




INTRODUCTION

The KOA Acoustic Preamp offers classic, natural acoustic tone with unprecedented tonal control and extended headroom. The KOA begins with a boutique flat response, then we add extensive tone control allowing you to carve out your signature sound. Harmonic content increases as you turn up the INPUT GAIN control, producing the rich harmonics you desire from your preamp. Lightweight, compact design, bullet-proof construction and a list of indispensable features assure the KOA will be the heart of your tone for years to come.

KOA FEATURES:

- » Preamp GAIN and master VOLUME controls
- » BLEND control adjusts the EQ/dry mix
- » Mid sweep semi-parametric EQ
- » COMPRESSOR: Threshold and Strength controls
- » Effects Loop
- » True Bypass
- » Switchable MUTE
- » DIRECT OUT balanced XLR and 1/4-inch
- » Switchable Ground Lift for AC ground isolation
- » THRU/TUNER output jack independent of MUTE switch
- » -10dB attenuation switch
- » Solid metal shaft controls with threaded metal bushings mounted to top panel
- » 9V Power supply included. 90-230VAC, 50-60Hz
- » Battery compartment for 9V battery operation

KOA SPECIFICATIONS:

- » Frequency Response: 25Hz-18kHz
- » Input Gain: 13dB
- » Input Impedance: 2.2M
- » Maximum Input: -6dB
- » Maximum Output: MAIN +6dB, EFF SND/RTN +4dB, THRU/TUNER -6dB
- » Tone controls: +/-10dB BASS (25Hz-100Hz) MID(semi-parametric sweep 100Hz-2.5kHz) TREBLE(3kHz-18kHz),
- » Power requirement: 9VDC / 50mA. Polarity: Center Negative Plug +  -
- » 9V Power supply included. 90-230VAC, 50-60Hz
- » Dimensions: 6"W x 5.5"D x 2.5" H Wt. 2 lbs.



KOA CONTROLS:

- » 1. THRU/TUNER JACK (UNMUTED)
The THRU/TUNER jack is a mono 1/4-inch jack designed for connecting a tuner or sending the acoustic signal to another device. This output is unaffected by the MUTE and all other functions of the KOA so you may tune your acoustic guitar quietly while using the MUTE.
- » 2. INPUT JACK
The 1/4-inch input jack is voiced for guitar and is designed to work equally well with active or passive instruments with piezo or magnetic pickups.
- » 3. PWR/CLIP
When the LED is green, this indicates the unit is powered on. When the LED flashes red, this indicates your signal is nearing clipping. Solid Red indicates your signal is clipping and distortion will be heard at the outputs.
- » 4. -10dB ATTENUATION SWITCH
This switch attenuates the input by 10dB when in the up position. This is useful when the incoming signal is too strong and is causing distortion to be heard even with the input gain at 0.
- » 5. LED INDICATORS
These LED indicators let the user know status of each feature. COMPRESSOR-Green(ON), Red(OFF). MUTE-Red(On). BYPASS-Red(Pedal bypassed), Green(Signal flows through preamp.)
- » 6. BYPASS
Sends the signal around the EQ Tone preamp. The INPUT GAIN, -10dB attenuation, COMPRESSOR, VOLUME and GND LIFT still affect the signal. The LED color indicates the following. Green(ON), Red(OFF).

-OVER-

WARRANTY

This CARVIN product is guaranteed in normal use to be free from electrical and mechanical defects for a period of 1 year from date of purchase. Retain proof of purchase. This warranty is in lieu of any and all other guarantees or warranties, expressed or implied. There shall be no recovery for any consequential or incidental damages.

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» 7&8. EFFECTS LOOP

The SEND jack is the output of the preamp and is designed to deliver the proper level for the input of an external effects processor. The SEND signal source is after the TONE CONTROLS and BLEND, and before the BYPASS and MUTE. The RETURN jack is designed to receive signals from the output of an external effects processor. When a signal is plugged into the RETURN, it breaks the connection between the preamp and the internal power amp. The RETURN signal goes through the COMPRESSOR and VOLUME control to the outputs. The RETURN signal is before the BYPASS. When BYPASS is on (green), the signal does not pass through to the output.

» 9. MUTE

The MUTE switch turns off the output of the pedal. A red LED indicates the MUTE switch is on. The MUTE switch is ideal for changing guitars and silent tuning on-stage. The THRU/TUNER and EFF SND outputs are never muted.

» 10. DC IN / Battery Operation

Use the included 9V power supply to power the KOA. The KOA can also operate on a 9V battery. When using a battery, the KOA will NOT TURN ON until there is a 1/4-inch plug inserted into the input. Leaving the KOA plugged in when not using will drain the battery.

» 11. COMPRESSOR

Turns the COMPRESSOR on and off.

» 12. 1/4-INCH Output

Connect this output to your amplifier.

