubes.

12 – POWER – This front panel lamp indicates the amplifier is powered.

Rear Panel



1 – FUSE- This is the line fuse for the amplifier. The proper fuse should be installed based on the line voltage to which the unit is attached. The table below shows the proper fuse to be used with the selected line voltage. **NOTE:** *Failure to install the proper fuse based on the line voltage selected can result in personal injury, fire, damage to the amplifier or other nasty things.*

LINE VOLTAGE	FREQ	FUSE	FUSE TYPE
120 VAC	50/60 Hz	2 A	AGC
230 VAC	50/60 Hz	1.25 A	AGC

2 - AC POWER – an IEC standard removable power cable. The unit should only be plugged into a proper AC Line Voltage as indicated by the selection of the switch (see #3 line voltage selection) of the IEC connector

3– Line Voltage Selector – Selects between 120 VAC operation and 230 VAC operation. **NOTE: Proper fuse MUST be installed.**

4 – BIAS Adjustment – These adjustment controls the BIAS of the output amplifier. **This adjustment should only be used by qualified service personnel.**

5 – BIAS Test Points – Used in conjunction with the BIAS Adjustment. Voltage present on these test points represent the current flowing through the output tubes.

6 – FOOTSWITCH – Connection for the channel selection footswitch and EFX loop on and off, a standard TRS or Tip Ring Sleeve cable is required. **NOTE: The front panel selector switch is disabled when the footswitch is plugged into this jack. A faulty footswitch or flaky cable can cause the amp to default to the Overdrive Channel!!!**

FOOTSWITCH CONNECTION DETAILS

SWITCH
OPEN OVERDRIVE
CLOSED CLEAN

SWITCH
OPEN EFX Loop ON
CLOSED EFX Loop Soft Bypass



7 – ACTIVE/BYPASS – This switch in the **BYPASS** position by-passes the EFX Loop hardware in the amplifier. For proper operation of the EFX Loop, this Switch **MUST** be in the **ACTIVE** position.

8, 9 EFX Loop – The EFX Loop on the Tomtone Deluxe is a fully buffered tube driven loop that allows for transparent insertion of effects post-preamp/pre-output. Send and Return knobs allow for adjustment to and from the loop.

10 – CLASS A RESONANCE – This control does for the low-end as the **PRESENCE** does for the high-end. Turning the control fully counter-clock wise will “roll” the low-end off; while turning the control full clock wise will create a massive bottom. The **RESONANCE** control is very functional and powerful to the overall tone and has more range than most conventional amplifiers.

11 - Class Switching – This allows for the Output section to be switched between Class A/B and Class A (Push Pull). Class A/B mode delivers 40watts offering more punch and headroom. Class A mode delivers 20watts offering quicker breakup of the output and higher “chime”.

12 – PRESENCE (Class A/B and Class A) – This control rings in the highs through the Output section of the amplifier. Turing the PRESENCE all

the way counter-clockwise produces a dark, beefy tone. The knob in the middle is “design center” where the amp was designed and most effective to the overall tone. Turning the knob more clockwise produces more high-end sparkle. The Presence control is very functional and powerful to the overall tone and has more range than most conventional amplifiers.

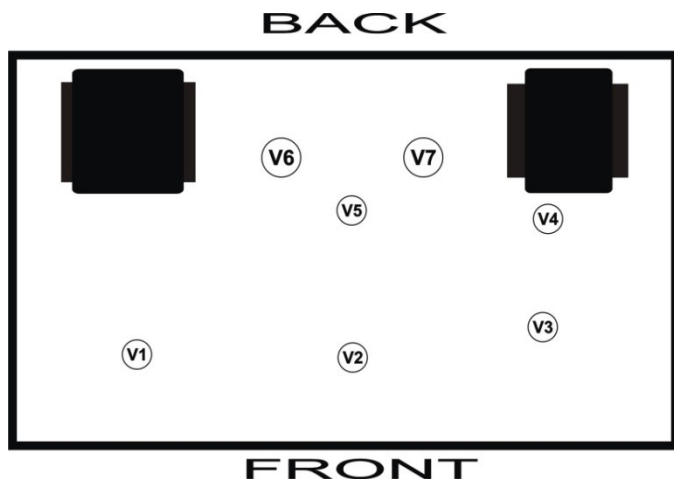
13 – SPEAKER OUT - 1/4" jack that delivers the amplifiers output signal to a speaker cabinet. **Caution should be taken to ensure that the amplifiers output impedance (Z_{out}) is configured to match the speaker enclosures input impedance.**

