

Marshall  
AMPLIFICATION  
**YJM100**  
Yngwie J. Malmsteen Signature 100 Watt All-Tube Amplifier



*Dr. Jim Marshall OBE*  
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*Yngwie J. Malmsteen*  
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**Owner's Manual**



### From Jim Marshall

Congratulations on purchasing the YJM100, our Signature Series tribute to one of the most revered and technically gifted guitarists I have ever known – Yngwie Malmsteen. Over the years I have spent a lot of time with Yngwie and if there's one thing he demands it's perfection, which is why it makes me especially proud that the amplifiers and the speaker cabinets he has chosen to use throughout his career have always been Marshalls. In fact, the last time I saw Yngwie perform he was using no less than 20 Marshall heads and 20 cabinets on stage!

As a way of saying 'thank you' to Yngwie for the decades of loyal support, I put the Marshall team to work on an amplifier that would offer that distinctive Malmsteen sound, whilst including a host of new features that the modern guitarist will find very useful. Incredibly, we have managed to incorporate both Booster and Noise Gate functions, plus Reverb, an FX loop and an all-new variable output control making this amp extremely versatile – just like the man himself.

In addition to delivering classic Marshall tones, we've preserved the look of Yngwie's favourite vintage heads by incorporating all the new controls and features on the back panel, giving the YJM100 that familiar 'Plexi' persona.

Working with Yngwie on this project has been a great experience and a great deal of fun due to his boundless enthusiasm. He has played a huge part in this amp's development, taking an active interest in getting the sound, the look and the features just right. Yngwie's meticulous attention to detail and his unique guitar sound have been embedded in the amplifier you now own, so you can rest assured that your YJM100 has the Malmsteen seal of approval.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you every success with your new YJM100 Signature Series amplifier and hope it brings you many years of playing pleasure. Welcome to the Marshall family.

Yours Sincerely

*Dr Jim Marshall OBE*  
Dr Jim Marshall OBE



ENGLISH

### Overview

Introducing the YJM100 Signature Series amplifier, created to honour our longstanding partnership with neo-classical rock icon, the Swedish six-string supernova, Yngwie J. Malmsteen.

There are literally two sides to the YJM100. First, the front panel offers classic Marshall 1959 tone controls, namely Volume controls for Channel I and Channel II, a shared EQ section of Bass, Middle and Treble plus a Presence control – vintage all-valve Marshall tone and style at its best. Looking at the rear panel however reveals a very different set of features, engineered to enhance your playing experience and deliver maximum tonal potential. The Booster function does exactly what it says on the tin, with controls for both Gain and Volume to set your boosted sound. This feature has been based on Yngwie's favourite Boost pedal for complete authenticity.

The YJM100 also benefits from a sophisticated Gate feature, allowing you to tame unruly noise/feedback at high gain levels. The intuitive Gate circuitry reacts dynamically to your style of playing, cutting in quickly during staccato passages while eliminating clipped notes when sustaining. Specially voiced, studio-quality digital Reverb allows you to adjust your sound to any acoustic situation or personal preference, while the series FX Loop caters for any additional effects you may wish to hook up. All of these functions can be accessed via the included YJM100

footpedal (PEDL-00046) and all feature true bypass, ensuring authentic vintage purity of signal path when these additional features aren't being used.

But that's not all, the YJM100 is the first Marshall amp to house our brand new Electronic Power Attenuation (EPA) technology, providing great tone at any volume. It works by electronically modifying the amplifier's power stage parameters, whilst automatically adjusting the bias circuitry. This makes it possible to reduce 100 Watts of pure valve power to just 0.1 Watt, but still maintain all the tone you would expect of a fully cranked Marshall.

A 50 Watt power reduction switch is also included which effectively turns the YJM100 into a YJM50, providing a totally different feel plus output options from 50 Watts to 0.05 Watts, using the same exact attenuation technology. Furthermore, the YJM100 features self-biasing circuitry, which can be engaged every time the amplifier is switched on. It also boasts a Valve Fault system which detects, indicates and removes from the circuit any faulty output valve, switching automatically to the spare valve if the amplifier is being used in 50 Watt mode.

Please take the time to read through the rest of this handbook for more detailed explanations of the individual features and also an exclusive interview with the man himself – Yngwie J. Malmsteen.

