Marshall

AMPLIFICATION




# MG15HFX
## Microstack

**Owners Manual**

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**From Jim Marshall**

I would personally like to congratulate you on your purchase of this next-generation Marshall MG amplifier.

As a musician myself, I fully understand what it takes to perform live in a band situation. In addition to talent, dedication and a lot of hard work, you also need equipment that does exactly what you ask of it. Over the years I have witnessed many advances in amplifier technology and I wanted this MG series to take full advantage of such innovations. These solid-state amplifiers had to meet the tonal expectations of the modern guitarist whilst also incorporating new and exciting digital technology. With this goal firmly in mind, I set my experienced R&D team the task of designing a new range of affordable MG amplifiers that would not only produce the tone you're looking for, but also offer an intuitive and totally programmable way of customising, storing and accessing your favourite Marshall tones and features.

Like all the amplifiers in the new MG range, state-of-the-art manufacturing and stringent quality control procedures ensure that these amplifiers meet the high standard of build you have come to expect from all Marshall products.

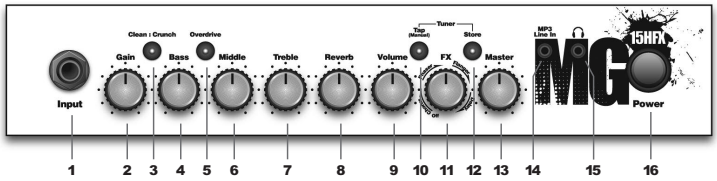
Whether this is your first ever Marshall, or is the latest addition to your arsenal of amps, the tone, flexibility and feel of these compact, rugged units is guaranteed to deliver the goods – from bedroom, to backstage, to on stage!

I wish you every success with your new Marshall. Welcome to the family...

Yours Sincerely,

Dr. Jim Marshall OBE

## MG15HFX Front Panel




**1. Input Jack Socket**
Jack input for your guitar. Use a good quality guitar cable (i.e. one that's screened/shielded) to help prevent noise, interference and unwanted feedback.

**2. Gain Control**
Controls the amount of signal entering the pre-amp and the amount of distortion created in the selected channel.

**3. Clean : Crunch Switch**
Selects between Clean (green) and Crunch (red) channels.

**4. Bass Control**
Turning up the Bass control will add warmth and low-end depth to your sound.

**5. OD Switch**
Selects between OD1 (green) and OD2 (red) channels.

**6. Middle Control**
Adjusting the middle frequencies will vary the amount of body in your sound.

**7. Treble Control**
Increasing the Treble will make your sounds brighter and more cutting, turning it down will decrease your tone's edge and make it sound softer as a result.

**8. Reverb Control**
This control lets you add a lush reverb to the selected channel, from a subtle hint to cavernous and all points in-between.

**9. Volume Control**
Controls the volume of the selected channel.

**10. Tap (Manual) Switch**
Matches the delay FX time to the time between two pushes. The LED flashes at the selected delay time. Holding down the Tap switch for longer than 2 seconds switches the amp between manual and preset mode (pg 2). When using the optional footcontroller, holding both the Tap switch and the Store switch will activate the tuner.

**11. FX Control**
Selects and adjusts one of four effects - Chorus, Phaser, Flanger & Delay.

**12. Store Switch**
Stores the current amp settings into the current channel or into the optional footcontroller. When in manual mode the Store button lights red.

**13. Master Control**
Controls the master volume of the amplifier.

**14. MP3 Line In Socket**
Jam to your favourite MP3, CD or tape track by connecting the line out or headphone output of your player here. Adjust the volume of your player to match that of your guitar and you've got the perfect 'play-along' practice system.

**15. Headphones Socket**
For use when silent practice is the order of the day. Connection of headphones will automatically mute the internal speaker.

**16. Power Switch**
The power switch turns your amplifier on and off. A channel switch will light up when your amplifier is turned on and none will be lit when the amplifier is switched off.

**Note:** The specific mains input voltage rating that your amplifier has been built for is shown on the back panel. Before connecting to the mains electricity supply, always ensure that your amplifier is compatible with your electricity supply. If you have any doubt, please get advice from a qualified technician. Your Marshall dealer will help you in this respect.

Please ensure the amplifier is switched off and unplugged from the mains electricity supply before being moved.

ENGLISH



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# MG15HFX Features

**Channel Selection**
The amplifier has 4 channels - Clean, Crunch, OD1 & OD2.

Pressing the Clean/Crunch switch (3) selects between the Clean (Green Light) and Crunch (Red Light) channels.

