

# Trace Acoustic<sup>®</sup> Transit A

Acoustic Instrument Preamp



Owner's Manual



## FCC Compliancy Statement

This device complies with Part 15 of the FCC rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) this device may not cause harmful interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference received, that may cause undesired operation.

**Warning:** Changes or modifications to the equipment not approved by Peavey Electronics Corp. can void the user's authority to use the equipment.

**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 and correct the interference by one or more of the following measures.

- Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
- Increase the separation between the equipment and 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.

CAN ICES-3(B)/NMB/3(B)



Trace Elliot • Hwy. 5022 Hwy. 493 North • Meridian, MS 39305  
Tel: (601) 486-2255 • Fax: (601) 486-1156 • [www.traceelliot.us](http://www.traceelliot.us)

## TRACE ACOUSTIC® TRANSIT™-A PRE-AMP

Congratulations on your purchase of the all-new Trace Acoustic® Transit™-A Acoustic Guitar Pre-amp pedal! The Transit-A pedal is a professional grade pre-amp for the discerning performer. The Transit-A preamp pedal includes the right features for a professional acoustic guitar player without over-burdening the user with extra controls that hinder quick and easy tweaking. The built in Compression, Notch Filter, Pre-shape and simple EQ controls ensure great tone, while the user-definable Boost, Chorus, Delay and Reverb offer all the tools necessary for artistic expression. The back-lit control panel becomes the chromatic tuner for accurate tuning. Built-in Pre and Post XLR balanced output, dry output and headphone output give the user the ins and outs they need for the best live coverage. The Transit-A pedal was also designed to fit in your case or bag, making it the perfect travel companion. The controls are simple and intuitive, making fine adjustments easy. Please read this manual carefully so you can get the most out of your new Trace Acoustic product!

### FEATURES:

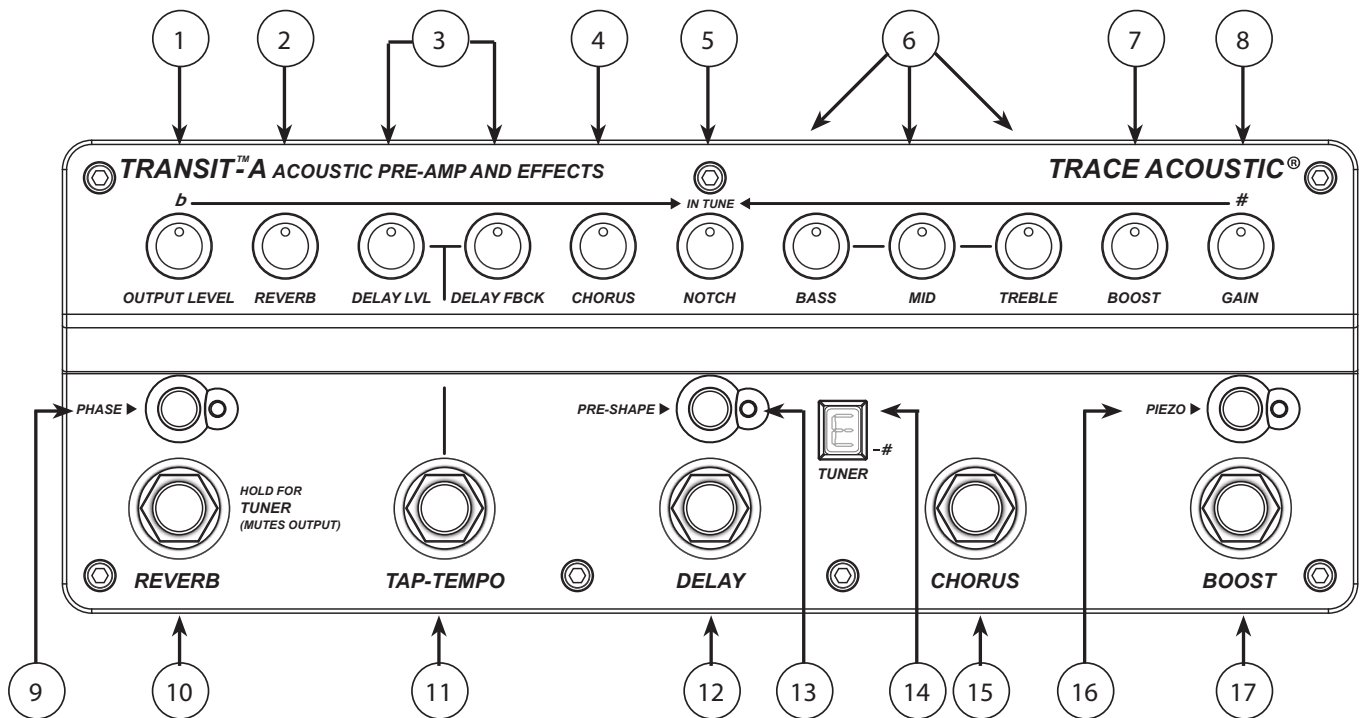
- Color coordinated backlit controls
- Built-in chromatic tuner
- Piezo button increases input impedance
- User definable boost switch
- Chorus with simple one knob operation
- Delay with Level, Feedback and Tap-Tempo
- Pre-shape switch for classic Trace Acoustic EQ curve
- Reverb with simple one knob operation
- Phase reverse switch
- 3 band active EQ
- Notch filter
- Input Gain and Output Level controls
- Stereo outputs and Dry output
- Pre and Post balanced XLR outputs with Ground Lift
- Aux input
- Phones output
- Dimensions (pedal only): 312mm W x 114mm D x 58.4mm H (12.3" W x 4.5" D x 2.3" H)
- Weight: 1.18 kg/2.6 lbs

