

Blackstar[®]
AMPLIFICATION



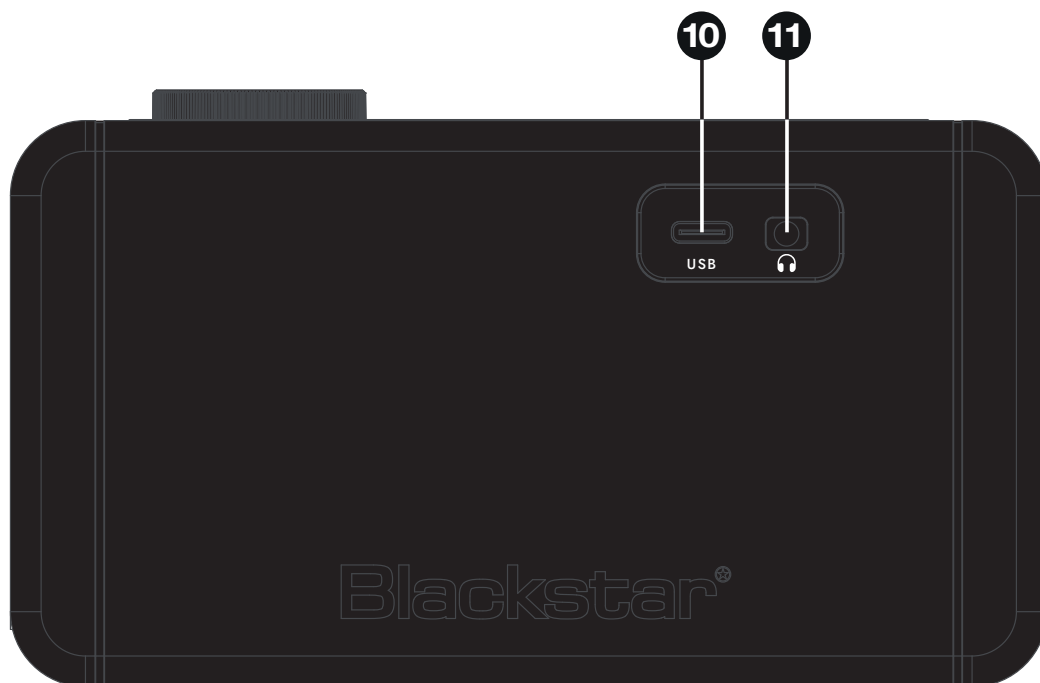
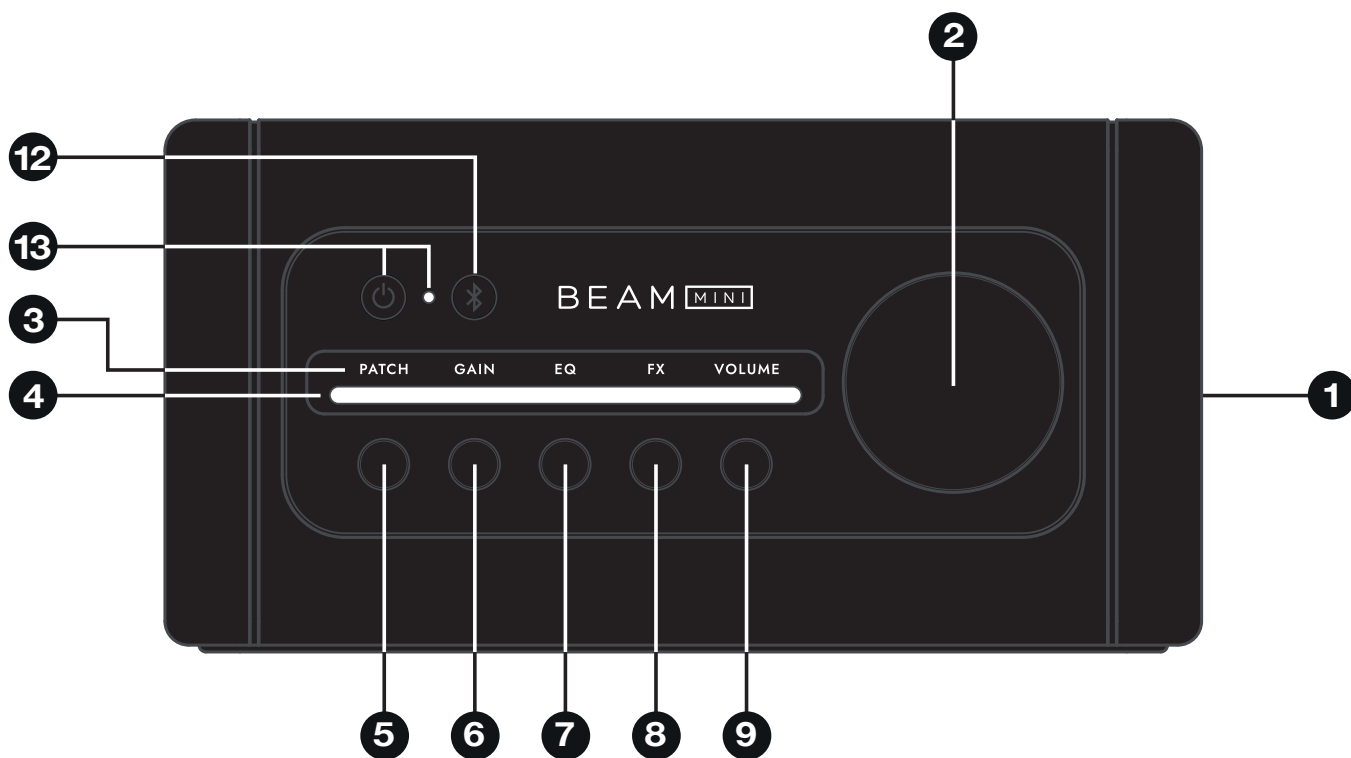
BEAM MINI