## “It’s Marshall or nothing for me!”

**Firstly, congratulations on your new Marshall signature amplifier. How does it feel to have your name on a Marshall?**

“I’m very excited and honoured to actually have my name on the very amp I have used since the very beginning. I can’t say enough about my love for the sound, feel and look of the wall of Marshalls. Since I was 10 years old, I’ve insisted on having them behind me at all times. Through the years I must have been approached by virtually every amp company known to man, and my answer has always been the same...Thanks, but no thanks, it’s Marshall or nothing for me! To finally have my own signature Marshall head is an honour and this amp is truly a masterpiece!”

**Let’s go back to the beginning; when did you first pick up a guitar and realise this was the instrument for you?**

“I got my first guitar on my 5th birthday and knew there was no turning back at the age of seven.”

**What was the music scene like growing up in Sweden for a budding guitarist such as yourself?**

“The Swedish scene really wasn’t happening in the late ‘70s so it was a bit slow. When I was 18 I was invited to the US and then it really took off.”

**You have a very distinctive sound and unique playing style, who would you say were your major influences?**

“Believe it or not but my biggest influence was and still is classical violin. When I was 12 I heard Paganini’s 24 Caprices and immediately decided that sound and technique was what I wanted to implement on guitar.”

**How do you feel about being labelled a guitar legend?**

“It’s very flattering, but I keep a good distance from that and I am still extremely dedicated to perfecting my playing, composing and performing.”

**You’ve had a very long and successful career, do you still have the same passion for the guitar and for creating music?**

“Absolutely! Everyday is an adventure and it’s very exciting.”

**You’re renowned for having a massive backline at your shows, how many Marshall amps and cabs do you like to use live?**

“As many as possible. They say that only two manmade objects can be seen from outer space...The Great Wall of China and Yngwie Malmsteen’s wall of Marshalls! On my last tour I used 34 heads and 28 4x12 cabs.”

**You’re very dedicated to vintage Marshalls, have you ever been tempted to use modern higher gain amps?**

“I love the warm, organised distortion and sustain of the vintage models, but as long as it is a Marshall I will use it.”

**The music industry has changed a lot since you began your career, what do you think is the future of guitar music and what is next for Yngwie J Malmsteen?**

“Lately, the guitar is very hot again. It’s everywhere and that’s great. But I never follow trends, I always do what I like to do. I think the audience will always appreciate great music and great playing, I don’t think that will ever change.”

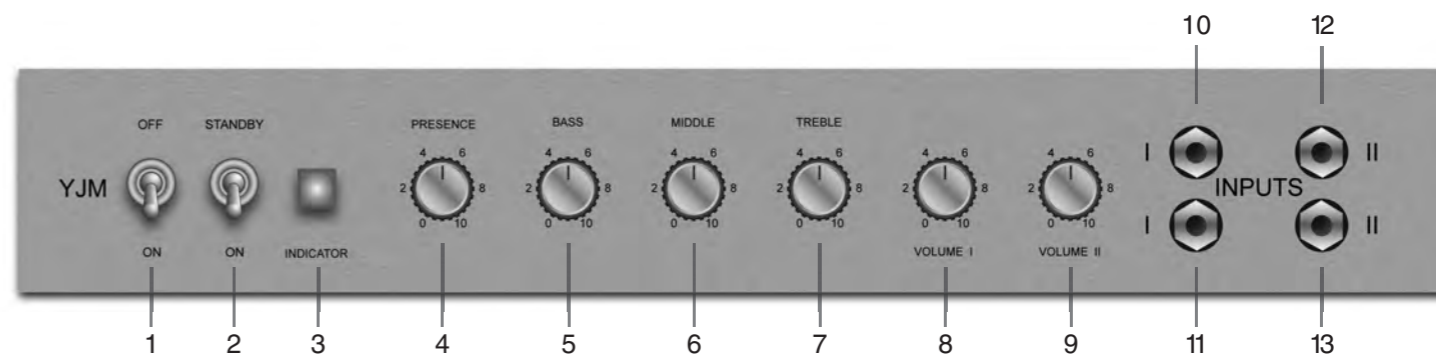
**You’ve been heavily involved with the YJM100s development, what was it like working with the Marshall team and what can guitarists expect from this signature Marshall amplifier?**

“It is a pure joy to work so closely with everyone at Marshall and be so involved in designing this amazing amp. Once you plug into this amp you’ll be blown away with the screaming sound and versatility it’s got. I couldn’t imagine a more complete amp! Vintage look and sound, with incredible versatility and features.”