**Caution:** Please look over this guide and read any caution or warning statements found within. Following these warnings is crucial to your personal safety and the safety of your Trace Elliot product.

### *\*INTEGRATED COMPRESSOR*

A very important feature is the integrated, studio quality, compressor. This is a 'soft-knee' compressor with 'adaptive attack and release times', that has been specially designed to work well with acoustic instruments. A subtle amount of compression can sound very nice and help to bring out the instrument in a mix. Sound engineers often add compression to acoustic guitar in recordings for exactly this reason. However, due to the simple operation of the Transit-A, the user doesn't need to be a sound engineer to use the compressor. Instead the user merely needs to adjust the GAIN control to set the amount of compression as desired.

## Top Panel



### (1) OUTPUT LEVEL

Controls the output level of the pre-amp. It does not affect the XLR direct outs. This allows you to adjust the 1/4" outs for stage rig, while not affecting the PA level.

### (2) REVERB

Controls the wet level of reverb effect.

### (3) DELAY LEVEL AND DELAY FEEDBACK

*DELAY LVL* - Wet level of delay.

*DELAY FBCK* - Feedback amount for delay effect.

### (4) CHORUS

Controls the intensity of the chorus effect.

### (5) NOTCH

Frequency of digital notch filter for feedback control. Notch range is OFF, then 30 Hz. - 330Hz.

If playing at fairly low volumes, where feedback is not a problem, then this control should be set at the minimum setting. This is so low that it will not affect the tone of your instrument. At higher volumes, especially if close to the amp, it is common for acoustic instruments to start to self-oscillate which causes the body and/or lower strings to vibrate. In these circumstances gradually turn the NOTCH control up until the offending vibration starts to die away. This has basically tuned the frequency of the notch filter to the frequency of vibration. Due to the notch filter having a very tight bandwidth, this will have minimal effect on the rest of your tone. Different settings, instruments and standing/sitting at different distances from the amp will have an effect on where this control needs to be set. With practice, the user will be able to locate the correct frequency with ease.

### (6) LOW, MID, HIGH

Digital three band tone controls. These are active +/-15dB boost/cut controls, so 12:00 is neutral.

### (7) BOOST

Boost amount. This is pre-compression, so you will get more compression when boosted.

## **(8) GAIN**

Analog input level. Higher levels will result in more analog compression.

The green ring turns yellow when compression is induced, and red if clipping occurs. Set it based on how much compression you want. But if you see red, reduce it until you don't.

