



## SIGNAL FLOW

Input -> impedance switch -> 10dB pad -> tuner out -> EQ & Contour -> DI -> Output ->

## TOP-PANEL CONTROLS

**MUTE** — Mutes all output except the tuner out. In MUTE mode, the mute LED turns red, as do the side lights.

**ENGAGE** — Turns on the EQ, illuminates the green LED, and turns the side lights green.

When the pedal is disengaged, signal still passes through the gain circuitry and the volume

knob remains functional.

**ENGAGE** allows switching a “flat” and EQ’d sound on the fly.

**VOLUME** — The signal level at the output jack (DI level is not affected). There is quite a lot of gain at hand here. We intend the StarLifter to provide more than enough gain to drive a power amp cleanly and loudly. (More on that later).

**CONTOUR** — A 3-way switch allowing a selection of “flat”(off), “vintage”, or “modern” settings. “Flat” passes an uncolored signal

with no additional eq present, beyond that set with the EQ controls. The “vintage” setting is a “frowny-face” EQ curve, designed to provide a darker tone with a low-mid bump emulating a classic heavy tube amp setup with an 8x10 cabinet. The “modern” setting engages a carefully chosen mid scoop with treble and bass boost, providing quick access to great slap, R&B, and Gospel tones.

**TREBLE** — Provides +/- 15dB shelving boost and cut with a 6kHz corner frequency.

**MID** — Provides +/- 15dB boost and cut at the frequency selected by the mid freq knob.

**MID FREQ** — Selects a center frequency between 150Hz–2.8kHz for the midrange bell filter.

**BASS** — provides +/- 15dB boost and cut with a corner frequency of 70Hz.

## BACK PANEL CONTROLS

**INPUT** — Plug your instrument in here. (But you already knew that).

**IMP SWITCH** — Changes the input impedance from 1MΩ to 10MΩ. Use 1MΩ for passive or active electric instruments and the 10MΩ setting for piezo pickup systems, e.g., the typical upright bass pickup.

**PAD** — Decreases gain at the input by 10dB for high-output instruments. Use the StarLifter without the pad unless it becomes audibly necessary as would be indicated by the presence of unwanted distortion.

**TUNER OUT** — Allows connection to a tuner or for any other need requiring a parallel output. Remains active at all times.

**12-15VAC POWER SUPPLY INPUT JACK** — Connect the included 15VAC 300mA power supply here.

**GND LIFT** — Lifts the ground connection (pin 3) at the DI jack. Can eliminate a noisy ground loop, but should remain unused unless necessary.

**PRE EQ** — Allows DI signal

to bypass eq section of pedal providing a flat, uncolored signal for recording or FOH. You can still have the EQ'd signal at your amplifier.

The EQ'd signal can be sent to FOH or "tape" by leaving this switch out (disengaged).

**PAD -20dB** — Reduce the signal at the DI jack by 20dB for better interfacing with some equipment.

**DI JACK** — Connect your mic preamp or recording interface here.

**OUT** — Main instrument output. Connect into front end of amp or line level input on recording interface. A lot of gain is available and you can easily drive a power amp or a powered cabinet. Look for an amp in or an effects loop return to bypass the front end of your amp for a super clean and deeply musical sonic quality.



*"I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for purchasing the StarLifter Bass Preamp/DI from Nordstrand Audio and Rocket Surgeon Labs. This product is the result of a desire to create a no compromise, simple, and versatile sonic solution for bass players. Please take a moment to read through this manual so you can learn how to fully utilize this unique product and find the very best bass tone for you and your musical pursuits."*

-Carey Nordstrand  
(aka Dr. Tönkraftström)



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