

***Rogue Audio  
Tempest  
Vacuum Tube  
Integrated Amplifier  
  
Owners Manual***

***Vacuum Tube Amplifiers***



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## INTRODUCTION

Congratulations on your purchase decision! We at Rogue Audio truly believe that our amplifiers provide the “smartest” value in high-end audio. If you have never owned a vacuum tube amplifier you will be thrilled by the silky-smooth sound and incredible detail that only a tube amplifier can provide. And with your Rogue Audio amplifier, you can be sure that you are getting the very best in tube amplification. We at Rogue Audio are extremely proud of our products and want you to enjoy them to their fullest potential. So please, take the time to read through this short manual so that you can be confident that you have set up your amplifier properly.

## SETTING UP YOUR AMPLIFIER

**tools required:** phillips head screwdriver and a clean glove or cloth.

**WARNING - This amplifier uses voltages that could cause injury or death. Never open the amplifier while it is plugged in, and always wait at least one hour after turning the unit off to unplug and open the unit. *Lethal* voltages can remain in the electronics after the unit is unplugged.**

- 1) *Opening the box* - Carefully remove the amplifier from the box. It is important that you retain the packing material and box in the event that the amplifier ever needs servicing. The packing material and box have been carefully designed to protect your valuable equipment during shipping so you don't want to throw them away!

- 2) *Remove Shipping Pallet* - The amplifier is attached to a pallet that supports the main chassis during shipping. This is critical to ensure that no damage occurs in transit. After removing the amplifier from the box and packing material, CAREFULLY turn the unit upon its side. Remove the 4 thumbscrews and washers. Retain these screws and pallet in the event that the unit ever needs servicing.

**WARNING : Shipping this unit without correctly attaching the shipping pallet can result in serious structural damage to the unit.**

- 3) *Remove the Top Cover* - Using a phillips head screwdriver, remove the top cover of the amplifier chassis.

**WARNING - If the unit has been powered up, you *must* turn off the power at the switch and wait at least one hour before disconnecting the electrical cord. After doing so, the unit may be unplugged and the top cover removed. This time is required for dangerous voltages to dissipate.**

- 4) *Install Power Tubes* - To avoid damage in transit, the power tubes are shipped in a protective container inside the main shipping container. Carefully unpack the tubes, and using a glove or a clean dry cloth, install the tubes as shown in figure 1.

