

# PITTBULL

## FIFTY/CL



VACUUM TUBE GUITAR AMPLIFIER  
MODEL G-50-CL  
OWNERS MANUAL



## WELCOME TO THE FAMILY

Congratulations and thank you for choosing the PITTBULL FIFTY/CL Guitar Amplifier!

At Fryette Amplification, we know you are constantly searching for new sounds and new ways to improve your existing sound. We understand the constantly evolving nature of artistic creativity and the search for the perfect sound to complement your ever-widening musical vision. Providing the tools to help you to create your own sonic signature is our primary mission.

The Pittbull Fifty/CL is designed for straight ahead players who prefer to rely on the guitar volume for the clean sound. Two channels of unapologetic attitude with a 50-watt power plant, deliver thick touch sensitive response with a decidedly British persuasion. This is a no-nonsense amplifier with a deceptively simple feature set in which either channel can serve as a Clean, Crunch or Burn channel. The CL's Red & Green channels are similarly configured but voiced slightly differently for a wide palate of pristine clean, slightly dirty clean, spanking crunch and aggressive but harmonically rich overdrive. Combined with an extremely expressive graphic EQ, this allows for quick and intuitive sound sculpting.

Getting familiar with the Fifty/CL amplifier is easy, so don't be terribly surprised when you find yourself up and running in no time. First hand experience and real world application will yield the ultimate satisfaction of finding your own path of comprehension and self-expression.

# FRONT PANEL FUNCTIONS



## FRONT PANEL, LEFT TO RIGHT

1. INPUT HI - High sensitivity input (also has a brighter tone).
2. INPUT LOW - Low sensitivity input (also has a slightly darker tone).
3. CHANNEL SELECT – Front panel channel switching function. Button must be OUT for footswitch to operate.

## RED CHANNEL CONTROLS

4. GAIN - Amount of overdrive on RED Channel.
5. HI GAIN – Gain Stacking Switch. Activates additional tube overdrive gain stage. Normal = 3 stages, Hi = 4 stages.
6. VOLUME – Channel Master. Sets the amount of volume on RED Channel. Pre FX loop.
7. BOOST - Switches from low gain (clean to slightly dirty) to medium gain (crunch to medium overdrive)
8. TREBLE – Passive High frequency equalization.
9. EDGE – Frequency-dependent gain boost. Enhances upper string harmonics and sustain.
10. MIDDLE – Passive Mid frequency equalization.
11. SHIFT - Shifts Treble, Middle and Bass shelving down (Mid Boost)
12. BASS – Passive low frequency equalization.

## GREEN CHANNEL CONTROLS

13. GAIN - Amount of overdrive on GREEN Channel.
14. HI GAIN – Gain Stacking Switch. Activates additional tube overdrive gain stage. Normal = 3 stages, Hi = 4 stages.
15. VOLUME – Channel Master. Sets the amount of volume on GREEN Channel. Pre FX loop.
16. BOOST - Switches from low gain (clean to slightly dirty) to medium gain (crunch to medium overdrive)
17. TREBLE – Passive High frequency equalization.
18. EDGE – Frequency-dependent gain boost. Enhances upper string harmonics and sustain.
19. MIDDLE – Passive Mid frequency equalization.
20. SHIFT - Shifts Treble, Middle and Bass shelving down (Mid Boost)
21. BASS – Passive low frequency equalization.

## GLOBAL CONTROLS

22. GRAPHIC EQ – 100Hz, 250 Hz, 630 Hz, 1.2KHz, 2.3KHz, 5KHz – 12 dB cut or boost per band. Activated by rear panel pushbutton or footswitch.
23. MASTER VOLUME – Global power amp volume control, post FX loop. Controls volume of all 3 channels.
24. STANDBY - Turns on high voltage to output section.
25. MAINS – Switches main AC power on or off.

# REAR PANEL FUNCTIONS



## REAR PANEL, LEFT TO RIGHT

1. GROUND SWITCH – Select position which yields quietest operation. With a properly wired AC outlet and factory supplied AC cord, this switch will not produce a noticeable difference.
2. AC MAINS INPUT – Connect to a grounded outlet in accordance with the voltage and frequency specified on the rear panel of your amplifier.



***Use only the factory supplied cord set or a UL approved equivalent type.***

3. MAINS FUSE – Protects the amplifier from electrical faults. Replace only with type and rating specified on the rear panel of your amplifier.
4. DC FUSE – Protects the power supply and output transformer from electrical faults. Replace only with type and rating specified on the rear panel of your amplifier.



