

Driver's Guide
for the
**CRATE TAXI
TX-30E**

battery powered amplifier
with the new rugged, lightweight molded polymer enclosure!



Now Sound Really Does Travel!

CRATE TAXI • TX-30E

CONGRATULATIONS!

You are now the proud owner of the Crate TX-30E battery powered amplifier. At last, you can take your music with you and have great tone on the road. Not only is the TX-30E compact and portable, it also sports two separate channels and the incredible sound that has made Crate a household name among musicians. The high tech polymer enclosure makes the amplifier lighter and even more portable!




Your Crate amplifier is musician-made in the U.S.A. using the finest components available. Each unit is rigorously tested by skilled technicians and musicians to ensure that your amplifier is the best it can be!

In order to get the most out of your new amplifier, we strongly urge you to go over the information contained in this manual before you begin playing.

And Thank You for choosing **CRATE**.



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 CAUTION RISK OF ELECTRIC SHOCK DO NOT OPEN	 PRECAUCION RIESGO DE CORRIENTAZO NO ABRA	 ATTENTION RISQUE D'ELECTROCUTION NE PAS OUVRIR
WARNING: TO REDUCE THE RISK OF FIRE OR ELECTRIC SHOCK, DO NOT EXPOSE THIS APPARATUS TO RAIN OR MOISTURE. TO REDUCE THE RISK OF ELECTRIC SHOCK, DO NOT REMOVE COVER. NO USER-SERVICEABLE PARTS INSIDE. REFER SERVICING TO QUALIFIED SERVICE PERSONNEL.	PRECAUCION: PARA REDUCIR EL RIESGO DE INCENDIOS O DESCARGAS ELECTRICAS, NO PERMITA QUE ESTE APARATO QUEDE EXPUESTO A LA LLUVIA O LA HUMEDAD. PARA DISMINUIR EL RIESGO DE CORRIENTAZO, NO ABRA LA CUBIERTA. NO HAY PIEZAS ADENTRO QUE EL USUARIO PUEDO REPARAR DEJE TODO MANTENIMIENTO A LOS TECNICOS CALIFICADOS.	ATTENTION: PROTEGEZ CET APPAREIL DE LA PLUIE ET DE L'HUMIDITE AFIN D'EVITER TOUT RISQUE D'INCENDIE OU D'ELECTROCUTION. POUR REDUIRE D'ELECTROCUTION NE PAS ENLEVER LE COUVERCLE. AUCUNE PIECE INTERNE N'EST REPARABLE PAR L'UTILISATEUR. POUR TOUTE REPARATION, S'ADRESSEZ A UN TECHNICIEN QUALIFIE.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

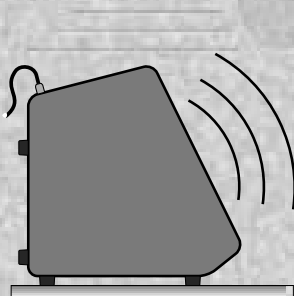
- READ, FOLLOW, HEED, AND KEEP ALL INSTRUCTIONS AND WARNINGS.
- DO NOT OPERATE NEAR ANY HEAT SOURCE AND DO NOT BLOCK ANY VENTILATION OPENINGS ON THIS APPARATUS.
- DO NOT USE THIS APPARATUS NEAR SPLASHING, FALLING, SPRAYING, OR STANDING LIQUIDS.
- CLEAN ONLY WITH LINT-FREE DAMP CLOTH AND DO NOT USE CLEANING AGENTS.
- ONLY CONNECT POWER CORD TO A POLARIZED, SAFETY GROUNDED OUTLET WIRED TO CURRENT ELECTRICAL CODES AND COMPATIBLE WITH VOLTAGE, POWER, AND FREQUENCY REQUIREMENTS STATED ON THE REAR PANEL OF THE APPARATUS.
- PROTECT THE POWER CORD FROM DAMAGE DUE TO BEING WALKED ON, PINCHED, OR STRAINED.
- UNPLUG THE APPARATUS DURING LIGHTNING STORMS OR WHEN UNUSED FOR LONG PERIODS OF TIME.
- ONLY USE ATTACHMENTS, ACCESSORIES, STANDS, OR BRACKETS SPECIFIED BY THE MANUFACTURER FOR SAFE OPERATION AND TO AVOID INJURY.
- THIS APPARATUS DOES NOT OPERATE NORMALLY AND REQUIRES SERVICE WITH ANY PHYSICAL DAMAGE FROM IMPACT OR ANY EXPOSURE TO MOISTURE.
- SERVICE MUST BE PERFORMED BY QUALIFIED PERSONNEL.
- OUR AMPLIFIERS ARE CAPABLE OF PRODUCING HIGH SOUND PRESSURE LEVELS. CONTINUED EXPOSURE TO HIGH SOUND PRESSURE LEVELS CAN CAUSE PERMANENT HEARING IMPAIRMENT OR LOSS. USER CAUTION IS ADVISED AND EAR PROTECTION IS RECOMMENDED IF UNIT IS OPERATED AT HIGH VOLUME.