» 13&14. XLR OUTPUT JACK and GROUND LIFT

The DIRECT OUT XLR jack provides a balanced output for going direct to the main PA or to a recording input. The output level is adjusted from the VOLUME level. GND/LFT - If a hum occurs when connecting the XLR to a mixer, try using the GND LIFT switch. The GND LIFT switch lifts the ground pin 1 of the XLR.

» 15. BLEND

This control directs some or all of the signal into the EQ tone section. When set to FLAT, no signal passes into the EQ tone section.

» 16. VOLUME

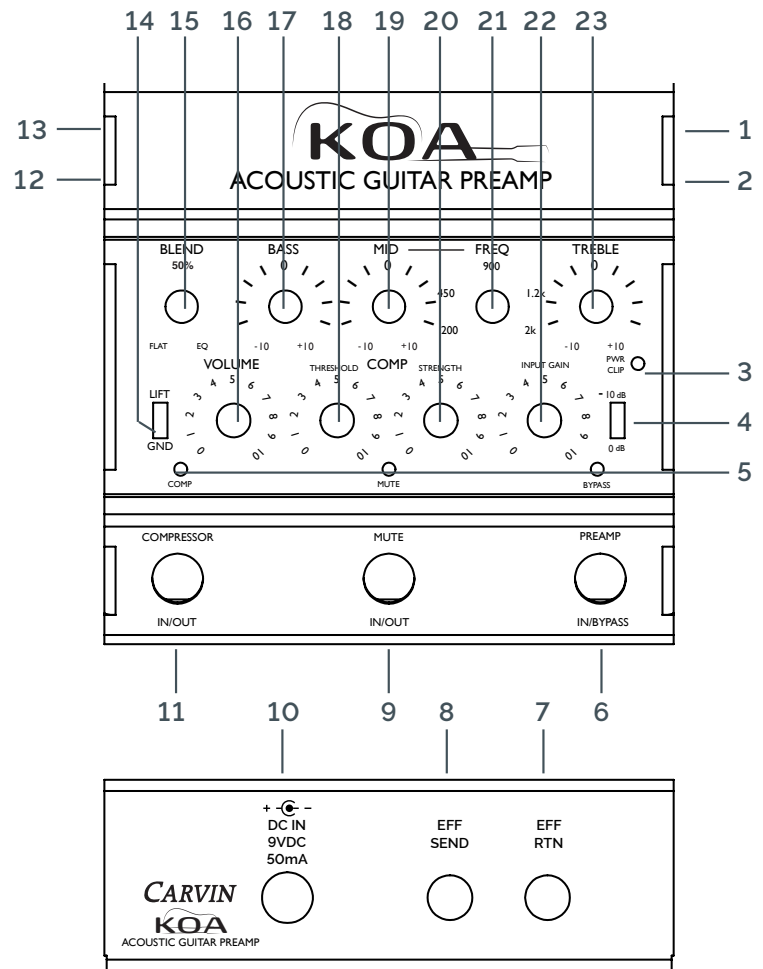
This is the master VOLUME.

» 17&23. BASS and TREBLE TONE CONTROLS

The BASS and TREBLE controls are custom shaped tone controls designed to deliver full sounding lows and sparkling highs for a variety of instruments. When a control is turned to the right it boosts the signal and when turned to the left cuts the signal. The affected frequencies for the LOW start at 140Hz and go down to 40Hz. Be careful not to distort the output or overpower your speakers. The affected frequency for the HI control begins at 4kHz.

» 19&21. SEMI-PARAMETRIC MID SWEEP (200-2kHz)

The FREQ control does not function if the MID control is set in the center "0" position. To demonstrate, turn the MID to the right for full boost. Now play your instrument and turn the FREQ control from left to right and notice how the added mids change frequency. Now turn the MID to the full left and turn the FREQ control again and notice the mids disappear at different frequencies. The MID sweep is a powerful tone shaping tool. The deep cut available from the MID allows control over acoustic feedback. With the MID control turned to the left, turn the FREQ control until the feedback stops. You can then re-adjust the MID level to just before feedback occurs. For a full size acoustic guitar, the frequency is usually around 200-300 Hz.



» 18&20. COMPRESSOR

This feature is designed to limit the peaks so the volume level is more constant. This allows greater average power to your speakers without your power amp distorting. The COMPRESSOR has two knobs, THRESHOLD and STRENGTH. The THRESHOLD control knob sets the point where the compressor kicks in. Rotating this control in the clockwise direction lowers the level where the compressor turns on. The STRENGTH knob is used to set the amount of compression once the threshold has been reached. When this knob is swept all the way counter clockwise (left) the unit is set for a mild compression. As the knob is rotated clockwise (right) the compression increases.

» 22. INPUT GAIN

The INPUT GAIN control increases the sensitivity of the 1/4" inputs. Turn up the gain to compensate for instruments with low outputs. For low volume situations or to get the best dynamics from high output instruments, adjust the INPUT GAIN control to a low setting.