Owner's Manual

the sound in your head

Designed and Engineered by
Blackstar Amplification UK 

BEAM MINI Diagram



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IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

1. Read these instructions.
2. Keep these instructions.
3. Heed all warnings.
4. Follow all instructions.
5. Do not submerge in water.
6. Do not remove or replace the battery.
7. Install in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
8. Do not install near any heat sources such as radiators, heat registers, stoves, or other apparatus (including amplifiers) that produce heat.
9. Protect the power cord from being walked on or pinched particularly at plugs, convenience receptacles, and the point where they exit from the apparatus.
10. Only use attachments/accessories specified by the manufacturer.
11. Unplug this apparatus during lightning storms or when unused for long periods of time.
12. Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel. Servicing is required when the apparatus has been damaged in any way.

Warning!

Important safety information!

READ THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION CAREFULLY. SAVE ALL INSTRUCTIONS FOR FUTURE REFERENCE!

Follow all warnings and instructions marked on the product!

Do not open the equipment case. There are no user serviceable parts in this equipment. If the product does not operate normally when the operating instructions are followed, refer the product to a qualified service engineer.

Keep out of direct sunlight.

Condensation can form on the inside of an amplifier if it is moved from a cold environment to a warmer location. Before switching the unit on, it is recommended that the unit be allowed to reach room temperature.

Unauthorised modification of this equipment is expressly forbidden by Blackstar Amplification Ltd.

This product should not be placed near a source of heat such as a stove, radiator, or another heat producing device.

Only use a power adapter that is compatible with the mains voltage supply in your area. Power supply cords should always be handled carefully and should be replaced if damaged in any way.

Never break off the earth (ground) pin on an attached power supply adapter.

Don't leave charging continuously for longer than 12 hours. The power supply cord should be unplugged when the unit is to be unused for long periods of time.

High volume levels can cause permanent hearing damage. You should therefore avoid excessive volume levels or extended use in order to prevent a permanent hearing loss if exposure is in excess of the limits as set forth below.

Duration Per Day In Hours	Sound Level dBA, Slow Response
8	90
6	92
4	95
3	97
2	100
1½	102
1	105
½	110
¼ or less	115

According to OSHA, any exposure in excess of the above permissible limits could result in some hearing loss.



All electrical and electronic products should be disposed of separately from the municipal waste stream via designated collection facilities appointed by the government or the local authorities.