EXPLANATION OF GRAPHICAL SYMBOLS: EXPLICACION DE SIMBOLOS GRAFICOS: EXPLICATION DES SYMBOLES GRAPHIQUES:	 = "DANGEROUS VOLTAGE" "VOLTAJE PELIGROSO" "DANGER HAUTE TENSION"	 = "IT IS NECESSARY FOR THE USER TO REFER TO THE INSTRUCTION MANUAL" "ES NECESARIO QUE EL USUARIO SE REFIERA AL MANUAL DE INSTRUCCIONES." "REFERREZ-VOUS AU MANUAL D'UTILISATION"
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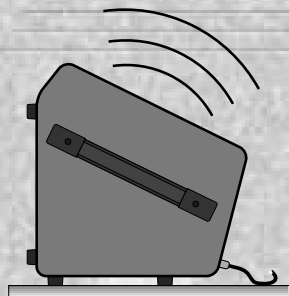
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FEATURES:

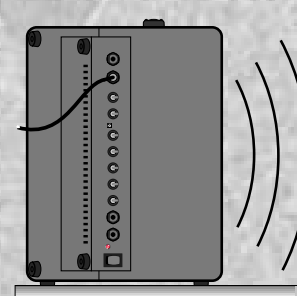
- Two separate channels for a wide variety of uses
- Insert jack for connecting external effects or for adding a third input
- Headphones jack for silent operation
- Internal rechargeable power supply for up to 8 hours of normal playing time, 2 hours at full output – fully recharges within 6 hours (when battery is fully discharged; shorter if partially charged)
- Can also be powered by an AC wall adapter (supplied) or by a 12 volt vehicle cigarette lighter adapter (optional – see page 5)
- Two-color battery status LED – red indicates low battery, yellow indicates battery okay
- Tuned port cabinet for extended bass response; 8” woofer and Piezo tweeter for full range sound with clear highs
- Durable high-visibility safety yellow or low-profile black molded polymer enclosure
- Complete set of rubber feet on three different sides – for positioning as a low angle monitor, a high angle monitor or as an upright speaker (see below)



LOW ANGLE MONITOR



HIGH ANGLE MONITOR



UPRIGHT SPEAKER

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ABOUT THE POWER SUPPLY:

The TX-30 uses a sealed lead-acid 12-volt battery as its internal power source. Unlike ni-cad batteries, this battery has no “memory” – it can be fully recharged at any time, without damage to the battery.

When fully charged, the LED next to the power switch will illuminate yellow with the switch at the on (“I”) position. The LED will change to red when the battery is low and needs recharging. When this happens, turn the amp off, connect the 15-volt charger to the charger jack and plug it in. The LED near the charger jack illuminates red while the amp is charging and goes out when the amp is fully charged. The battery fully recharges within 6 hours, providing up to 8 hours of use at low levels, about 4 hours of use at moderate levels, and about 2 hours of use at continuous full power (sine wave). The battery is rated for up to 1000 charging cycles. The charger can also function as an AC power supply.