Pressing the OD switch (5) selects between the OD1 (Green Light) and OD2 (Red Light) channels.

When moving from an OD channel to a Clean/Crunch channel, the unit remembers the last channel you were in before leaving. E.g. If you have moved from the Crunch Channel to an OD channel and you press the Clean/Crunch switch (3), the amplifier will revert back to the Crunch channel - rather than starting again in the Clean channel.

**Modes**
The amplifier operates in two modes - Preset and Manual.

To change between these two modes, you must hold the Tap switch (10) down for at least two seconds. When in manual mode the Store switch (12) lights red and the selected channel light (3 or 5) will start to flash.

The amplifier will remember the last mode it was in after power off and revert to it the next time it is powered on.

**Preset**
This is the factory default operation of the amplifier.

In Preset mode the position of all controls except Master Volume (13) are stored within each channel. Each channel should be considered a preset.

Selecting a channel automatically recalls the settings stored within the channel. Note: The physical position of the front panel controls, except Master Volume (13) which is not storable, will now not match the actual settings of the amplifier. All front panel switches will automatically update.

Altering a control will cause the associated parameter to jump to the current physical position of that control.

When a control is altered the selected channel light (3 or 5) will start to flash indicating that the current preset has been altered.

To store the updated settings, push the Store switch (12).

If you select another channel without pressing Store (12) then any altered settings will be lost as the new channel and its settings are recalled.

**Manual**
In manual mode the amp's settings always match the physical positions of the controls.

Changing channel only changes the channel, NO presets are recalled, NO other controls are altered.

Pressing Store (12) will store the current settings into the selected channel. These can then be recalled when using the unit in Preset mode.

When channel settings have been stored the current channel light (3 or 5) will stop flashing indicating the preset has been saved.

**Reverb & FX**
The amplifier provides two simultaneous effects, Reverb and one of four FXs (Chorus, Phaser, Flanger or Delay)

**Reverb**
The Reverb control (8) sets the amount of signal sent to the reverb section - allowing the reverb to spill between channels as different presets are recalled. When the Reverb control (8) is set to '0' the reverb is switched off, the status of the reverb is also indicated on the optional footcontroller.

**FX**
The FX control is split into four segments and selects the type of FX and adjusts its associated settings. When the FX control is set to '0' the FX are switched off, the status of the FX is also indicated on the optional footcontroller.

| | |
|---|---|
| 0 | FX Off |
| Chorus | Speed increases and depth is reduced as knob is turned clockwise. |
| Phaser | Speed increases as knob is turned clockwise. |
| Flanger | Speed increases, feedback and depth are reduced as knob is turned clockwise. |
| Delay | Delay level is increased as knob turned clockwise. |

**Tap Tempo**
The Tap Tempo switch (10) is used for the Delay effect only.

The Tap Tempo switch matches the delay time to the time between two presses.

The Tap Tempo LED flashes red at the selected/recalled delay time.

The number of repeats is reduced as the delay time decreases.

If you change from a channel with delay to one without delay the effect will spill between channels.

If you change from a channel with delay to a channel with delay set to a different delay time the delay effect will not spill between channels.

**MP3 / Line In**
The 3.5mm MP3 / Line In socket (14) allows the connection of an external audio source e.g. MP3 or CD player.

**Headphones**
The 3.5mm Headphones socket (16) allows the connection of a pair of headphones. When a jack is inserted into the headphones socket the unit's speaker is muted.

**Power**
The Power switch (17) turns the amplifier on and off. If current settings have not been stored they will be lost.

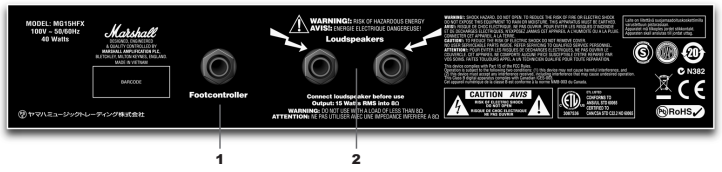


**Restoring Settings - WARNING ALL AMP & FOOTCONTROLLER SETTINGS WILL BE LOST**
To restore the unit to factory settings (see handbook rear cover) you must hold the Store switch (12) while powering on the unit. The Clean/Crunch (3) and OD (5) lights will light orange. You can then release the Store switch (12).

Resetting the amplifier will erase all user Channel presets and all user Footcontroller settings, replacing them with the factory presets.