***Warning! Replace only with same fuse type and rating.***

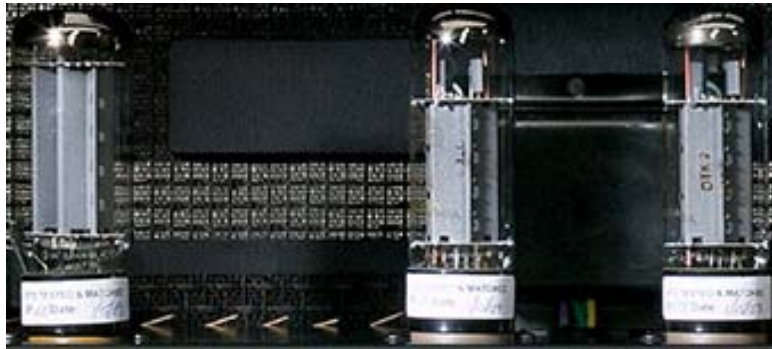
5. POWER AMP MODE: Class AB/Class A – Class AB operates power tubes in fixed bias mode for full power for crisp highs and deep low end. Class A operated power tubes in Cathode Bias mode for full slightly reduced output (30 Watts in Class A/NORMAL Mode) and softer highs and lows.
6. POWER AMP MODE: ENHANCE/NORMAL/AUTO – ENHANCE operates power amplifier from a Silicon Rectifier for crisp tone and increased power amp dynamics. NORMAL operates power amplifier from a Tube Rectifier for smoother tone and increased power amp compression and distortion. This is accompanied by a slight reduction in output power to about 40 watts. AUTO ties the MODE SWITCH to the front panel or foot-controlled channel switching function. In this mode NORMAL operates on the RED channel and ENHANCE operates on the GREEN channel.
7. IMPEDANCE SELECT - 4, 8 or 16 ohms. Example: Two 8 Ohm cabs = 4 Ohms, two 16 Ohm cabs = 8 Ohms.
8. SPEAKER OUTPUT – Parallel wired jacks. Impedance switch setting should equal total of all cabinet impedances plugged into both jacks. “Use First” jack must be plugged in for output to operate.
9. LINE LEVEL - Power amp line level control.
10. LINE OUT - Power amp line out jack.
11. FOOTSWITCH – Connector for footswitch controller.
12. EQ IN/OUT SWITCH – Manual Bypass switch for Graphic EQ. Must be in OUT position for footswitch function to operate.
13. EFFECTS - Activates F/X Loop. Also activated by footswitch jack.
14. EFFECTS RETURN - Overall level adjusted by Hi/Low switch, then feeds to EFFECTS LEVEL. Also serves as power amp input.
15. SERIES/PARALLELSWITCH – Sets loop for Series or Parallel operation. See FAQs at [www.vhtamp.com](http://www.vhtamp.com) for a complete explanation about Series and Parallel loop operation.
16. EFFECTS LEVELSWITCH - Sets overall send and return level (LOW = -10dB, HI = 0dB).
17. EFFECTS SEND - Send level set by preamp volumes. Also serves as preamp output for recording and slaving.

18. EFFECTS LEVEL/MIX - Sets return level for effects loop in Series Mode. Determines effects blend in Parallel Mode.
19. PRESENCE - Active, all three channels
20. DEPTH - Variable damping.

**NOTE:** When switching to half power mode (standby switch in Position I) impedance selector value can be divided by two to compensate for the impedance mismatch caused by Half Power Mode.

**EXAMPLE:** Impedance setting “8” for 16 ohm speaker, Impedance setting “4” for 8 ohm speaker, etc. While not necessary, it may help extend tube life and maintain low-end punch. Experiment with it both ways.

## TUBE FUNCTION AND LOCATION CHART



Preamp tube locations are indicated by tube type on the rear panel of the chassis. Tube types are factory selected for superior performance, consistent tone quality and reliability. While substituting other brands may not cause damage to the amplifier this may affect amplifier performance in unpredictable ways. For best performance, replace only with factory recommended tubes. **Warning! Substituting other tube types is not recommended.**

Each 12AX7 has two sections/functions. Section A is shown first, Section B is second. Factory recommended tubes are listed under each location. Numbering sequence is right to left looking at back of amp starting with the row closest to front panel of amp.