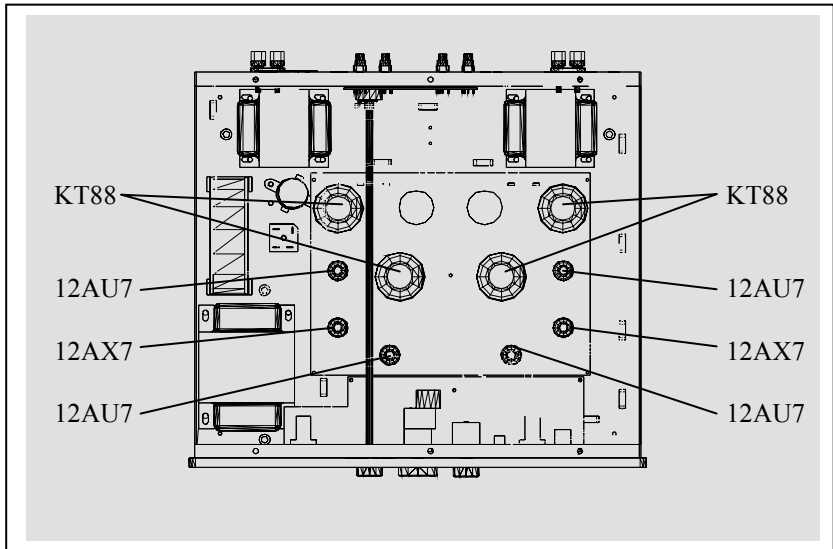


Figure 3

Note that amps may be shipped with a different but equivalent tube

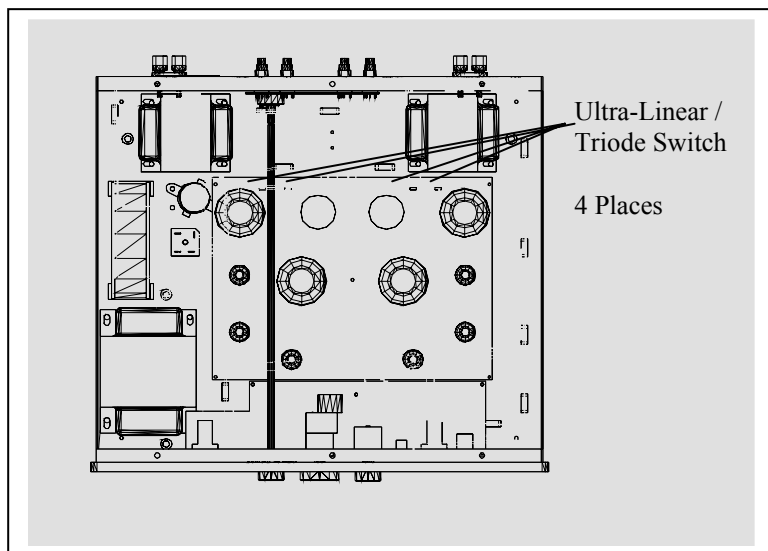
- 5) *Inspect Input and Driver Tubes* - Inspect the remaining tubes to ensure that they are fully seated in their ceramic sockets. If a tube appears to be tilted or otherwise dislocated, using a glove or clean cloth, press down gently on the tube to re-seat it in its socket. See Figure 3 for tube locations.

- 6) *Select Mode* - The Rogue Tempest features a user selectable option of either Triode or Ultra-Linear operating modes. Some listeners prefer pure triode operation, however, it does limit the power output of the amplifier to approximately 40 watts per channel. Ultra-Linear operation offers the amplifier's full rated output power of 60 watts per channel. The user is encouraged to try both modes and determine their own preference.

**WARNING - If the unit has been powered up, you *must* turn off the power at the switch and wait at least one hour before disconnecting the electrical cord. After doing so, the unit may be unplugged and the top cover removed. This time is required for dangerous voltages to dissipate.**

To switch modes, use a nonconductive screwdriver to flip the 4 switches shown in Figure 2 to the chosen settings. The unit is shipped from the factory in Ultra-Linear mode.

**Caution - Always ensure that all 4 switches are set alike, in either UL or Triode Mode**



7) *Matching Speaker Impedance* - The Rogue Tempest provides options for either 4 ohm or 8 ohm speakers. The impedance selected will depend on the speakers used. Consult either the owner's manual for your speaker or your local dealer to determine the correct choice. To switch impedance setting, refer to Figure 3. Note - the amplifier is factory set for 8-ohm speakers.

⇒ Using a 5/16" wrench, remove the outermost nut from the red binding post.

⇒ Remove the wire and lug marked 8 ohm from the binding post. Leave the wire and lug marked feedback in place.

**Warning -Never remove the lugs marked feedback or ground from the binding posts. Doing so could cause permanent damage to the unit**

⇒ Remove the polyurethane tubing from the unused 4-ohm wire and lug.

⇒ Place 4-ohm wire and lug onto red binding post.