Introduction

Thank you for purchasing this Blackstar Beam Mini portable desktop guitar amplifier. Like all our products, this desktop amp is the result of countless hours of painstaking Research and Development by our world-class design team. Based in Northampton (UK), the Blackstar team are all experienced musicians themselves and the sole aim of the development process is to provide guitarists with products which are the ultimate tools for self-expression.

All Blackstar products are subjected to extensive laboratory and road testing to ensure that they are truly uncompromising in terms of reliability, quality and above all TONE.

Beam Mini redefines the portable desktop amp experience, delivering immersive, pro-level tones for electric, bass and acoustic guitar in a compact, intuitive design.

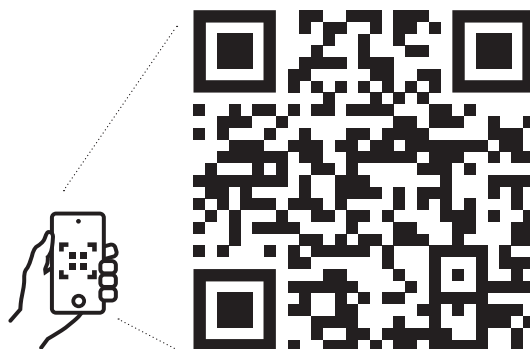
Please read through this handbook carefully to ensure you get the maximum benefit from your new Blackstar product.

If you like what you hear and want to find out more about the Blackstar range of products, please visit our website at www.blackstaramps.com.

Thanks!

The Blackstar Team

Let's get you started...



<https://www.blackstaramps.com/beam-mini/go>

Features

Welcome to your Beam Mini amp – a powerful, portable guitar solution combining premium amp modelling, studio-grade effects, and immersive CabRig™ IR-based speaker simulation, all editable via the Beam mobile app. Whether you're practicing quietly at home, jamming on the go, or recording direct, Beam Mini gives you big tone in a small, easy-to-use package.

Beam Mini was designed with real players in mind. Intuitive hardware controls for fast adjustments, a mobile app that grows with you, and features that turn every session into something inspiring. No other desktop amps feel like it.

Beam Mini's amps and effects pedals are the result of meticulous design, testing and optimisation component by component, sector by sector. Built on decades of R&D, they deliver the feel, response and musicality of revered valve amps and effects, recreated with unrivalled accuracy.

The unique SpeedDial and Light Beam display let you quickly refine your tones without needing the app, perfect for when inspiration strikes, or time is short. Use the XpressFX smart tracking control to adjust multiple effects parameters simultaneously from the top panel. When you're ready to deep-dive, seamlessly switch over the Beam mobile app for iOS and Android to explore more.

The CabRig™ IR-based cabinet simulation features our exclusive In the Room™ technology, which creates the experience of standing next to an amp while you play, rather than the more studio-focused tones of traditionally captured IRs. This works particularly well when listening through headphones or recording.

The Beam Mini is the first amplifier to run NAM A2 models natively, offering a major leap in realism over previous generations. It plays models exactly as intended—full, unaltered, and uncompromised—delivering the true NAM experience. Loading models is simple: find one in the Beam app, load it, and play. No computer, no conversions, and no extra steps required.

It also features Moises AI stem separation (coming August 2026), allowing you to isolate or remove instruments from any track, making it easier to practise, learn, and play along with your favourite music.

Create custom patches and share them with other Beam users via the Online Community from the Beam app. Access exclusive Artist patches for signature sounds from the pros, and jam along to curated backing tracks and video lessons to unlock your potential.

Connect a headset microphone to the TRRS 3.5mm connection to record both vocals and guitar simultaneously – perfect for livestreaming without the need for any external equipment.

In the Box

- Beam Mini
- USB-C to USB-C cable with USB-A adapter
- Quick Start Guide
- VIP Access card for product registration
- Carry strap

Factory Reset

The default factory patches and settings can be restored to your amplifier at any time. Simply hold down the PATCH and VOLUME buttons on the front panel whilst powering on the product.

Keep holding the PATCH and VOLUME buttons until the Light Beam display 'counts down' to zero and then fills to maximum. If either of the PATCH or VOLUME buttons are released before the Light Beam has completed the described process, the operation is cancelled and the amplifier will remain unaffected.