14 – Z_{out} - Impedance selector 4,8,16 ohms – This selector should only be changed when the unit is in the **STANDBY** or **OFF** position **ONLY!!!**

SPECS

OUTPUT POWER	>40 Watts Class A/B >20 Watts Class A
OUTPUT IMPEDENCE	Selectable 4, 8, 16 Ω
INPUT	1 M Ω
CHANNEL SELECTION	Front Panel/Footswitch
EFX Loop	Footswitch Only
EQUALIZATION	Bass, Mids, Treble Presence
VOICING	Tomtone, Mid-Shift, Loose Dimension

TUBE PLACEMENT



V1-V5: 12AX7

V6-V7: 6L6

V1: Input stage (Mullard 12AX7A)

V2: Tone (Sovtek 12AX7LPS)

V3: Overdrive (Sovtek 12AX7LPS)

V4: Effects Loop (Sovtek 12AX7LPS)

V5: Phase Inverter (Sovtek 12AX7LPS)

V6-V7: Output (Winged C WC6L6)

CAUTION: Tubes are **HOT** when in use, and for a while after the unit has been turned off, use extreme caution when changing.

WARRANTY

All Ladner amplifiers sold by authorized Ladner dealers are warranted by Ladner Engineering Group to be free from defects in material or workmanship under normal use and service for a period of **five (5) years*** on parts and **three (3) years*** on labor from the original date of purchase. Speaker cabinets are covered for a period of **three (3) years*** on parts and labor from the original date of purchase.

Any products found to be defective within the applicable period will be repaired or replaced at the option of the Ladner Engineering Group, without any charge provided that; (1) the product was not misused, abused, improperly maintained, or repaired by any person not authorized by Ladner Engineering Group; (2) its failure resulted from a defect in material or workmanship and was not damaged due to use other than its intended use; (3) the product was not used under abnormal, excessive, or unusual operating conditions and (4) the product is promptly delivered prepaid to the seller at the place of purchase or to an authorized Ladner Engineering Group warranty service center together with proof of purchase within the applicable period.

There are no warranties, expressed or implied, other than those expressed herein. Further, there is no warranty of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose. This warranty does not cover units used for loan or rental.

Limitation of Liability: the above warranty represents purchaser's exclusive remedy and Ladner Engineering Group, LLC shall not be liable for any special, incidental, or consequential damages relating to the product sold.

Some states do not allow limitations on the duration of implied warranty or the exclusion may not apply to some purchasers. This warranty gives purchasers specific legal rights and purchasers may also have other rights that vary from state to state.

* Exceptions:

Speakers	1 Year
Sound Reinforcement Products	3 years
Tubes, Cables	90 days
Vinyl Covers/Bags/Accessories	No Warranty

ALWAYS TURN POWER OFF WHEN CHANGING OR REPLACING TUBES

SAFETY INFORMATION

- Do not expose this amplifier to moisture or water (i.e. avoid dropping into swimming pools, most lakes, water ways or use during times of excessive storm surge)** or extreme heat.
- Turnoff and unplug before any tube change.
- Only use the proper, AGC fuse. **Remember ONLY!!!!**
- Keep the back of the amplifier away from curtains or other flammable materials.
- Remove speaker and power cables before moving to avoid damage.
- Only clean with a soft towel and mild cleaner. **Remember ONLY!!!!**
- Unlike Trix, these amplifiers are NOT for kids, so keep it away from them.
- Unplug during lightning storms, hurricanes, tsunamis or the like.

** ... unless it's a competitors amplifier, of course.

This amplifier produces **EXTREME SOUND
VOLUMES** and can cause **PERMANET
HEARING DAMAGE**, handle with care.
THIS MEANS YOU!

**Common sense is a
valuable tool, so use it.**

Always have this Amplifier serviced by a

**QUALIFIED SERVICE
PROFESSIONAL
ONLY!**

... Again please remember **ONLY!!!!**

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Thank you for your purchase, and welcome to the Ladner Engineering family. We wish you many years of great tonal bliss with your hand-built Tomtone Deluxe.

Andrew and D.C Ladner