“The built-in, footswitchable Booster is instrumental for sustain and fluidity in lead work. When you add gain though, you also get noise into the bargain but that is eliminated by the Gate the amp has. The built-in Reverb allows you to add ambience in a dry sounding room and when you don’t want to break down walls the Attenuator means you can turn it down some.”

“When I play live I always use a 100 Watt head and a 50 Watt head at the same time. 50 Watts has a creamy, fluid and warm sound while 100 Watts is very hard and aggressive. So, for me, the ultimate sound is one 100W with a 50W hooked up together. The result is simply massive! That is why you cannot just buy one YJM100!”

## Front Panel



## YJM Front Panel Features

### IMPORTANT: READ BEFORE POWERING UP

Before powering up your Marshall amplifier you must ensure that an appropriate loudspeaker cabinet(s) or dummy load is connected to the correct impedance loudspeaker jack on the rear panel. Failure to do this could result in serious damage being caused to your amplifier. Always use an un-shielded loudspeaker cable to connect an amplifier to a loudspeaker cabinet, never use a screened (shielded) guitar cable.

When powering up the amplifier always engage the Power Switch (1) first to allow the power valves to warm-up, we would also recommend setting all volume controls to zero. After about two minutes the power valves will be at their correct operating temperature and the Standby Switch (2) can be engaged. To prolong valve life, the Standby Switch alone should be used to turn the amplifier on and off during breaks in a performance. Always allow the amp to cool down before moving.

### 1. POWER SWITCH

On / Off Switch for mains power to the amplifier. Please ensure the amplifier is switched off and unplugged from the mains electricity supply before you move it.

### 2. STANDBY SWITCH

The Standby Switch is used in conjunction with the Power Switch (1) to ‘warm up’ the amplifier before use and to prolong the life of the output valves.

### 3. INDICATOR

This indicates that power is being supplied to the amplifier. It will illuminate when the Power Switch (1) is engaged.

### Equalisation

**Note:** The tone network is highly interactive; altering one control affects the behaviour of the others. Because of this, experimentation is the best way to achieve your desired sound. A good place to start is to set all EQ controls to half and adjust from there. If you are looking for a particular tone it is important to bear in mind that your choice of guitar plays an important role as well.

### 4. PRESENCE CONTROL

This control adjusts the power amplifier’s high frequency response, making your tone more cutting and ‘present’.

### 5. BASS CONTROL

Controls the amount of low frequencies (bottom end) in your tone.

### 6. MIDDLE CONTROL

This controls the all-important mids. Turning this up will make your guitar sound fatter. Conversely, reducing the amount of middle in your tone will result in a sharper, cutting ‘scooped’ tone.

### 7. TREBLE CONTROL

Controls the high frequencies (top end) in your tone.

### Channel Volume Controls

**8. VOLUME I – HIGH TREBLE CHANNEL**  
Controls the overall output level of Channel 1.

### 9. VOLUME II – NORMAL CHANNEL

Controls the overall output level of Channel 2.

### Guitar Inputs

The two channel design of the YJM100 amplifier is based on the traditional Marshall Super Lead of the 1970s and as such is equipped with 4 guitar inputs (two per channel). Each input provides a different performance attribute. The upper inputs are normal sensitivity inputs with the lower inputs being a lower sensitivity version of the same channel. Any input can be used and is a matter of personal taste.

Traditionally designed to accommodate different guitar signal levels, these inputs can be put to another use – linking (aka jumping) the channels. Because the guitar signal is present at both channel inputs it is possible to connect the un-used channel input to the opposite sensitivity jack of the other channel (see diagram). This provides a mix of the tonal characteristics of both channels, which can be controlled by adjusting the volume pots.

**Important Booster Note:** If linking the channels, at least one of the inputs must be the normal sensitivity input of Channel I if the Booster or gate (rear panel, features 2 and 3) are to be used.