IMPORTANT NOTE: This process will overwrite any user saved patches and settings.

Firmware Update

Firmware updates are usually initiated via the Blackstar Beam mobile app, which is available for compatible iOS and Android devices. A new version of the Beam app will be released whenever an amplifier firmware update is available. Firmware updates may also be carried out via the USB connection and associated Blackstar update software.

When the amplifier is connected to a version of the Beam app containing newer firmware, a message will be displayed prompting you to update to the latest version. Whilst updating, the illuminated front panel labels will cycle and the progress will be displayed on the light bar and within the Beam app.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Headphones should be disconnected before carrying out a firmware update. During the update process, do not power off the amplifier, close the Beam app or power off your mobile device. Doing so will cause the update process to fail and may result in unexpected behaviour and unresponsive controls. If this occurs, power off the amplifier, then power on and retry the firmware update process. Holding down the GAIN and FX Control Buttons on the front panel whilst powering on your Beam Mini will manually put the product into Firmware Update mode.

Bluetooth Connectivity

Beam Mini uses two different types of Bluetooth® connection. Bluetooth® Low Energy (BLE) is used for the data communication between Beam Mini and the Beam app. Standard Bluetooth® is used for streaming audio to the Beam Mini.

To connect to the Beam app: Simply power on the Beam Mini, open the app and follow any on-screen instructions. If your phone automatically requests to pair with 'BEAM MINI BLE', you must allow it. You do not need to press the Bluetooth® button on your Beam Mini to connect to the Beam App.

To connect for audio streaming: The Beam Mini will power on in Bluetooth® pairing mode, indicated by a slow flashing blue LED on the top panel. Beam Mini can be discovered and paired to via the Bluetooth® settings on your phone, tablet or computer.

You will only need to carry out the pairing process for the first-time connection to a mobile device.

To disconnect from a currently paired Bluetooth audio device (blue indicator on), press and hold the Bluetooth Audio button on the top of your amplifier for five seconds, until the indicator turns off.

Bluetooth Troubleshooting

If you are experiencing issues with the Bluetooth connection to the Beam app or audio streaming from your mobile device, you will need to 'forget' the device and re-pair it.

First, power off your Beam Mini and quit the Beam app. Next, go to the Bluetooth settings of your mobile device and find any entries in the Bluetooth devices list named 'Beam Mini Audio' or 'Beam Mini BLE'. Follow your mobile device manufacturer's process to 'Forget This Device' for each of the Beam Mini entries. You can then restart the connection and pairing processes as detailed above.

Controls and Functions

1. Guitar Input

Plug your instrument in here. Always use a good quality screened instrument cable.

2. SpeedDial

Turn to adjust various parameters of your sound. Use the **Control Buttons** (5-9) to select which parameter the SpeedDial will adjust.

3. Illuminated Display

Indicates which parameter is currently being adjusted by the SpeedDial (2).

4. Light Beam

A unique display which provides visual feedback for the control being adjusted by the SpeedDial (2). The Light Beam is context-sensitive and presents a clear display for the parameter being shown. To maximise battery usage, after 10 seconds of inactivity the Light Beam will dim, then will turn off after a further 10 seconds of inactivity. Simply touch any Control Button or turn the SpeedDial to wake the Light Beam.

Control Buttons (5-9)

Select one of the 5 patches stored on your Beam Mini. Hold down the Patch button for 1 second to save changes to the current patch. Access an infinite number of saved patches via the Beam app.

5. Patch

Select one of the 5 patches stored on your BEAM SOLO. Hold down the Patch button for 1 second to save changes to the current patch. Access an infinite number of saved patches via the BEAM app.

6. Gain

Adjust the amount of preamp gain of your tone. For electric guitar amps, the Gain control adjusts the amount of overdrive or distortion. Low settings (counter clockwise) will deliver a cleaner sound on the edge of break-up. As the Gain control is turned clockwise the sound will become more overdriven. For bass and acoustic amps, the gain control will affect the amount of preamp compression.

This setting is saved when you store a patch.

