



Back to the FUTURE !!

Owner's Manual



# VISION

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## A Word from...

Thank you for choosing the **BH 500 head**.

Music Man Bass Amps add to the look and classic tone of the original models the current advanced technology and innovations of Marco De Virgiliis, that put Markbass at the top of the bass amplification worldwide! The BH500 head respects the seventy design adding the benefit of new modern standard, with a long term reliability thanks to our advanced production procedures, state-of-the-art testing, quality control facilities and top-quality components.

### A Word from Marco De Virgiliis

“When we can find “a well known face” behind a brand, we can also find an unprecedented loyalty and trust from their customers: they know exactly what to expect when they purchase those products. A little while ago, it was night time, excited by the idea to propose again Music Man old amplifiers, I sent an email to Sterling saying: “I have an idea...”.Only five minutes later I received Sterling’s reply saying: “LET’S DO IT!”

After only those two emails the project was alive and kicking! You can read so many things between the lines of those two emails:Respect! Passion! Speed! Determination! Power of Decision! We are taking you: Back to the Future!”

### A Word from Sterling Ball

“I have approached and been approached about re-introducing the Music Man Amps so many times I have lost count. It was just never the right fit and nobody that I talked to could do the amps justice. When my dear friend Marco of Markbass sent me an early morning email asking if I was interested I said “Let’s do it!” I had zero hesitation. I had found my perfect partner to make these great amps come back to the market.”



Marco De Virgiliis



Sterling Ball

# FRONT PANEL

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The **BH 500** amp features a solid state preamp and a 500-watt analog power amp with an impeccable bass frequency reproduction and incredibly warm tone.

Starting from the Treble and Bass EQ basic controls the rich 5 band EQ section allows to tailor the sound of your bass for any kind of music style.

**1) INPUT** Connect your bass to this input using a standard 1/4" shielded instrument cable.

**2) GAIN** This control allows to set the optimal gain level for your instrument signal.

The volume control sets your desired output volume

**3) TREBLE** The Treble knob controls the amount of high frequencies in your sound.

**4) BASS** This knob controls the amount of low frequencies in your sound.

**5) EQ FSW** connecting to this input the SINGLE footswitch you can turn ON/FF the rich 5 band EQ section, allowing instant access to two different EQ settings (adding to the Treble and Bass EQ basic controls the 5 band EQ section). A very useful feature for live applications.

Thanks to the complete and effective 5 band EQ section you can have a wide range of tones and tailor the sound of your bass for any kind of music style.

**6) 67Hz** This knob allows you to cut/boost ( $\pm 16$  dB) the 67Hz frequency.

**7) 184Hz** This knob allows you to cut/boost ( $\pm 16$  dB) the 184Hz frequency.

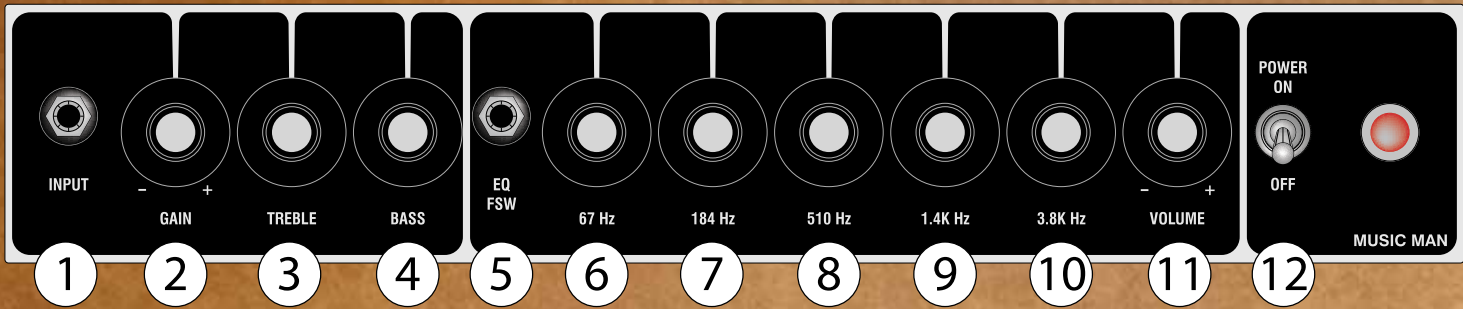
**8) 510Hz** This knob allows you to cut/boost ( $\pm 16$  dB) the 510Hz frequency.

**9) 1.4KHz** This knob allows you to cut/boost ( $\pm 16$  dB) the 1.4KHz frequency.

**10) 3.8KHz** This knob allows you to cut/boost ( $\pm 16$  dB) the 3.8KHz frequency.

**11) VOLUME** This control is the master feed from the end of the preamp channel to the power stage section.

**12) POWER** This switch delivers AC power to the amp. Make sure the unit is grounded; all three terminals of the AC power plug must be connected to avoid any injury to the user or damage to the unit.



# REAR PANEL

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**13) AC POWER SOCKET** Make sure the unit is grounded; all three terminals of the AC power cord must be connected to avoid any injury to the user or damage to the unit.

**WARNING:** *The BH 500 is manufactured to be used in the country where they have been sold, and it is factory preset to that country's voltage. So make sure you're sending the correct voltage to your amp before you connect it to the AC power.*

**14) SPEAKERS OUTS** The BH 500 can be connected to one or two speaker cabinets, the high-quality SPEAKON COMBO output accepts either a SPEAKON or ¼" Jack speaker cable and the JACK output accepts only ¼" Jack speaker cable.