# MG15HFX Rear Panel




**1. Footcontroller Socket**
Jack socket for the connection of the optional footcontroller.

**2. Loudspeaker Outputs**
Connect the two loudspeaker cabinets provided to the speaker outputs using the speaker leads supplied.

If you would like to use your MG15HFX amplifier head with another speaker system (such as a full size 4x12" cabinet), ensure that the amplifier is provided with a total load equal to or greater than 8 ohms.

Always use a non-screened Marshall approved speaker lead when connecting an extension cabinet to these units.

* **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 MG15HFX is 2.5 amps.

**Note:** This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to part 15 of the FCC rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:
* Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
* Increase the separation between the equipment and the receiver.
* Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.
* Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help.

**Follow all instructions and heed all warnings**
**KEEP THESE INSTRUCTIONS !**



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# Footcontroller (optional - PEDL-90008)

**1. Footswitches**
Each footswitch can be assigned a different stored function.

**2. LED Status Panel**
This always reflects the current status of the amplifier or tuner details:

**CLN & OD:** Current Channel
**REV:** Reverb On/Off
**FX:** FX Section On / Off
**Ext FX:** External FX Loop On/Off (MG50FX & MG100FX)
**Damp:** Damping Mode (MG50FX & MG100FX)
**Tap:** Tap Tempo speed.

**3. Digital Display**
This display indicates the various functions of the footcontroller.




**Footcontroller Factory Settings**
Footswitch 1: Clean : Crunch Switch
Footswitch 2: Overdrive Switch
Footswitch 3: Tap Tempo Switch
Footswitch 4: Tuner

**Programming**
The footswitch can be programmed to store front panel switches (Switch Store) or complete presets (Preset Store).

**Switch Store**
**To assign a front panel switch to a Footswitch** (1), press and hold the front panel switch and while held down press the Footswitch (1) you wish to assign it to.

The Digital Display (3) will swirl to show that the footswitch has been assigned. You can then release the footswitch and front panel switch.

**Preset Store**
**To assign a preset to a Footswitch** (1), select the required channel and modify the front panel controls if required, press and hold the Store switch on the front panel and while held down, press your chosen Footswitch (1).

The Digital Display (3) will swirl to show that the footswitch has been assigned. You can then release the footswitch and Store switch.

Footcontroller Presets are independent of the dedicated Channel presets stored within the amplifier. This allows you to create a number of presets based on the same channel/pre-amp setting.



When either a Channel preset or Footswitch preset has been altered the Digital Display (3) will begin to flash. The footcontroller will flash the relevant number if a Footswitch preset has been altered or will flash a "-" if a Channel preset has been altered.

Pressing only the Store switch at this point will overwrite the altered Channel or Footswitch preset.

**To store an altered Channel preset to the Footswitch instead**, hold the Store switch and while held down, press your chosen Footswitch (1) - Just like a normal Preset Store.

**To store an altered Footswitch Preset to another Footswitch** hold the Store switch and while held down, press your chosen Footswitch (1) - Just like a normal Preset Store.

**Digital Display**
When recalling a footswitch preset, the Digital Display (3) will indicate which footswitch number has been pressed.

If a Channel preset has been recalled the Digital Display (3) will remain blank.

When either a Channel preset or Footswitch preset has been altered the Digital Display (3) will begin to flash. The footswitch will flash the relevant number if a Footswitch preset has been altered or will flash a "-" if a Channel preset has been altered.

**Tuner**
The Tuner can be accessed in two ways:

By simultaneously pushing the Tap (10) and Store (12) switches on the front panel or by assigning the Tuner to the footswitch. Note: On factory reset / first switch on, the Tuner is already assigned to Footswitch number 4.

Assigning the Tuner to a footswitch is carried out like any other Switch Store. To assign the Tuner to the footswitch hold down the Tap (10) and Store (12) switches and press the chosen footswitch you wish to assign it to. The Digital Display (3) will swirl to show that the footswitch has been assigned. You can then release the footswitch and front panel switch.

For all amplifiers, when entering Tuner mode the unit mutes and Clean : Crunch (3) and OD (5) switches light yellow.

The Digital Display (3) indicates the closest current note being played. The indicator dot on the lower right hand corner shows if the current closest note is #.

The LED Status Panel (2) is used to show how far away from the closest note the current note being played is. When the central FX Status LED lights, it indicates the correct tuning, with the others progressively indicating the tuning is up to 50 cents up or down.

To exit the Tuner push any footswitch, the amplifier will then exit returning to the settings before entering.





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