7. EQ

The effect of this control is on the currently selected amp. The EQ control acts like a traditional Tone control. Low settings (counter clockwise) will be darker and warmer, becoming brighter and more cutting as the control is turned clockwise.

8. FX / Tap Tempo

Instantly adjust the intensity of all active post-effects using the exclusive XpressFX feature. XpressFX is a smart tracking control that adjusts multiple effects parameters simultaneously, giving you a fast, intuitive way to bring the sound in your head to life.

The FX button also acts as a Tap Tempo control. Repeatedly press the FX button to set the tempo of time-based effects such as modulations and delays, when their SYNC parameter is set to ON.

This setting is saved when you store a patch.

9. Volume

Adjusts your overall output volume. It acts as a Master volume control, adjusting both instrument and Bluetooth audio volume together and is independent of the individual volume control for each amplifier in the Beam app.

Hold down the Volume button for one second to engage the built-in Tuner. The Light Beam (4) displays how in-tune the note currently being played is, with a central position (under EQ) indicating being in-tune to the nearest note, whilst left of centre indicates a flat note and right of centre indicates a sharp note.

The Beam app will show a fully-featured tuner display when in Tuner Mode. By default, your guitar signal will be muted in Tuner Mode, which can be changed using the Beam app. Press any of the Control Buttons to exit Tuner Mode.

This setting is not saved when you store a patch.

Connections

10. USB-C Connection

Your Beam Mini's USB-C connection has multiple functions. Connect the included USB-C cable to any standard 5V USB charging source to charge the internal battery e.g. USB AC Adapter (not included) or another USB device with USB charging capability. The product can be safely used whilst charging.

Audio Interface

The USB-C connection also enables your Beam Mini to act as a professional quality audio interface for recording. Simply connect the included USB-C cable to your computer, tablet or mobile device.

IMPORTANT NOTE: If you are using an iOS device with a Lightning connection for recording, you will need a Made-for-iPhone (MFi) Lightning-to-USB adapter that supports audio over USB (not included). Visit <https://blackstaramps.com/get-connected-iphone-14-and-earlier-models/> for more information.

Your Beam Mini's USB connection carries multiple audio inputs and outputs, allowing you to capture different studio-quality audio streams to suit your recording workflow. Beam Mini supports both 44.1kHz and 48kHz audio sample rates.

USB Outputs to External Device:

- 1: **Guitar output L** – fully effected left channel guitar output
- 2: **Guitar output R** – fully effected right channel guitar output
- 3: **Guitar DI** – clean, unprocessed guitar signal which can be used with external plugins
- 4: **Headset mic DI** – clean, unprocessed headset mic signal

USB Inputs from External Device:

- 1: **Audio output L** – to headphones left
- 2: **Audio output R** – to headphones Right

IMPORTANT NOTE: For using Beam Mini as a USB Audio Interface with a Windows PC you will need the Blackstar USB Audio Driver for the best performance. Visit <https://portal.blackstaramps.com> to register your Beam Mini and access the custom USB Audio Driver for Windows, alongside other useful downloads. MacOS, iOS and Android devices do not require this driver.

11. 3.5mm Headphone Out / Line Out

Connect your headphones here. You can also connect Beam Mini to external speakers or mixers using this connection, as it is a high-quality signal suitable for studio use.

Beam Mini features a unique Headphone Damping control. All headphones are different, and even two sets of the same model of headphones may not sound the same. Use the Headphone Damping control within the Beam app to adjust the amount of unwanted upper harmonic frequencies reproduced by your headphones, giving you a more authentic amp-like sound and feel.

Headset

You can also connect a TRRS headset (headphones with inline microphone) here enabling you to capture vocals and guitar simultaneously, perfect for livestreaming or capturing musical ideas wherever inspiration strikes. For livestreaming, the Beam app can enable USB Loopback mode, which combines the USB input playback with the guitar input signal and sends this mix to the USB audio output. The headset mic input is fully configurable using the Beam app for controlling volume and reverb levels.

12. Bluetooth Audio Button

This button is used to pair and connect to an external Bluetooth audio device for streaming audio to your Beam Mini.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Before pressing this button, please review the Bluetooth Connectivity section above for when it is required. Pressing this button is NOT required for connecting to the Beam app.