The battery inside the TX-30E must be fully charged before operating the amplifier for the first time. Even though the amplifier leaves our factory with a charged battery, time spent in shipping may cause the battery to lose some of its charge.

NOTE: If the battery is drained too low, the Power LED will go out. This indicates an exhausted battery – one which may not take a charge. If this happens, turn the amp off, connect the 15-volt charger to the charger jack and plug it in. If the Charger LED (see #15, page 7) doesn’t come on, the battery might be beyond recharging. (The TX-30E uses a “smart” charging circuit and will not allow you to charge a defective battery.) If the battery is serviceable, the LED will illuminate once the battery reaches 10 volts – leave the charger plugged in and let the battery fully recharge. If the LED never illuminates, the battery may need replacing. Contact Crate’s service department:

SLM Electronics
1901 Congressional Drive
St. Louis, MO 63146
1-800-738-PARTS (7563)

To avoid damaging the amplifier, do not connect the supplied 15VAC charger to the amplifier’s 12VDC Cigarette Lighter Adapter jack.
Dispose of battery properly.

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ABOUT THE POWER SUPPLY (continued):

The TX-30E may also be powered by using a 12-volt vehicle cigarette lighter adapter, available at most electronic supply stores. Make certain that the polarity on the adapter matches what is shown below.

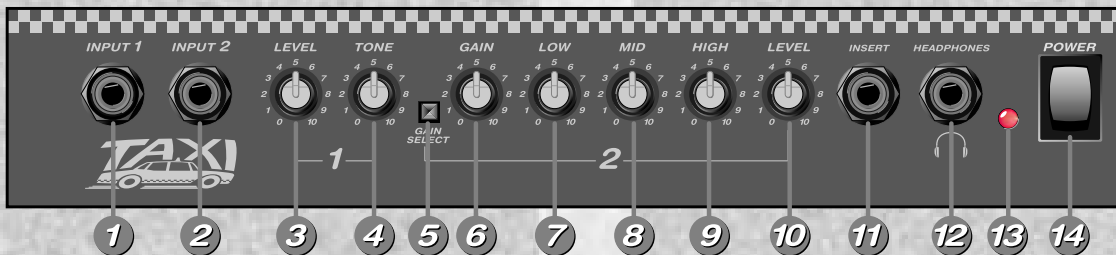


Connect the small round end of the adapter to the 12VDC Cigarette Lighter Adapter jack (#16, page 7), then connect the other end of the adapter into the vehicle's cigarette lighter socket. (In some vehicles, the ignition switch must be in the "on" or "accessory" position to have power at the socket.) To avoid damaging the amplifier, do not connect the supplied 15VAC charger to the amplifier's 12VDC Cigarette Lighter Adapter jack.

When using the lighter adapter, the vehicle's battery will keep the amp charged to its own voltage level – if the battery has a 13.5-volt charge, the amp will charge up to 13.5 volts; if the battery is low and only has a 10-volt charge, the amp will discharge down to 10 volts.

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THE FRONT PANEL:



1. INPUT 1: Connect an instrument, tape/CD player or microphone here using a shielded signal cable (see pages 8 & 9). Use the Tone and Level controls (#3 & 4) to control this signal.

2. INPUT 2: Connect an instrument, tape/CD player or microphone here using a shielded signal cable (see pages 8 & 9). Use the Gain, Tones (Low, Mid and High) and Level controls (#6 - 10) to control this signal. This high-Z input accepts a wide range of signals, from Piezo to line-level.

3. LEVEL: Use this control to adjust the output volume level of Input 1. When using devices such as a CD or tape player, a rhythm machine, etc., use this control along with the output volume control of the device to achieve a good volume balance between the Input 1 and Input 2 signals.