### 10. INPUT JACK

Connects your guitar to the normal sensitivity input of Channel I.

### 11. INPUT JACK

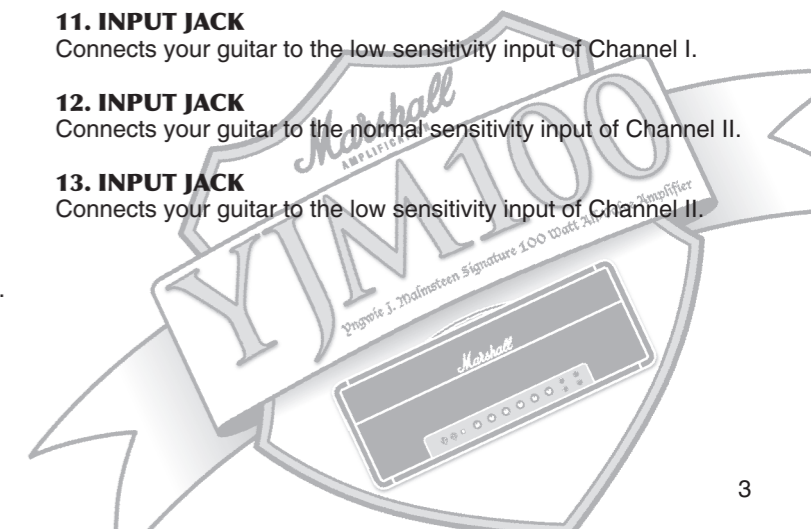
Connects your guitar to the low sensitivity input of Channel I.

### 12. INPUT JACK

Connects your guitar to the normal sensitivity input of Channel II.

### 13. INPUT JACK

Connects your guitar to the low sensitivity input of Channel II.



## Rear Panel



## YJM Rear Panel Features

### 1. LOUDSPEAKER OUTPUTS

**Warning!** Never use the amplifier without a speaker or dummy load attached! There are 5 loudspeaker outputs available on the rear panel. They are labelled according to the intended impedances:

- 4Ω: connect a single 4 Ohm guitar cabinet or two 8 ohm guitar cabinets.
- 8Ω: connect a single 8 Ohm guitar cabinet or two 16 ohm guitar cabinets.
- 16Ω: connect any 16 Ohm guitar cabinet to this jack.

**Warning:** Although the YJM100 amplifier has 5 loudspeaker outputs, never attempt to connect more loudspeaker cabinets than rated. The safe combinations are 1x16 Ohm, 1x8 Ohm, 1x4 Ohm, 2x16 Ohm or 2x8 Ohm. Any other configuration may stress the power amplifier section and in extreme cases may lead to valve and/or output transformer failure.

### 2. BOOSTER

This engages the onboard Booster feature, an essential item required by Yngwie for some of his playing styles. The YJM100 Booster functions in much the same way as a traditional stompbox, except this has been integrated into the optimum location of the amplifier's circuit for maximum effect. When the Booster circuit is engaged, the light on the rear panel switch will be illuminated. The Gain control defines how much pre-amp gain the circuit delivers whilst the separate Volume control allows you to adjust the amount of 'boost' required. The Booster can also be activated via the YJM100's included Footcontroller.

**Note:** When engaged, the Boost function will automatically turn on the Gate feature.

### 3. GATE

Yngwie Malmsteen's playing style demands that all unwanted noise or feedback during performances is removed. Due to the high gain characteristics of the YJM100 amplifier (especially with the booster circuit engaged) it is essential that a high quality noise gate is used. The onboard Gate in the YJM100 is an expander which progressively attenuates the signal, following its dynamics. The Threshold control has a program dependent decay ratio allowing very slow decay times for slowly moving guitar signals, thus maintaining the natural sustain, and very fast decays for staccato rhythms and short pauses. Adjust the

Threshold knob to control the point where the noise reduction begins to work, making sure you are not picking up hum from the amplifier or other equipment, as this may result in a setting higher than needed. The Gate function can be activated using either the rear panel switch or the included YJM100 Footcontroller.

### 4. REVERB

For decades now, Yngwie has used reverb to counteract the problems of playing in spaces which are acoustically dry and it's for this reason that we have included this feature. The amount of this studio quality, digital reverb is adjusted via the Level control and can be engaged from either the rear panel or using the YJM100 Footcontroller. The light on the Reverb switch illuminates to indicate active status.