If the user wants a natural sound, with minimal compression, then they should adjust the GAIN control so that, most of the time when playing, the LED is lit green, and only when they are striking the loudest notes should the LED occasionally go yellow. Therefore only slight compression is applied on the loudest peaks and the natural full dynamic range is preserved. This also ensures an adequate signal level is being sent through the rest of the pre-amp for a good signal to noise ratio.

However, if the user wants to give the instrument more presence and clarity in the mix, by turning up GAIN further so that the LED is lit yellow more often, the signal level will be pushed over threshold meaning that more compression is being applied and the dynamic range is being more tightly controlled. The specific GAIN setting will be down to the personal preference of the user. Players usually find that a tasteful amount of compression can really smooth out the sound and actually make certain parts seem easier to play, as it requires less physical effort to be heard consistently within a mix.

## **(9) PHASE Button**

Phase reversal of signal, for low-end feedback control.

## **(10) REVERB / MUTE/TUNE SWITCH AND LED**

On = reverb on. Off = reverb off. Blink = tuner, output muted. (Hold for tune.) Any footswitch will exit the tuner and return to normal mode. It cuts the send level so that turning reverb off does not cut the reverb trail.

## **(11) TAP TEMPO**

Two or more presses sets the  $\frac{1}{4}$  note delay time. LED ring will blink at that rate. Maximum delay time is 1 second.

## **(12) DELAY Switch**

Toggles the delay effect on and off. It cuts the send level so that turning delay off does not cut the delay trail.

*Delay Trails Tweak:* hold BOOST for 2 seconds to enter tweak mode (continue to hold). Tap Tempo switch will toggle delay trails on and off (on by default).

## **(13) PRE-SHAPE Button**

This will boost the low and high frequencies and cut the mid frequencies, giving an alternative EQ sound, emphasizing different harmonics. It can be used to help make some pickups (especially lower quality) sound more natural.

## **(14) TUNER Display**

This display activates when the MUTE/TUNE switch (10) is pressed and held. The note being played is displayed and the LEDs on the above knobs indicate whether the note is too flat or sharp. When the center LED shines alone, the note is in tune.

## **(15) CHORUS Switch**

Toggles the chorus effect on and off.

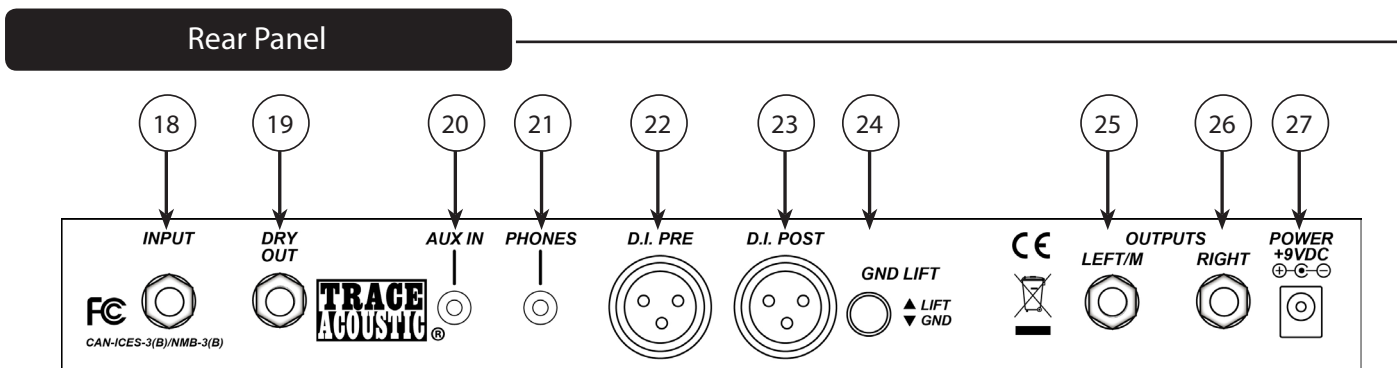
## **(16) PIEZO Button**

Analog control that raises the input impedance and gain of the input circuit. Generally, this should be pressed for instruments that have a piezo pickup without a preamp. However it can also be used as a preset

10dB boost if more gain is required on an active instrument.