13. Power Switch and Indicator LED

Press and hold the Power Button for 1 second to turn your Beam Mini on and off. Beam Mini has a Power Saving mode which is active by default. This will automatically power off your amplifier after 20 minutes of inactivity, which helps to prolong battery life. To wake Beam Mini after a Power Save shutdown, simply press the Power Button again. Power Saving mode can be switched off using the Beam app.

Battery

Your Beam Mini product is powered by a high-quality lithium-ion battery. Battery performance and longevity are influenced by how it is used and charged. To ensure reliable operation and maximise battery life, please follow the guidelines below:

- Wherever possible, avoid using fast chargers. Rapid charging places additional stress on the battery and can reduce its overall lifespan.
- Do not regularly charge the battery when it is already at 100%, and avoid allowing it to fully discharge. For optimal battery health, aim to keep the charge level between approximately 30% and 80%.
- If your Beam Mini product will not be used for an extended period, store it with the battery around half charged in a cool, dry, and dark environment.
- Do not use or charge the unit in hot or poorly ventilated locations, particularly at temperatures above 45°C / 113°F, such as inside a parked vehicle or in direct sunlight near a window.
- Avoid charging the battery in cold conditions below 10°C / 50°F, and do not operate the amplifier at temperatures below 0°C / 32°F.
- Protect the unit from strong mechanical impacts. Dropping the unit or subjecting it to heavy shocks may cause damage to the internal battery.

The internal Lithium-ion battery will last approximately 18 hours on a full charge, depending on usage. The battery can be charged from flat to full in approximately 2 hours.

The current battery level is shown within the Beam app. Once the battery level reaches 0% the Illuminated Display (3) and Light Beam (4) will rapidly flash 6 times before your Beam Mini powers off, indicating the need to recharge your amplifier. The Beam app, if connected, will also display a 'battery low' warning.

Indicator LED

This indicator provides information on the current state or operation of your Beam Mini at a glance:

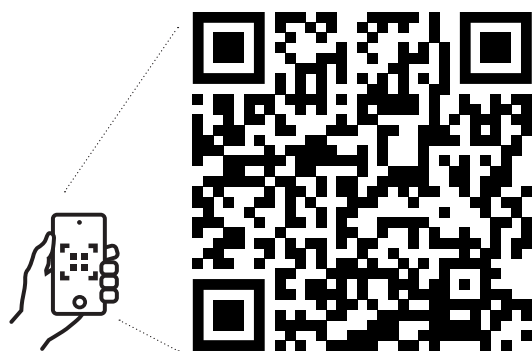
LED Colour	LED State	Function
White*	On	Unit powered on
Red	On	Battery charging
Blue **	On	Bluetooth audio connected
Blue** & white* alternating	Fast flash	Bluetooth pairing/reconnecting mode
Blue** & white* alternating	Slow flash	Bluetooth searching mode

*White LED displays as pink if battery is charging

**Blue LED displays as purple if battery is charging

BEAM Mobile App

The Blackstar Beam app is available for FREE for supported iOS and Android mobile devices. Download the Beam app to access deep control of your tone, a full catalogue of effects pedals, amps, cabinets, mics, plus recording tools and much more. Join the vibrant Online Community to share your carefully crafted patches and access exclusive Artist patches from the pros. Hone your technique with video lessons and jam along to inspiring backing tracks and drum loops, all within the Beam app.



<https://www.blackstaramps.com/download-beam-app/>

Technical Specification

BEAM MINI

Weight (g): 750

Dimensions (mm): 152 x 89 x 79

Speakers: 2 x 60mm custom full-range drivers and 2 x 55mm auxiliary bass radiators

Power amplifiers: 2 Channel class D, 12 Watt per channel

Waterproof and dustproof rating: IP66

Cleaning

To keep your Beam Mini clean please use a damp cloth using warm water only.

Blackstar Amplification Ltd, Beckett House, 14 Billing Road, Northampton, NN1 5AW, UK

For the latest information go to: www.blackstaramps.com

Whilst the information contained herein is correct at the time of publication, due to our policy of constant improvement and development, Blackstar Amplification Ltd reserves the right to alter specifications without prior notice.