### 5. POWER 50W SELECT SWITCH

The YJM100 has been designed to be used in a variety of environments, and one feature that makes this possible is the choice of either 50W or 100W operation. Activating this feature removes 2 of the power valves from the circuit, effectively creating a 'YJM50', and allows you to drive the power amp to its full potential at 50 Watts.

### 6. VALVE FAULT

Like any high performance machine, parts such as valves wear out over time. It is essential that these all-important components are working properly and that's where the Valve Fault indicator becomes useful. This system allows you to monitor the YJM100's power amp and clearly indicates any faulty valve. Also, if a valve develops a problem, the amplifier will automatically remove the faulty valve from the circuit and, if the amplifier is in 50W mode, will automatically switch to the spare valve ensuring continuous operation.

### 7. BIAS SETTING

The Bias setting of an amplifier ensures correct operation. To set the bias level of your amplifier press and hold both the 50W power mode switch and FX Loop switch while powering up the amplifier. Setting the bias of an amplifier is not something that needs to be done everyday, however, having the correct bias will prolong the life of your valves and ensure your amplifier functions properly.

The desired biasing current can be selected by turning the trim control located to the right of the Valve Fault indicator LEDs

before activating the bias procedure. Possible values range between 20mA and 50mA with every mark representing 3mA. Since there is not a 'perfect' bias setting, we recommend values between 30mA and 40mA.

The chart on page 33 can be used as a guide for setting bias levels for the YJM100

If you are unsure on how to properly bias an amplifier we suggest you speak to your authorised Marshall Amplification dealer who will be able to advise you.

### 8. POWER ATTENUATION LEVEL

This control provides access to the YJM100's Electronic Power Attenuation (EPA) feature. The internal attenuator allows you to adjust the overall output volume of the amplifier whilst retaining all of your tone. This works by electronically reducing the voltages to components within the amplifier instead of placing resistive loads in the circuitry. Output of between 100% and 0.1% can be achieved, so depending on the Power mode selected it is possible to reduce this 100 Watt all-valve amplifier down to just 0.05 Watts, making it ideal for both stadium and home use!

### 9. FX LOOP SECTION

The YJM100 is equipped with a series FX Loop which can be accessed via the rear panel or the supplied Footcontroller. Connect your external FX input to the SEND jack, and the FX output to the RETURN jack.

### 10. FOOTCONTROLLER

The supplied YJM100 Footcontroller (PEDL-00046) engages four of the aforementioned features – BOOSTER, GATE, REVERB and FX LOOP. Please refer to the relevant sections of this handbook for an explanation of the operation of these. This Footcontroller has been designed using Marshall Amplification's patented STOMPWARE® Technology, allowing you to connect to the amp using a standard 1/4" jack mono guitar cable.

### 11. MAINS INPUT

Your amplifier is provided with a detachable mains (power) lead, which is connected here. The specific mains input voltage rating that your amplifier has been built for is indicated on the rear panel.

**Warning:** Before going any further, make sure your amplifier is compatible with your electrical supply. If you have any doubt, please get help from a qualified technician – your Marshall dealer can help you in this respect.

The correct value of mains fuse is specified on the rear panel of the amplifier. NEVER attempt to bypass the fuse or fit one of the incorrect value.