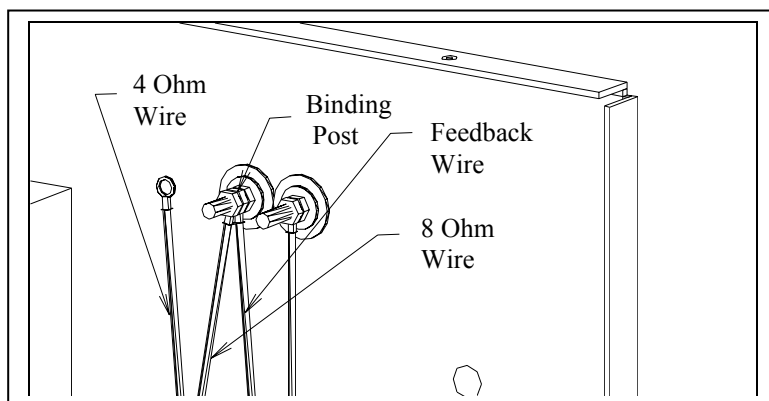


Figure 3

- ⇒ Place polyurethane tubing on the 8-ohm wire and lug.
  - ⇒ Replace nut onto binding post and tighten with wrench.
- 8) *Attach Power Cord* - Connect the IEC end of detachable power cord to the amplifier, and plug opposite end into corresponding outlet.
  - 9) *Connections to other components* - The input connections from the musical source are made via RCA jacks on the rear of the amplifier. Be sure to use high quality interconnect cables - they do make a difference.
  - 10) *Polarity* - The Rogue Tempest amplifier is a non-inverting amplifier (positive signal in gives positive signal out) so, for best sound, care should be taken to ensure correct polarity at the speaker terminals. Connect the positive (+) outputs of the Tempest to the positive (+) terminals of the loudspeakers and the negative (-) outputs to the (-) negative loudspeaker terminals.
  - 11) *Amplifier Location* - The Rogue Tempest amplifier is an enclosed tube design with forced air ventilation and cooling. This cooling has been designed and tested to ensure long term reliability and safety of the unit. The amplifier should be placed in such a way that this airflow is not impeded. See Figure 7.

## **USING AN EXTERNAL PREAMPLIFIER**

The Tempest offers the flexibility of adding an external preamplifier should the user wish to do so. In the external preamp mode the Tempest preamp is completely bypassed and only the power amplifier section is used. To set up the Tempest for use with an external preamp perform the following steps.



- 1) Remove the cover

**WARNING - This amplifier uses voltages that could cause injury or death. Never open the amplifier while it is plugged in, and always wait at least one hour after turning the unit off to unplug and open the unit. *Lethal* voltages can remain in the electronics after the unit is unplugged**

- 2) Locate the four small shunts on the control circuit board as shown in figure 4.
- 3) Using a needle nose pliers carefully remove the four shunts from the locations marked “int pre” and move them to the adjacent locations marked “ext pre.”
- 4) Rotate the selector knob to preamp on the front panel.
- 5) Connect the external preamp to the inputs on the rear panel marked preamp.

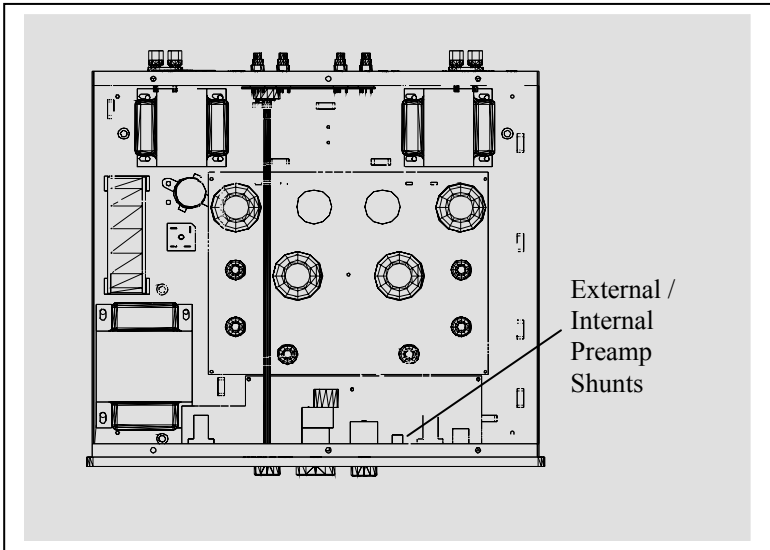


Figure 4

## OPERATING YOUR TEMPEST

- 1) *Delays*- Note that the Tempest is equipped with a slow turn-on feature that protects other equipment from dangerous transients at turn-on as well as significantly prolonging tube life.
- 2) *Powering up the system* - First turn on the amplifier by pushing in the “power” button. The red LED will light showing that the unit is powered up. After approximately 10 seconds the outputs will disconnect from ground. After another 10 seconds, the control section will be unmuted and the Tempest is ready to play music.