4. TONE: Use this control to adjust the midrange frequencies for Input 1.

5. GAIN SELECT: This switch pads the Input 2 signal just before the Gain control (#6), allowing you to get two different sounds from the same control settings – clean sounds with the switch in the out position; dirty sounds with the switch depressed. (As a general rule, leave this switch in the out position for use with acoustic instruments.)

6. GAIN: When the Gain Select switch (#5) is in the out position this control can add a lot of crunch to the Input 2 signal. When the Gain Select switch is depressed this control can add a lot of overdrive distortion when turned up. Use this control along with the Level control (#10) to get the right sound at the volume you need.

7. LOW: Use this control to adjust the level of the low frequencies for Input 2. For less bass, rotate this control counterclockwise; for more bass, rotate this control clockwise. At higher playing levels it is sometimes helpful to turn the low control down a bit.

8. MID: Use this control to adjust the level of the midrange frequencies for Input 2.

9. HIGH: Use this control to adjust the level of the high frequencies for Input 2.

10. LEVEL: Use this control to adjust the output volume level of Input 2. Use this control along with the Gain Select and Gain control (#5 & 6) to get the volume you need and the desired sound.

11. INSERT: Use this jack to connect an external effects device (reverb, chorus, etc.) to the amplifier (see page 6). The jack is a standard stereo 1/4" jack and is wired as follows:

Tip = Line In (Return – from effect's output)

Ring = Line Out (Send – to effect's input)

Sleeve = Ground

The Insert jack can also be used as a third input – see "Idea 4" on page 9.

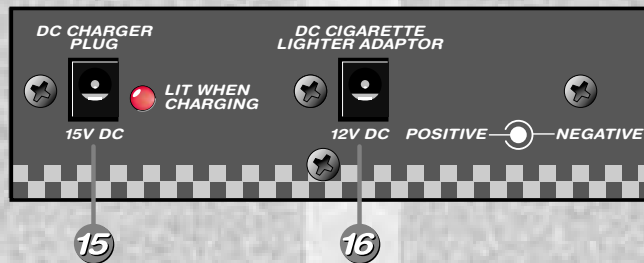
12. HEADPHONES: Use this jack to connect a pair of stereo headphones for a private practice session. The speakers are disconnected when headphones are used.

13. LED: When the battery is fully charged, this LED illuminates yellow when the power switch is in the on position. The LED illuminates red when the battery needs recharging.

14. POWER: Use this switch to turn the amplifier on and off. The "on" position is marked with a small white line. To conserve battery power, turn the amp off when not in use.

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THE REAR PANEL:

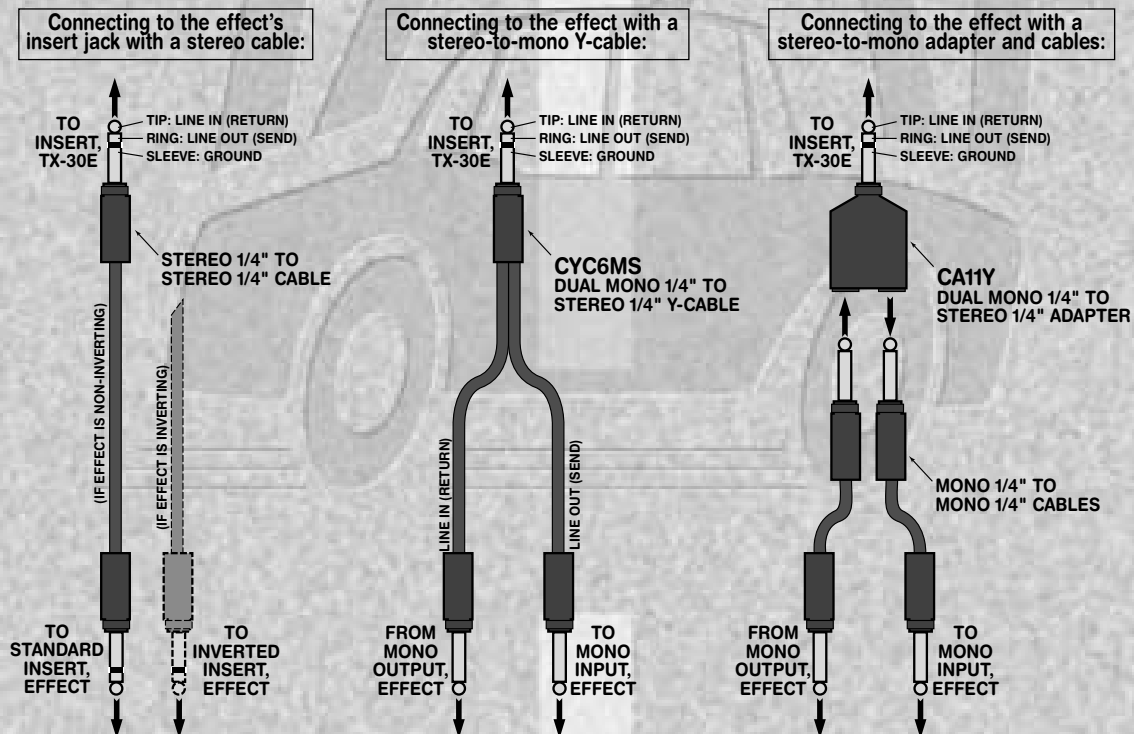


15. DC CHARGER PLUG, 15VDC: Plug the small round connector of the supplied AC wall adapter into this jack to charge the internal battery. The LED next to the jack illuminates red when the amp is charging. See page 4 for additional information.

16. DC CIGARETTE LIGHTER ADAPTER, 12 VDC: Plug the small round connector of the optional 12-volt car adapter into this jack to power the amplifier from a vehicle instead of the internal battery. NEVER connect the supplied 15-volt charger to this jack! See page 4 for additional information.

ABOUT THE INSERT JACK:

The Insert jack (#11) lets you patch external effects into the amplifier just prior to its power amp stage, as shown below. Set the mix controls on the external effects units to “full effect” (100% wet).



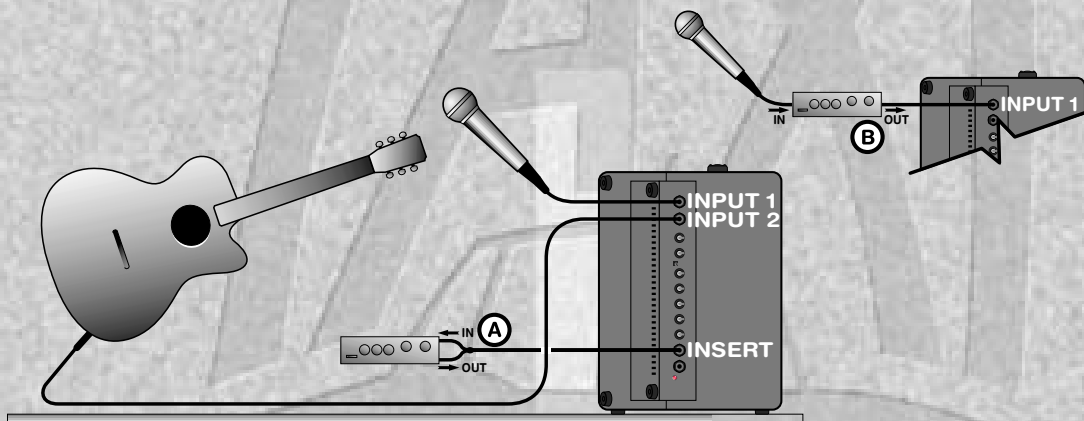
The Insert jack can also serve as a third input, using ONLY the tip and sleeve connections to feed a mono signal into the amp. The signal may need to be attenuated at the source to mix with Inputs 1 and 2. (See “Idea 4” on page 9.)