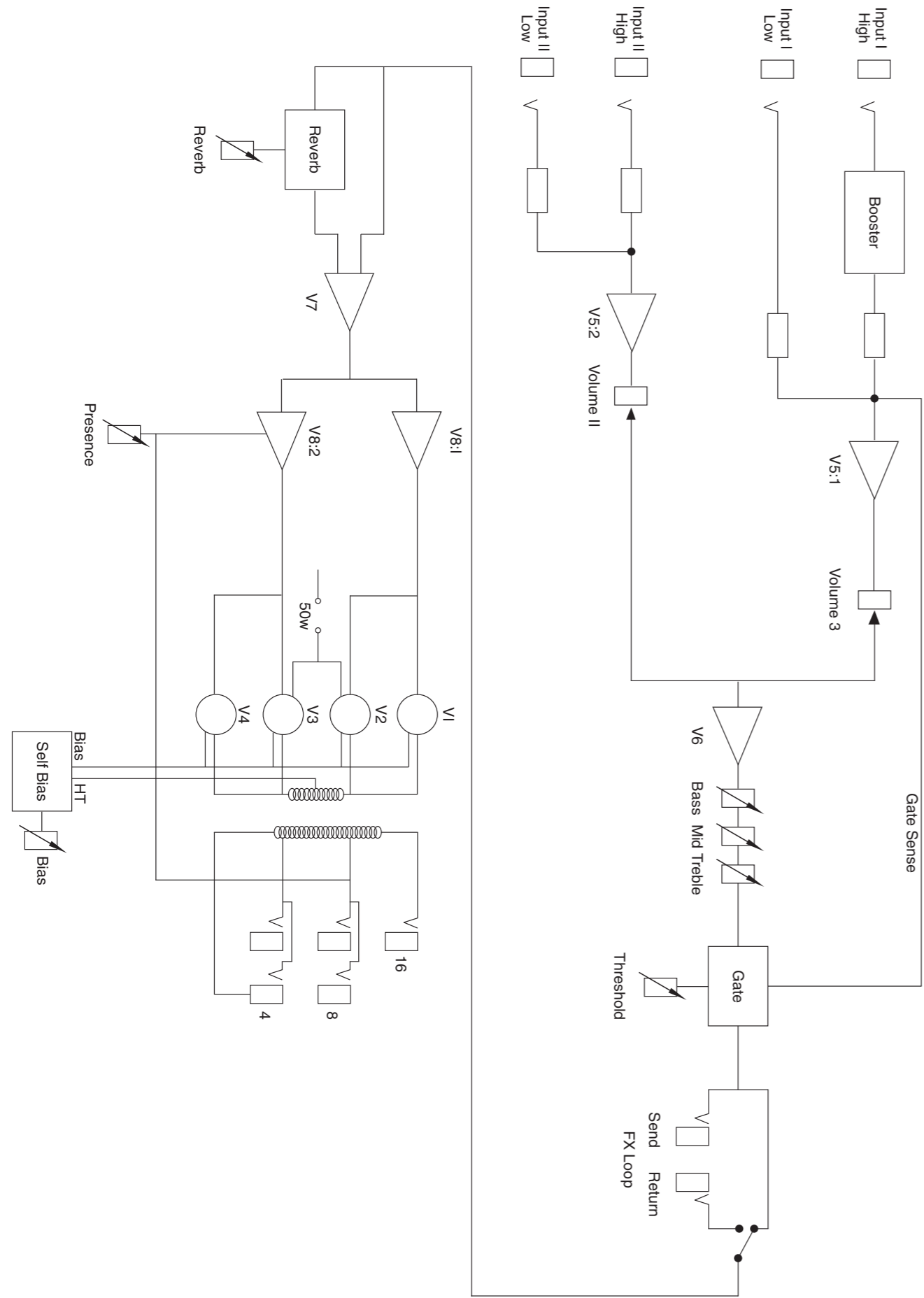
### Technical Specification

Power Output - 100WRMS  
Weight - 24 kg  
Size - 740mm x 285mm x 280mm

**\* EUROPE ONLY** **CE** - **Note:** This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the requirements of the EMC Directive (Environments E1, E2 and E3 EN 55103-1/2) and the Low Voltage Directive in the E.U.