**Note : This unit will not play for approximately 20 seconds after power on while tubes warm up.**

3) *Switches and Controls* - The Tempest is equipped with volume, balance, source, power, mute, and an optional remote volume .

- Volume – adjust gain from 0 to 23Volts out
- Balance - left and right channel attenuation
- Source - selects source material (CD, phono, tape, tuner, aux, preamp)
- Power - on/off operation
- Mute - mutes output

*Remote Volume Control* - The Tempest is optionally equipped with an analog remote volume control feature. The volume may be adjusted manually using the knob on the front panel, or by using the remote control provided.

- 4) *Breaking in the amplifier* - As with many high-quality audio amplifiers, the sound of the Rogue Tempest amplifier will improve during the first 50 to 100 hours of use. This time is required for components to “burn in.” No special techniques are required other than standard operation.

**Note: This unit will not sound its best until the tubes have warmed up. This will take approximately 5-10 minutes**

## MAINTENANCE

The Rogue Tempest has been designed to provide many years of enjoyable and reliable service. The greatest care has been taken to select vacuum tubes that provide superior sound and ensure long life. However, at some point in time, the tubes will wear out. The factory-installed tubes should last thousands of hours. Should it become necessary to replace a tube, follow the instructions listed below.

### Replace Tubes by :

- 1) Turn off power at switch.
- 2) Wait one hour for dangerous voltages to dissipate.
- 3) Unplug power cord from wall socket.
- 4) Remove the top cover. See figure 2.
- 5) Using a glove or clean dry cloth, carefully remove the tubes from their sockets - **DO NOT TOUCH ANY OTHER ELECTRICAL COMPONENTS.**
- 6) Obtain and insert a new set of tubes. It is recommended that a new set of tubes be obtained from Rogue. If tubes are obtained from another source, follow the diagram in figure 3 for tube type.
- 7) Insert new tubes in sockets using a glove or cloth. See figure 3 for locations.

No other items in the unit are designed to be user serviceable.

**WARNING - This amplifier uses voltages that could cause injury or death. Never open the amplifier while it is plugged in, and always wait at least one hour after turning the unit off to unplug and open the unit. *Lethal* voltages can remain in the electronics after the unit is unplugged**

## **IF THERE IS A PROBLEM**

### ***IF SOUND IS NOT PRESENT OR IS ONLY IN ONE CHANNEL***

- 1) Ensure that power cord is secure and the power LED is on
- 2) .Check that all input and output signal connections are secure.
- 3) Check that the mute button is not pushed in.
- 4) Check that the balance knob is not turned.
- 5) Ensure that all tubes are properly seated in sockets.

### ***IF THE SOUND IS DISTORTED***

- 1) Ensure tubes are in proper locations. See Figure 3.
- 2) It is possible that a tube has gone bad. Return the unit to the dealer to test the tubes.

### ***IF THERE IS A 50/60 Hz HUM***

- 1) Make sure that the Tempest and source components are plugged into the same outlet or power strip.
- 2) If you are using a power conditioner try the Tempest without the power conditioner.
- 3) Unplug all other equipment from the Tempes and work backwards connecting the preamp, source, etc back in until the source of the hum/ground loop is determined

*If these solutions do not clear up the problem, please call Rogue Audio Technical Support at 570-992-9901.*

## **ADDING A ROGUE EIGHTY-EIGHT POWER AMP**

One of the features of the Tempest is that a Rogue Eighty-Eight power amplifier can be added at a later date to increase the system power. It is important to use a Rogue Eighty-Eight amplifier so that the power levels are equivalent between the two amplifiers for a given input signal. It is also required that the speakers are capable of being biamped (Separate inputs for tweeters and woofers) The procedure for biamping is as follows:

- 1) Remove the shorting connection on the speakers between the tweeter and woofer inputs.
- 2) Attach the Speaker wires from the Tempest to the tweeter connectors on the loudspeakers.
- 3) Attach speaker cables from the Eighty-Eight amp to the woofer connectors on the loudspeakers.
- 4) Connect the active outputs of the Tempest to the inputs of the Eighty-Eight amp.