Do not use instrument cable. The amp delivers 300W of power into an 8 ohm cabinet, or 500W into a 4 ohm cabinet (or two 8 ohm cabinets), speaker outputs are in parallel and minimum impedance load for the amp is 4 ohm.

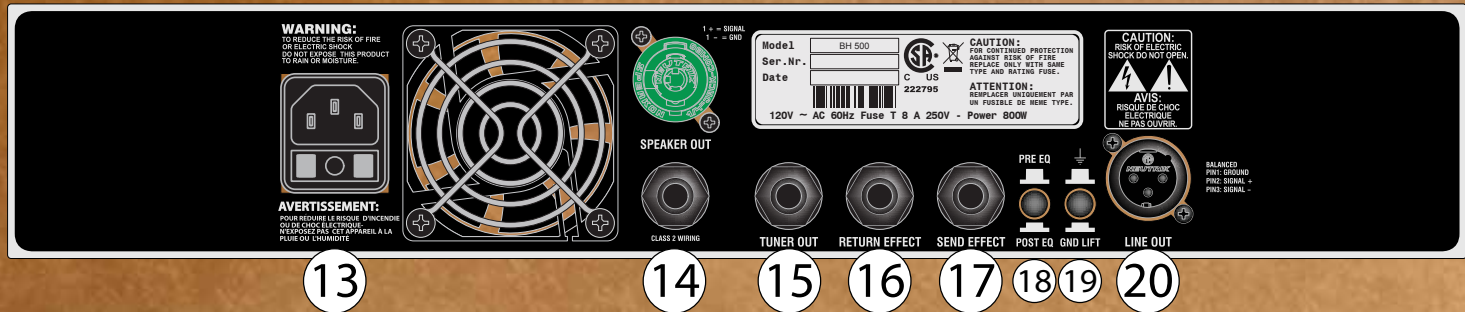
**15) TUNER OUT** is an unbalanced signal that can be sent to a tuner, allowing you to tune as you play without passing your signal through pedals, which can degrade the quality of your signal. You can also use this output to send your signal to another amp, or any kind of recording unit that doesn't require a balanced signal.

**16-17) SEND/RETURN** If you use effect pedals or rack gear, you can route them through the SEND EFFECT (16) and RETURN EFFECT (17). The effects loop is wired in parallel.

**18) PRE/POST SWITCH** determines whether the signal that leaves the LINE OUT XLR (20) is affected by your amplifier's EQ settings or not. In most cases, you will find that sound engineers prefer to receive a pre-EQ signal. Note that the line out signal includes whatever effects you've connected through the effects loop.

**19) GROUND LIFT SWITCH** Occasionally when you're playing live and using the LINE OUT XLR (20), the soundman will detect a hum from your amp's signal. This is almost always due to a grounding problem related to your power source; you will likely eliminate this hum simply by flipping the GROUND LIFT switch.

**20) LINE OUT** The balanced XLR output allows you to connect your amplifier directly to a mixing console (either in live situations or in a recording studio) without the need of a DI box. Simply connect a standard XLR cable from this output to the soundboard/mixing console, or a snake connected to the board/console.



# TECHNICAL SPECS

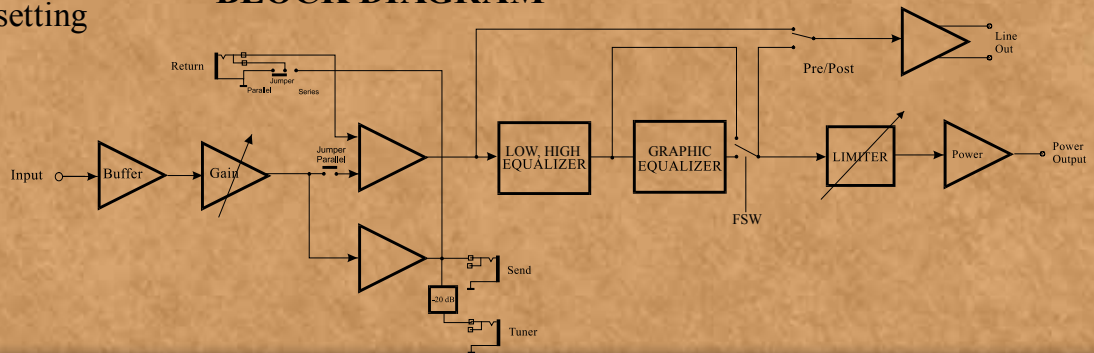
<b>Controls:</b>	GAIN (range: -46 ÷ 23dB) LINE OUT (GND Lift - Level - Pre/Post)
<b>EQ Controls:</b>	LOW (level ±16 dB - freq 60 Hz) HIGH (level ±16 dB - freq 5 kHz) 5 band graphic equalizer disabled by footswitch (freq 67, 184, 520, 1400, 3800 Hz - level ±16 dB)
<b>OUTPUT</b>	LINE OUT: Balanced, Maximum Voltage 6 Vpp SEND: unbalanced, Max Voltage 20Vpp (Pre Eq) TUNER OUT: unbalanced, Max Voltage 2Vpp POWER: 300W RMS @ 8 ohm, 500W RMS @ 4 ohm

**POWER REQUIREMENT:** 100V; 120V; 230V; 240V - 50/60Hz (tension set inside the equipment)

**FUSES:** T 10A 250V for 100V setting;  
T 8A 250V for 120V setting;  
T 4A 250V for 230V/240V setting

**Dimensions:** 456,4 x 303,4 x 304 mm  
17.97" x 11.94" x 11.97"  
**Weight:** 8,2 kg  
18.08 lbs

## BLOCK DIAGRAM



Product specifications are subject to change without notice



<http://www.music-man.com/amps.html>



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