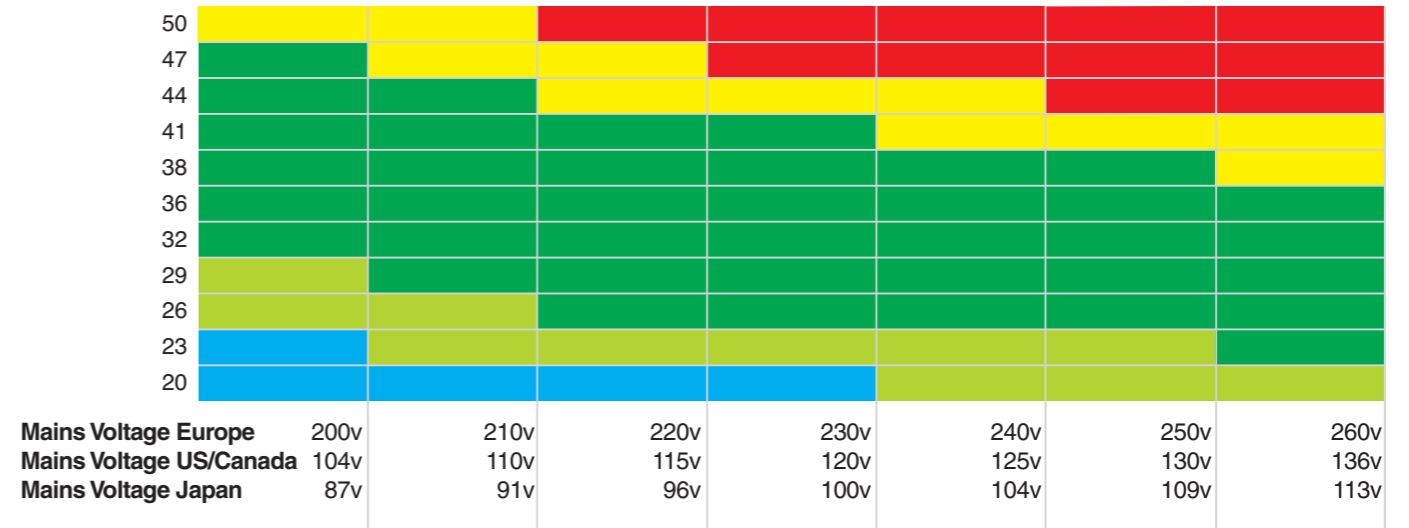
**EUROPE ONLY - Note:** The Peak Inrush current for the YJM100 is 38A amps.



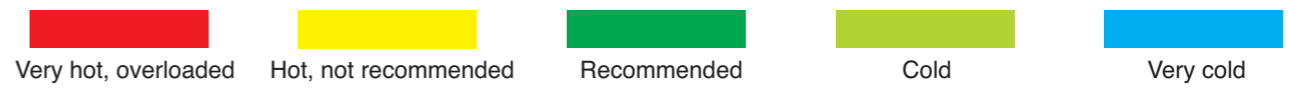
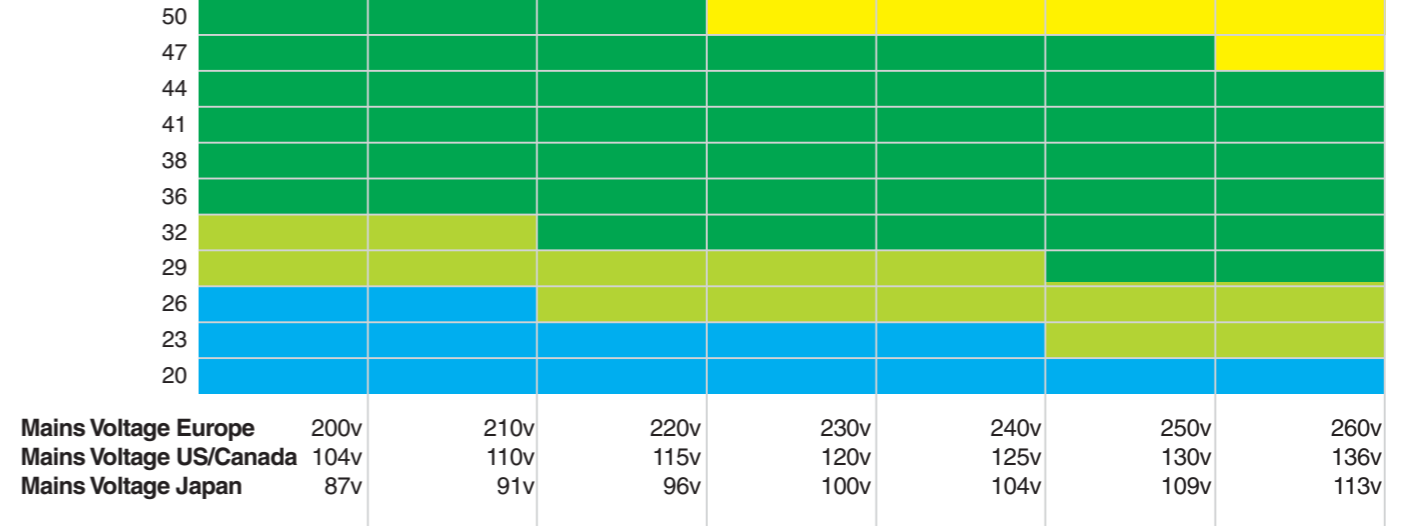