## **OWNER AND WARRANTY REGISTRATION FORM**

Included with this manual is an Owner and Warranty Registration Form. Please take a minute to fill out this card and return it Rogue Audio.

## SPECIFICATIONS

output power	60 WPC
frequency response	10Hz - 20 kHz
THD	< 0.1% typical < 1% at rated power
input sensitivity	1.0 V RMS
dimensions	18 ¼" W x 15 ¾" D x 7" H
weight	60 Lbs
power requirements	115/230V - 50/60Hz

## LIMITED WARRANTY

### Warranty Period

This product has been manufactured under the highest standards of quality and workmanship. Rogue Audio Inc. (hereinafter "Rogue Audio") warrants this product against defects in material or workmanship as follows:

With the exception of vacuum tubes, Rogue Audio warrants to the consumer all parts of this product against defects in material and workmanship for a period of three years from the date of retail purchase. Rogue Audio warrants the vacuum tubes for a period of six months from the date of retail purchase. Any defective parts will be replaced free of charge, excluding shipping and handling.

Proof of purchase in the form of a bill of sale or recited invoice, which indicates that the product is within the warranty period, must be presented to obtain warranty service. Rogue Audio suggests that the purchaser retain the dealers bill of sale as evidence of the date of retail purchase.

### What's Not Covered

This warranty does not cover cosmetic damage or any damage that results from product misuse, product abuse, installation error, connection to an improper voltage supply, accident, improper maintenance, alterations, modifications not authorized in writing by Rogue Audio, lightening, power surges, or acts of God. Use of any other than Rogue Audio factory parts may void this warranty.

This warranty does not cover the cost of parts and labor, which would be otherwise provided without charge under this warranty, obtained from any source other than Rogue Audio.

This warranty applies only to consumer use of this product and does not cover any product that is used in any trade or business, or in an industrial or commercial application.

This warranty is valid only in the United States.

### YOUR RIGHTS

ROGUE AUDIO LIMITS ITS OBLIGATIONS UNDER ANY IMPLIED WARRANTIES UNDER STATE LAWS TO A PERIOD NOT TO EXCEED THE WARRANTY PERIOD. SOME STATES DO NOT ALLOW LIMITATIONS ON HOW LONG AN IMPLIED WARRANTY LASTS, AND SOME STATES DO NOT ALLOW THE EXCLUSION OR LIMITATION OF INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES, SO THE ABOVE LIMITATIONS OR EXCLUSIONS MAY NOT APPLY TO YOU. THIS WARRANTY GIVES YOU SPECIFIC LEGAL RIGHTS, AND YOU MAY HAVE OTHER RIGHTS, WHICH MAY VARY FROM STATE TO STATE.

### To Obtain Service

To obtain service, you must contact Rogue Audio and obtain a return authorization number. The product must be delivered to Rogue Audio in its original packaging prepaid at the following address:

**Rogue Audio Inc.  
675 Route 209  
Sciota, PA 18354**

**THE ROGUE AUDIO MISSION .....**

At Rogue Audio we design and manufacture vacuum tube amplifiers. There is fierce competition in this market and we will only survive by delivering a superior product and superior service - we have the engineering and managerial talent to do so. Our core competencies are electrical, mechanical and production engineering, along with an overarching passion for excellence. These skills will be used to create products that offer outstanding value in the high-end marketplace.

Rogue Audio amplifiers will always be engineered to provide the four key elements of audio value:

- *superior sonics*
- *high quality and reliability*
- *an outstanding appearance*
- *an affordable price*

Our philosophy is simple - We will never design any amplifier that we would not purchase for ourselves.

**Rogue Audio Inc.  
2827 Avery Road  
Slatington, PA 18080**



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