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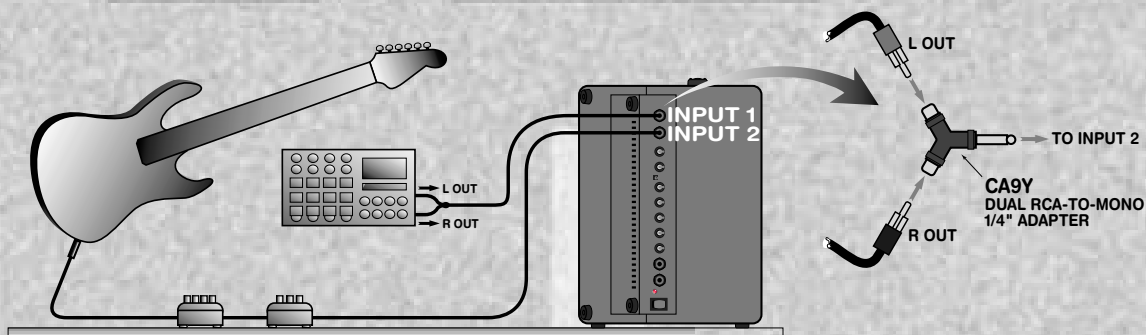
SUGGESTED SET-UPS:

The TX-30E can be used in a variety of different ways, some of which are shown below and on the following page. Use these ideas to fuel your imagination for the setup which best suits your needs.

Idea 1 – Play and sing, with effects: Plug a mic into Input 1 and an instrument (acoustic or electric guitar, keyboard) into Input 2. (This high-Z input works with all types of pickups, from Piezo to active types.) There are two ways to connect an effects device - into the Insert jack (“A” below), or in line with the microphone (“B” below). To connect the effects device into the Insert jack choose one of the methods shown on page 7. (Note that when the device is connected into the Insert jack the effect will be applied to both input signals 1 and 2.)



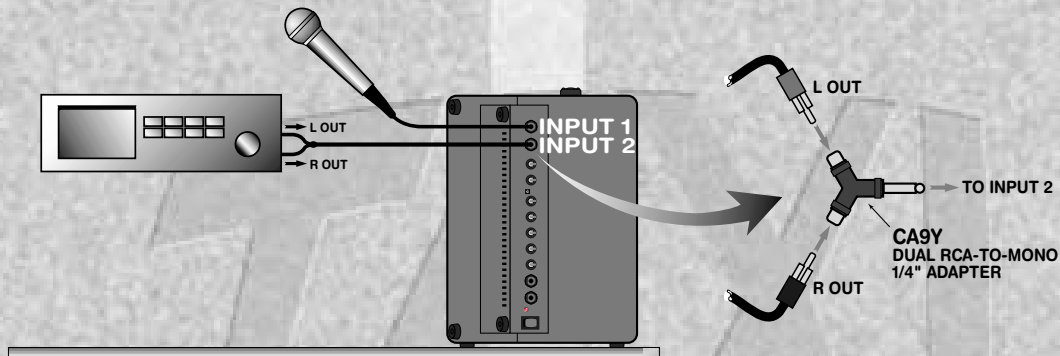
Idea 2 – Play along: Plug a rhythm machine, CD player or tape player into Input 1 and an instrument (acoustic or electric guitar or a keyboard) into Input 2. The outputs of a CD/tape player must be summed to a mono signal with a 1/4" plug, as shown.



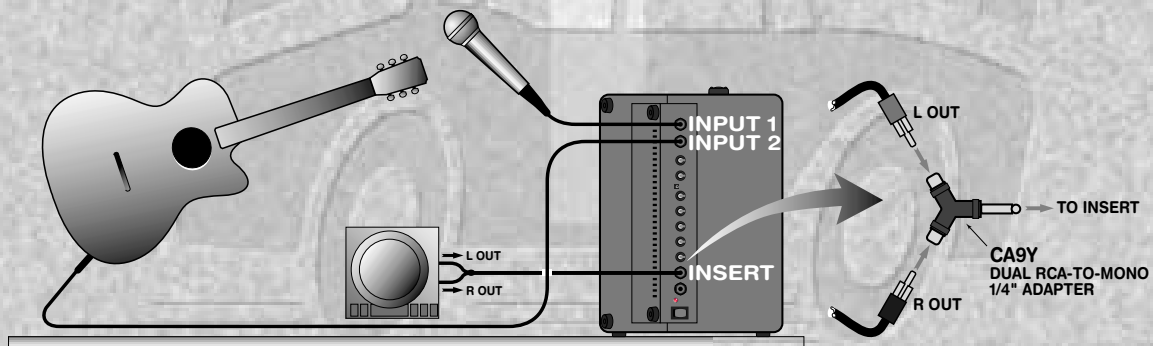
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SUGGESTED SET-UPS (continued):