V1 (shielded tube)	Input Gain Stage 1 and signal splitter for both channels
12AX7WB Sovtek	Gain Stage 2 for Green channel
12AX7 China Selected	Use in place of WB if more gain is required.
V2	Gain Stage 2 for Red channel
12AX7 China	Gain Stage 4 for Red and Green channels. Active when Gain Switch is set to HI.
V3	Gain Stage 3 for Red and Green channels
12AX7 China	Tone Control Driver for Red and Green channels.
V4	Phase Inverter
12AX7 China	
V5-6	Power Tubes
EL34 Mullard (Russia)	
EL34B-STR	
EL34 Svetlana (Russia)	
EL34EH (Russia)	
V7	Rectifier Tube
5U4GB Russia	

## TROUBLESHOOTING GUIDE

### **WON'T TURN ON**

1. Make sure AC cord is securely connected at both ends.
2. Verify the power source with something you know works.
3. Check the mains fuse, and replace if necessary (if it blows again, refer to qualified service personnel).

### **NO SOUND**

1. Check input cables.
2. Check volume controls.
3. Make sure the selected channel volume and/or gain controls are turned up.
4. Check to see if the effects loop is engaged and the level turned down.
5. Check speaker cable to see if it is disconnected or shorted.
6. Make sure that the impedance selector is fully engaged in its detent.
7. Check the standby switch.
8. Check the DC fuse. If blown, replace with a F1/2A 250V fuse (if it blows again, refer to qualified service personnel).
9. Check for blown speakers.

### **WONT SWITCH CHANNELS**

1. Make sure footswitch is securely connected.
2. Make sure front panel channels switches are in the OUT position when using footswitch.

### **BOOST FOOTSWITCH FUNCTION NOT OPERATING**

1. Make sure footswitch is securely connected.
2. Front panel BOOST switch must be ON for BOOST footswitch to operate.

### **EFFECTS FOOTSWITCH FUNCTION NOT OPERATING**

1. Make sure footswitch is securely connected.
2. Rear panel FX IN/OUT switch must be in the OUT position for EFFECTS footswitch to operate.

### **RUNNING HOT**

1. Make sure that the unit has adequate ventilation.
2. Make sure that the impedance selector is set to the proper impedance.
3. Power tubes may be under-biased (refer to qualified service personnel).

### **DISTORTION/LOSS OF POWER**

1. Check the speakers.
2. Check the speaker cable for shorts.
3. Check the impedance setting.
4. Bypass effects connected to the loop.
5. Power tubes may be over-biased (refer to qualified service personnel).

### **NO HEADROOM ON CLEAN SOUNDS**

1. Global Master Volume set too low.
2. Check power tubes (SEE ABOVE).

### **BLOWING MAINS FUSE**

1. Bad power tube or other internal power supply component (refer to qualified service personnel).

### **BLOWING DC FUSE**

1. Check speakers and speaker cable.
2. Bad power tube or other internal component (refer to qualified service personnel).

## SPECIFICATIONS

MODEL: PITTBULL FIFTY/CL  
MODEL NUMBER: G50CL  
POWER REQUIREMENT: 200W  
POWER AMP OUTPUT:  
High Power: 100W RMS @ 5% THD, 1kHz sine into 8Ω  
Low Power 50W RMS @ 5% THD, 1kHz sine into 8Ω  
INPUT IMPEDANCE: 1MΩ  
OUTPUT IMPEDANCE: 4Ω / 8Ω / 16  
FUSES:  
**100V UNITS: MAINS** T3.5A, 250V DC F1/2A, 250V

**120V UNITS:** T3A, 250V, DC F1/2A, 250V  
**220V-240V UNITS:** T1.6A, 250V, DC F1/2A, 250V  
FOOTSWITCH (Included): 4-button, (FC-5)  
CHANNEL / BOOST/ EFFECTS/EQ  
DIMENSIONS:  
**HEIGHT:** 10.500 in (26.7 cm)  
**WIDTH:** 29.250 in (74.3 cm)  
**DEPTH:** 9.500 in (24.1 cm)  
**WEIGHT:** 37 lb (17 kg)



*Product specifications are subject to change without notice.*



## Certificate of Compliance

### Restriction of the use of Hazardous Substances (RoHS)

We certify that all of our products (exceptions see listed below) are compliant with the European Union Directive 2002/95/EC for the Restriction of the use of certain Hazardous Substances in Electrical and Electronic Equipment (RoHS).