### (17) BOOST Switch

Analog boost of input signal, based on boost knob.



### (18) INPUT JACK

Accepts signal from the instrument cable.

### (19) DRY OUT

Provides a buffered version of the raw instrument signal to drive additional electronic inputs without loading of the instrument. This is the only output that does not mute when the tuner is activated - allowing it to drive an external tuner if preferred.

### (20) AUX INPUT

Allows you to connect a media device to the unit and play along. This signal will be heard in the stereo outputs, the D.I. Post output, and the phones output.

### (21) HEADPHONE OUTPUT

1/8" headphone output for personal monitoring. This will contain the processed guitar signal, and the aux in signal.

### (22) DI PRE EQ XLR OUTPUT

The Transit-A can be run with a signal source from either pre or post processing. Use this XLR output if the DI is used in a live setting to send signal directly to a PA system. In this case, the DI signal will not be affected by changing any of the preamp controls, which allows independent adjustments for the PA system. Output Level Control (1) DOES NOT affect the output level of this output.

### (23) DI POST EQ XLR OUTPUT

The POST EQ setting is useful for recording or connecting the preamp to an external power amplifier in a live application, or directly to a PA, if you want the on-board processing to be heard in the FOH system. Output Level Control (1) DOES NOT affect the output level of this output.

### (24) GND LIFT Switch

This switch may be used to eliminate hum caused by ground loops between the preamp and other equipment, such as a mixing console.

### (25) LEFT/MONO LINE OUTPUT

Unbalanced output, left side of stereo field.

### (26) RIGHT OUTPUT

Unbalanced output, right side of stereo field.

**(27) DC Input Socket**

For connection of the included 9VDC power supply. Please note that the polarity of the center pin in the socket is **negative (-)** with respect to ground. **Please use the included Trace Elliot® Power Supply. Replacement Part #000908180.**

## Specifications

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The following nominal measurements were taken with all controls set at 12 o'clock, unless otherwise noted:

**Nominal INPUT level:**

NORMAL = 0.00 dBV

PIEZO = -10.0 dBV

**INPUT impedance:**

NORMAL = 110k Ohms

PIEZO = >10M Ohms

**Nominal DRY OUT level** = 0.00 dBV

**DRY OUT impedance** = 150 Ohms

**Nominal LEFT/M and RIGHT OUTPUT level** = 2.21 dBV (0 dBu)

**LEFT/M and RIGHT OUTPUT impedance** = 150 Ohms

**Nominal D.I. PRE level** = -6.02dBV

**Nominal D.I. POST level** = -2.21 dBV (0 dBu)

**EQUALISATION:**

BASS = +/- 15 dB @ 100 Hz, shelving

MID = +/- 15 dB @ 600 Hz

TREBLE = +/- 15 dB @ 4.00 kHz, shelving

**AUX IN level:**

Nominal = 1.78 dBV (+4 dBu)

AUX IN input impedance = 10k Ohms

**PHONES output level:**

Minimum load impedance = 4 Ohms

Maximum output power at minimum load = 500 mW (rms)

**NOTCH** = High Q notch filter variable from 30Hz to 330Hz for feedback suppression.

**BOOST** = Volume boost variable from 0-10dB.

**PRE-SHAPE** = The classic and proprietary Trace Elliot acoustic EQ curve.

**Power Supply (included):** 9V DC (negative tip) @ 1A.

**Dimensions (pedal only):** 312mm W x 114mm D x 58.4mm H (12.3" W x 4.5" D x 2.3" H)

**Weight:** 1.18 kg (2.6 lbs; pedal only), 1.45 kg (3.2 lbs; pedal + bag + supply)

**SPECIFICATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE**



Warranty registration and information for U.S. customers available online at  
[www.trace Elliot.com/warranty](http://www.trace Elliot.com/warranty)  
or use the QR tag below





*Features and specifications are subject to change without notice.*

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