Idea 3 – Sing along: Plug a mic into Input 1 and a CD or tape player into Input 2. The outputs of the CD/tape player must be summed to a mono signal with a 1/4" plug, as shown.



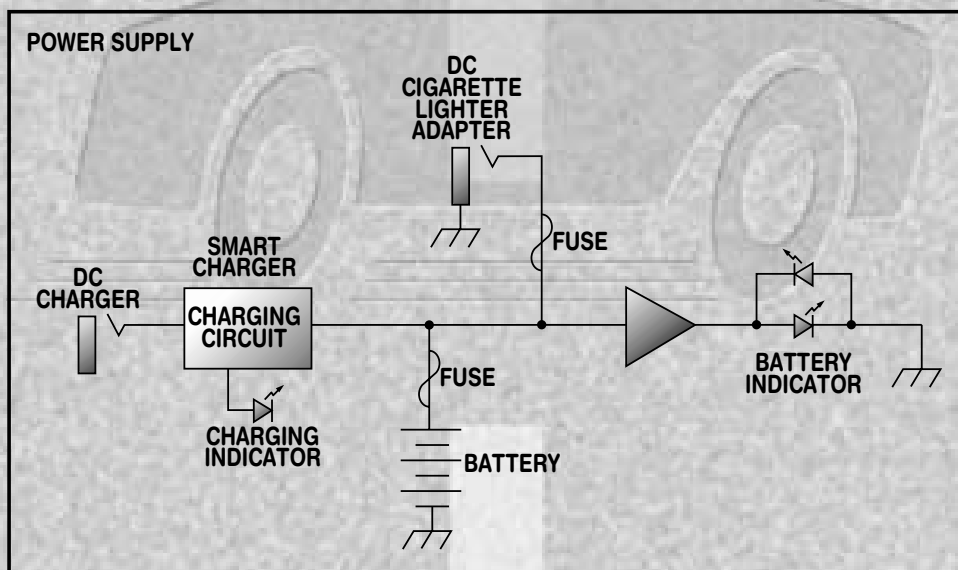
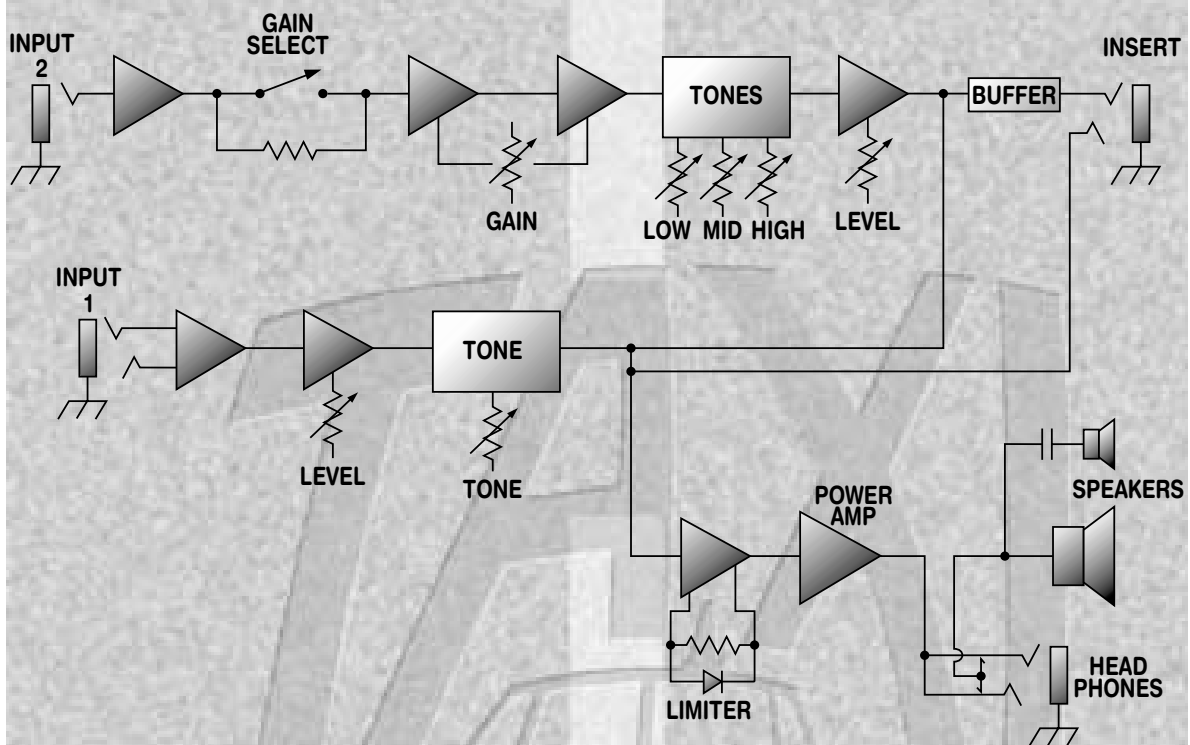
Idea 4 – Play and sing along: Plug a mic into Input 1, an instrument (acoustic or electric guitar, keyboard) into Input 2, and a rhythm machine, CD player or tape player into the Insert jack. The outputs of the CD/tape player must be summed to a mono signal with a 1/4" plug, as shown.