**Block diagram**

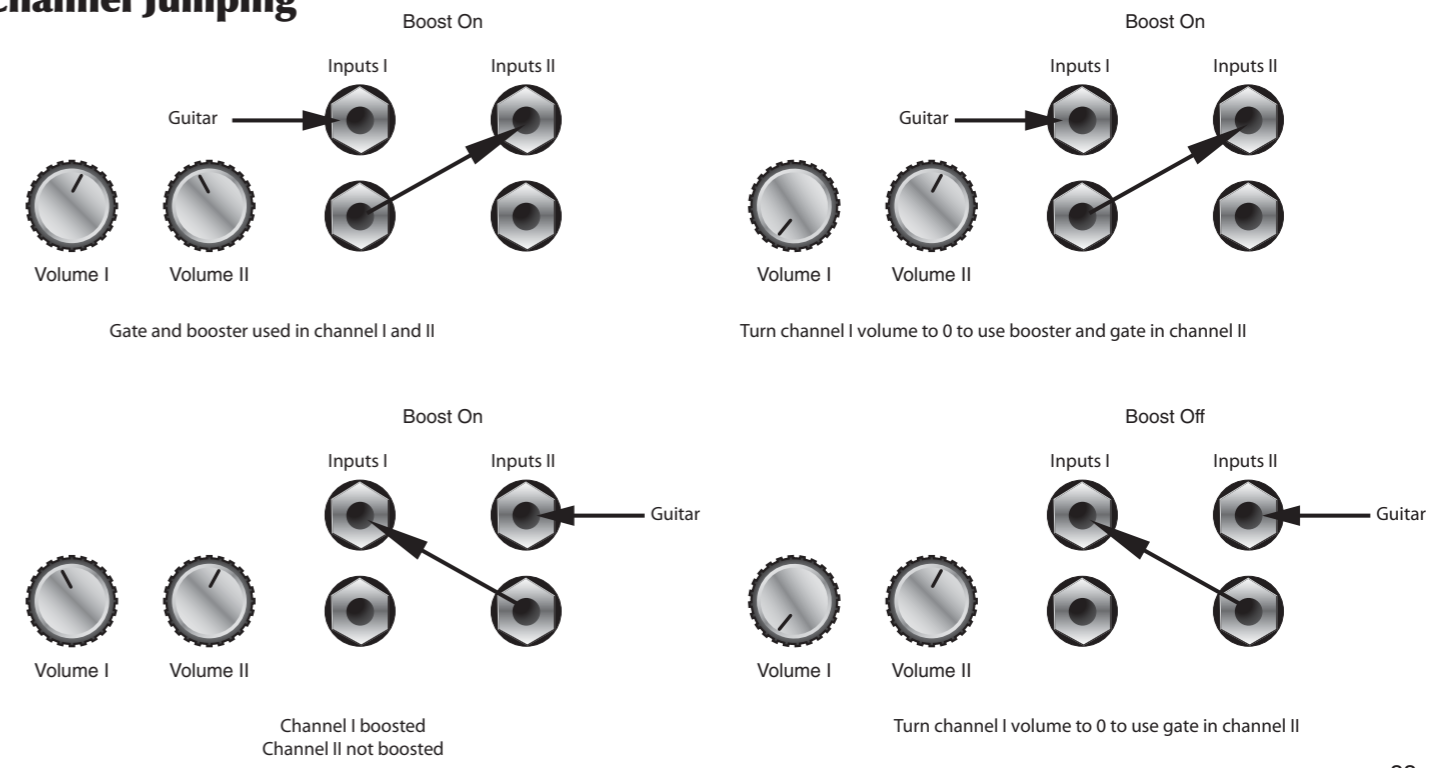
**Bias Current (mA) EL34, 6L6, 5881, KT66, KT77**



**Bias Current (mA) KT88, KT90, 6550**



**Channel Jumping**





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