No Lead (Pb), Cadmium (Cd), Mercury (Hg), Hexavalent Chromium (Cr+6), PBB or PBDE is intentionally added to these devices. Any trace impurities of these substances contained in the parts are below the RoHS specified threshold levels.

All information provided in this Certificate of Compliance is accurate to the best of our knowledge as of the date this Certification was issued.

## Certificate of Compliance

### Registration, Evaluation, Authorization and Restriction of chemicals (REACH)

We declare that all of our products are compliant with European Union Directive EC1907/206 for the Registration, Evaluation, Authorization and Restriction of chemicals (REACH), and contain none or less than 0.1% of the chemicals listed as hazardous chemicals in the REACH regulation. All information provided in this Certificate of Compliance is accurate to the best of our knowledge as of the date this Certification was issued.

## Declaration of Conformity

### EMC and Low Voltage Directive (CE)

Product Name: Pittbull Fifty/CL Amplifier  
Model Number: G-50-CL

This is to certify that the product listed above complies with the following European Union Council Directives and Standards relating to electromagnetic compatibility (EMC Directive 89/336/EEC) and the low voltage Directive (73/23/EEC).

This declaration of conformity of the European Communities is the result of an examination carried out by Electromagnetic Engineering Services, Inc. in accordance with European Standards EN 50081-1, EN 50082-1 and EN 60065 for low voltage, as laid down in Article 10 of the EMC Directive.

Steven Fryette Design, Inc  
6850 Vineland Ave., Unit P  
North Hollywood, CA 91605 USA



## LIMITED WARRANTY

Subject to the obligations and exclusions found below, this product is warranted by Steven Fryette Design, Inc., (herein SFD) against manufacturing defects in materials and workmanship for the period of Five (5) Years from the date of purchase, with the exception of the tubes, fuses and speakers where applicable, which carry a 90 day warranty.

The warranty period commences on the date of purchase by the original user. Performance under this warranty must be obtained at one of the following: an SFD Authorized Service Station, by returning the unit to the SFD factory with prior written authorization, or (in countries outside of the United States) by a representative SFD distributor.

### **Obligations**

1. This warranty will be honored only on the presentation of the original proof of purchase.
2. Transportation of the product to and from an authorized SFD service outlet is the responsibility of the user. Units sent directly to the SFD factory for warranty repairs must be authorized by SFD and shipped prepaid.

### **Exclusions**

1. This warranty shall not cover adjustment of consumer-operated controls as explained in the appropriate instruction manual, or products that have been altered or have missing, or defaced serial numbers.
2. This warranty shall not apply to the appearance of accessory items including but not limited to, cabinets, cabinet parts, or knobs.
3. This warranty does not apply to uncrating, setup, installation, or the removal and reinstallation of products for repair.
4. This warranty shall not apply to repair or replacements necessitated by any cause beyond the control of SFD including, but not limited to, any malfunction, defects, or failure caused by or resulting from unauthorized service or parts, damaged or broken tubes, incorrect line voltage, improper maintenance, modification or repair by the user, abuse misuse, neglect, accident, fire, flood, or other Acts of God.
5. Responsibility for the repair of any SFD product sold outside of U.S. boundaries is borne by the SFD representative in that particular country or territory. Also, the warranty term and conditions may be different from those stated above. Please contact the SFD distributor or dealer in your country for more information.

The foregoing is in lieu of all other expressed warranties, and SFD does not authorize any party to assume for it any other obligation or liability. In no event shall SFD be liable for special or consequential damages arising from the use of this product, or for any delay in the performance of this warranty due to causes beyond our control. Some states do not allow limitations on how long an implied warranty lasts and/or do not allow the exclusion or limitation of consequential damages, so the above limitations on implied warranty and consequential damages may not apply to you. This warranty gives you specific legal rights. You may have other rights that vary from state to state.

### **WARRANTY REGISTRATION**

U.S. and Canadian residents may register their Fryette product(s) online at [www.fryette.com/support\\_form.aspx](http://www.fryette.com/support_form.aspx) by selecting and completing the Warranty Registration form. All other international residents please contact the authorized distributor your Fryette product was purchased from. For a list of international distributors please visit [www.fryete.com/dealers.html](http://www.fryete.com/dealers.html)

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