IMPORTANT! PLEASE NOTE: When using the Insert jack as a third input, use the appropriate adapter to sum the outputs of a stereo source to a mono 1/4" plug as shown above - do not connect a stereo plug into the Insert jack.

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SYSTEM BLOCK DIAGRAM:



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USER'S NOTES:



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TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

OUTPUT POWER RATING	30W RMS @ 10% THD, 8 ohms, 13.6VDC in	
INPUT IMPEDANCE	1M ohm	
MAXIMUM SIGNAL ACCEPTED		
	Channel 1	6V peak to peak
	Channel 2	12V peak to peak
GAIN	Channel 1	64dB
	Channel 2	56dB w/Gain switch out 86dB w/Gain switch in
SENSITIVITY	Channel 1	9mV RMS
	Channel 2	20mV RMS w/Gain switch out .7mV RMS w/Gain switch in
	Line In Insert	.3V RMS
TONE, CHANNEL 1	+/-15dB @ 600Hz	
EQS, CHANNEL 2	Low	12.5dB range @ 80Hz
	Mid	18dB range @ 850Hz
	High	13dB range @ 6kHz
INSERT JACK	Tip	Line In
	Ring	Line Out
	Sleeve	Ground
SPEAKERS	Woofers	Crate Custom Design 8", 8 ohm, 50 watt 1" voice coil
	Tweeter	2" Piezo, 8 ohm, 50 watt
POWER REQUIREMENTS	Internal 12 volt DC power supply DC adapter for use with 120VAC Optional 12V vehicle lighter adapter	
SIZE AND WEIGHT	17"W x 12-1/2"H x 12-1/2"D; 17 lbs.	

The TX-30E is enclosed in a rugged, molded high tech polymer cabinet. Wipe the enclosure with a damp, lint-free cloth to remove dirt and road film. Never spray cleaning agents directly onto the enclosure, and stay away from abrasive cleansers which could damage the finish.

Crate continually develops new products, as well as improves existing ones. For this reason, the specifications and information in this manual are subject to change without notice.



www.crateamps.com



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