

Gold Brick

Speaker Emulating Direct Box

User's Manual

The Aiken Gold Brick is a speaker-emulating direct box designed to accurately reproduce the tone of a guitar amplifier and cabinet, without the need for a microphone. Connected between the output of the amplifier and the speakers, the Gold Brick faithfully captures the tone, and most importantly, the feel of the amplifier and speakers.

Our proprietary, purely analog, multistage "Active Reactive" filtering circuit closely mimics the frequency response of a 4X12 speaker cabinet, while simultaneously taking on the characteristics of the actual speaker connected, tailoring the tonal characteristics to the speaker in use.

Features:

- Active Reactive Speaker Emulation
- Ground Lift Switch
- 1/4" Speaker In/Out
- 8mA idle current draw
- On/Off Switch
- Balanced XLR Line Out
- 9V battery or External DC Supply
- LED battery indication



Warning!!! The Gold Brick does not provide a load for the amp to safely operate. The amplifier must be connected to a speaker or load box when using this product.

Getting started with the Gold Brick

Connections:

From Amp: Connect to the amplifier speaker output using a standard 1/4" speaker cable.

To Speaker: Connect to the speaker cabinet or load box using a standard 1/4" speaker cable (see Diagram 1).

- or -

Leave unconnected when using an amp with multiple speaker outputs (see Diagram 2). This configuration is recommended for higher power amplifiers.

Warning!!! The amplifier must be connected to a speaker or load box using the other speaker output.

Balanced Line Out: Connect to a PA, mixing console, or recording interface using a standard XLR microphone cable. If the mixer input cannot accept a line-level signal, an attenuator, such as the Hosa ATT-448, should be used to bring the signal down to mic level.

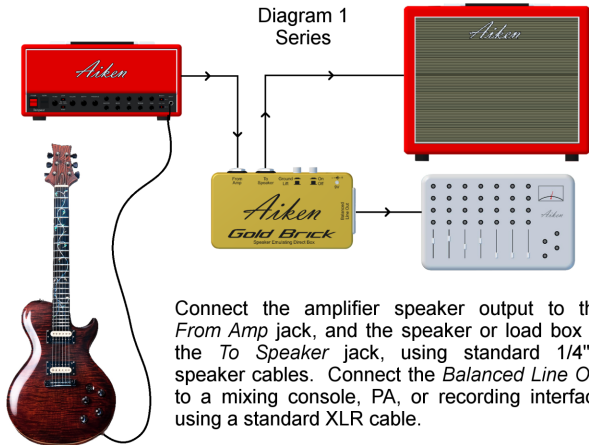
9V: Connect an external 9VDC 2.1mm negative-tip power supply. The Gold Brick can also be powered by an internal 9V alkaline battery (not included).

Switches:

Ground/Lift: Lifts the ground on pin 1 of the *Balanced Line Out* in the *out* position to eliminate ground loop hum.

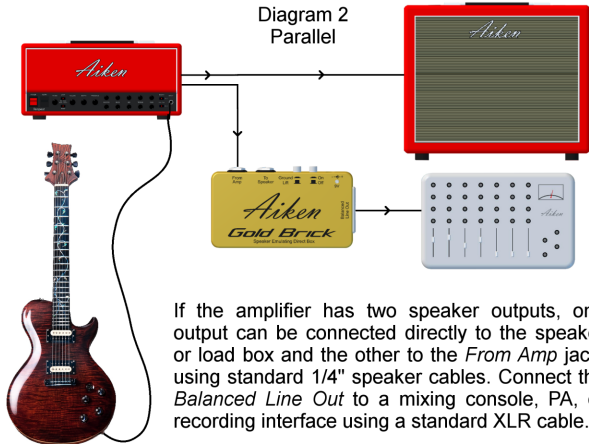
On/Off: Turns the unit on in the *in* position and off in the *out* position. The LED indicator will be illuminated when the unit is on. The brightness of the LED is an indication of the battery status. When the LED is noticeably dim, it is time to replace the battery.

Diagram 1
Series



Connect the amplifier speaker output to the *From Amp* jack, and the speaker or load box to the *To Speaker* jack, using standard 1/4" speaker cables. Connect the *Balanced Line Out* to a mixing console, PA, or recording interface using a standard XLR cable.

Diagram 2
Parallel



If the amplifier has two speaker outputs, one output can be connected directly to the speaker or load box and the other to the *From Amp* jack, using standard 1/4" speaker cables. Connect the *Balanced Line Out* to a mixing console, PA, or recording interface using a standard XLR cable.

Specifications

Input:

Type: Unbalanced 1/4"
Impedance: 100k ohms
Max Level: 100 watts, 40 V_{RMS}

Output:

Type: XLR, pin 1 ground, pin 2 +, pin 3 -
Impedance: 600 ohms, balanced
Level: +4dBu max (line-level)

Power:

9VDC, 8mA
9V alkaline battery or 9VDC 2.1mm negative-tip supply

Size:

4.5" x 2.5" x 1.25"

Weight:

0.5 lbs

Ambient Temp. Range:

-20 to +50 deg C

Limited Warranty:

Aiken Amplification, Inc. ("Aiken") guarantees this product to be free from defects in material and workmanship for a period of one year after initial purchase. Aiken will repair or replace any defective component of this product free of charge for this period (excluding cosmetic finish and normal wear and tear as determined by Aiken). The product must be shipped at the owner's expense, in its original box or equivalent, with the original receipt showing date of purchase, to Aiken or an Aiken authorized service center for evaluation of any warranty claim. Shipping back to the owner after inspection and/or repair by Aiken or an Aiken authorized service center is the responsibility of the owner. The owner assumes all risk of loss or damage. This warranty shall not apply to any products damaged due to accident, misuse, abuse, or as a result of service or modification by any entity other than Aiken or an Aiken authorized service center.



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