

Universal Active/Passive Bass Preamp System

The UNI-PRE is a new generation bass preamp system from East UK. It's a brand new modular design that sets new standards with unique features. Designed to fit virtually any bass with rear cavity electronics, the UNI-PRE is available in 3, 4 or 5 knob configurations as either 2 or 3 band EQ. Although it is designed as a complete system, the Volume/ Blend and EQ modules are also available individually for stand-alone use.

Its main components are the Volume/Blend and EQ modules. The Volume/Blend module has totally independent dual active and passive signal paths. In other words two volumes and two blends are controlled simultaneously with a conventional knob set, using custom pots. The EQ module allows internal voicing adjustment for the treble as well as the lower and upper bass frequencies for the bass control. This is to allow finely tuned focus on the most crucial parts of the bass spectrum.

Modular construction makes for easy installation, with simple plug connections between modules. External wiring, such as pickups and power, are simply connected using screw terminals.



Summary of features:

- Totally independent active and passive signal paths guarantee completely smooth blend when set to active.
- Custom designed pots allow optimal placement of all controls within active and passive signal paths.
- Class A FET input stages for great sound quality, with two gain trim preset adjusters, one for each pickup.
- Operational response of Bass Control can be set internally at both the lower and upper end of the bass spectrum.
- Treble Control with internally adjustable frequency voicing, plus Bright as a pull switch.
- Mid Control with Frequency Sweep.
- Overall response can be set as flat or with pre-shaper contour which adds some warmth and sheen.
- Modular concept allows for easy installation and replacement of parts, all with pluggable inter-connections.
- Screw terminals are used for all external connections such as pickups, power and grounding for easy installation.



UNI-PRE

Technical Details





UNI-PRE

Unique Dual Active & Passive Paths Scheme

VOLUME / BLEND FEATURES

The UNI-PRE has a unique dual path Volume/Blend system where the active and passive paths are completely independent in order to optimise the control of each mode.

Many systems have a passive volume and blend which feeds an active circuit. Although this can often be satisfactory, it does rely on the pickups and pots being a good match, but not always the case. Even so, many players are keen to retain passive for the unique differences in terms of sound compared to an active signal.

But in some cases, a blend pot may perform more like a three way switch. One method to make sure the blend is always smooth is to make it active, as it is with a number of units we already produce, such as our J-Retro and others. Systems which rely only on an active blend, either do not have a passive mode or have no way to blend the pickups in the passive mode.

So our solution in the UNI-PRE is to include separate active and passive paths, but controlled from the same knobs. Since our system needs to work with many different pickups, we have included a complete passive volume and blend with a totally separate active blend and volume too, but without increasing the number of knobs.

This approach guarantees a totally smooth blend in active. Since the pickups, each with its own input buffer/amplifier, are isolated from each other, it will work with non-matched pickups too. This active path, with the addition of Gain Trim Adjusters - one per pickup, allows pickups of different types with differing outputs, to be level matched.

This dual active/passive signal path is achieved with the use of our specially designed custom pots.



Controls & Functions



NOTE: With regard to knob rotation:

CW = Turning a knob up towards maximum or clockwise

ACW = Backing a knob off, turning it anti-clockwise or counter-clockwise

• VOLUME & BLEND STACK KNOB

VOLUME

Sets the output level for both active and passive paths.

BLEND

Sets both the active and passive blend mix for the pickups: ACW for bridge pickup alone and CW for the neck pickup alone. A click midway gives and equal mix of both pickups if they are balanced. Internal Gain Trims, 0-12dBs, allow the pickup levels to be adjusted and/or matched.

BASS & TREBLE STACK KNOB

• BASS

Bass Boost/Cut or Boost only - set according to Jumper Link on circuit board. Controls the level of low end content according to the 'Bass Window' settings on the on the circuit board, described later. A centre click is included.

• TREBLE (Pull for BRIGHT)

Boost/Cut knob, controls the higher frequency spectrum according to the setting of the internal Treble Shelf Frequency adjustment. Pull for Bright, adds 'high end sizzle' sheen. A neutral setting is provided with a centre click.

MID & FREQUENCY STACK KNOB

• MID

Controls the level of Mid Boost/Cut at frequencies according to the setting of the Mid Frequency knob. A neutral setting is provided with a centre click on the upper Boost/Cut knob.



3 Knob Installation, Connections & Settings

<u>ACTIVE/PASSIVE TOGGLE_SWITCH</u>

Sets the output feed to the jack as Passive or Active. If for any reason there is no power for the Active function, the Passive signal will always be available.

• <u>POWER</u>

The power is switched on automatically when a **MONO JACK** is plugged into the Output Jack Socket.



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• INSTALLATION



- * All pots shafts need to be substantially electrically grounded.
- * This is best achieved using adhesive backed copper foil on the internal face the pots are mounted to.
- * Conductive paint is fine for screening purposes, but DO NOT RELY ON IT to ground the UNI-PRE pots.
- * Afix an appropriate piece of adhesive copper foil all over the area the pots will be mounted against.
- * Solder the GREEN wire from the Jack Ground tag to the copper foil as a 'star' screening point.
- * Solder any other ground wires, such as the bridge, pickup cavity screens, close to the star point.



UNI-PRE EQ

This Section Applies the 3, 4 & 5 Knob Types

INSTALLATION

GENERAL

The UNI-PRE is normally shipped with all modules and wiring connected apart from the Mid Control. Once the Mid Control is plugged in, and a signal source is present at the inputs, a battery has been connected and the jack is feeding a rig, there should be sound.

RECOMMENDATION

Our recommendation is that the preamp is given a brief check straight out of the box. In other words, prior to installation, where modules may need to be disconnected and reconnected or a different jack wired in, connect a pickup to the inputs via the screw terminals, snap on a battery, and connect a jack lead to a rig to check for sound. Confirming the system is functional gives confidence and if there are any issues during installation, since the preamp worked out of the





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Warranty

box, it will be easier to diagnose any possible ensuing issues.

GUARANTEE

- Your East product is guaranteed to be free from defects in materials and workmanship for a period of one year from the date of original purchase.
- If during the guarantee period your product becomes faulty due to defective materials or workmanship, then the unit will be repaired or replaced without charge for parts or labour at the discretion of EastUK, according to the conditions below.

CONDITIONS

- The original sales invoice or receipt indicating the date of purchase and sales outlet is presented together with the faulty unit.
- The unit was installed competently consistent with the instructions supplied.

WHAT IS NOT COVERED

- Damage due to accident or improper handling, installation or operation.
- Defects caused by the instrument or system to which to which the unit has been installed.
- Damage resulting from repair of the unit carried out by non-authorised service personnel.