

Lightning Boy Audio

1401 Gravitone 30 Rev. A

Users Guide 2014

Congratulations on an excellent purchase! This guide was put together to help you get the most out of your investment.

The 1401 Gravitone 30 was designed to serve as the driver amplifier for the LBA 1401 Analog Plate Reverb. Though it's features are specifically designed with the 1401 Plate Reverb in mind, the Gravitone 30 also works exceptionally well as an electric guitar amplifier.

Getting Started:

Carefully unpack the Gravitone 30. Be aware that there is glass in the package, so proceed with caution. You will find a metal tube shield, a box containing the vacuum tubes, and a box containing a 3u vented rack panel. Carefully remove the vacuum tubes from their boxes. Align the pins of the vacuum tubes with their respective sockets on the top of the Gravitone 30 and insert it into their sockets. Next, the tube shield will need to be attached. Slide it over the preamp tube and rotate into its locked position. There are little nubs on the tube socket to lock the shield in place. You can then plug in the power cable and rack mount the Gravitone 30.

Powering Up:

The power switch is located on the front panel. Once engaged, it will take about 30 seconds for the tubes to warm up sufficiently to take the amp off standby. 15 seconds is the minimum wait to prevent damage to the power tube, but longer is recommended. Flip the standby switch to the upward position to engage the amp.

Controls:

The Front panel offers controls for Gain (tube saturation), Bass, Mid, Mid frequency selector, Treble, volume, standby, on/off. The top panel has a control for the bias adjustment. The amp will arrive to you biased for the tubes it arrives with. The rear panel offers a ground lift switch for the balanced line input.

Connections:

The rear panel offers a pair of 4 ohm speaker outputs via Neutrik ¼" locking jacks. Use one jack to connect a single 4 ohm speaker cabinet or use both jacks to connect a pair of 8 ohm speaker cabinets. Below these jacks are the ¼" instrument input jack and the balanced XLR line input. The line input is always active unless an instrument is plugged

into the ¼" instrument input jack. Also on the rear panel are Bias test points and the IEC power inlet.

Features:

Noted here are the less conventional features. The Line input is intended for use as the input when using the Gravitone 30 as the Plate Driver for the 1401 Analog Plate Reverb. However, it also works perfectly as a built in re-amping box when using the Gravitone 30 as a guitar amp in the recording studio. A ground lift switch is provided next to the line input jack. The ground lift switch only affects the line input and not the instrument input. By inserting a ¼" cable into the instrument input jack, the line input is automatically bypassed.

The Bias control is set for the tubes that shipped with your amp. If in the future you wish to change tubes, a bias adjustment pot and bias test points have been provided. The amp should be re-biased by a qualified amp tech.

Technical Information:

- Inputs:
 - ¼" unbalanced instrument input
 - XLR transformer balanced +4dBu line input
- Output Impedance: 4 ohms
- Vacuum tube compliment:
 - Plate Driver – 6V6, 12BH7, 5AR4
 - Guitar Amp – KT88, 12AX7, 5U4
- 2A slow blow fuse

Warnings:

DO NOT TAKE THE COVER OFF WITH THE UNIT POWERED UP. RISK OF SEVERE AND PERMANENT DEATH. Servicing should only be conducted by a qualified repair tech.

Servicing/Questions:

If you have any questions or comments or if your unit needs servicing, please email sales@lightningboyaudio.com