



# Z-PLUS Manual

Model: ZA-43

[www.drzamps.com](http://www.drzamps.com)



This symbol warns the user of dangerous voltage levels localized within the enclosure.



This symbol advises the user to read all accompanying literature for safely operating the unit

### **Important Safety Instructions**

- 1) Read these instructions.
  - 2) Keep these instructions.
  - 3) Heed all warnings.
  - 4) Follow all instructions.
  - 5) Do not use this apparatus near water.
  - 6) Clean only with dry cloth.
  - 7) Do not block any ventilation openings. Maintain at least 3 feet of distance around all sides of amplifier. Do not block any ventilation openings with items such as newspapers, tablecloths, curtains, etc.
  - 8) Do not install near any heat sources such as radiators, heat registers, stoves, or other apparatus (including amplifiers) that produce heat.
  - 9) Do not defeat the safety purpose of the polarized or grounding-type plug. A polarized plug has two blades with one wider than the other. A grounding type plug has two blades and a third grounding prong. The wide blade or the third prong are provided for your safety. If the provided plug does not fit into your outlet, consult an electrician for replacement of the obsolete outlet.
  - 10) Protect the power cord from being walked on or pinched particularly at plugs, convenience receptacles, and the point where they exit from the apparatus.
  - 11) Only use attachments/accessories specified by the manufacturer.
  - 12) Use only with the cart, stand, tripod, bracket, or table specified by the manufacturer, or sold with the apparatus. When a cart is used, use caution when moving the cart/apparatus combination to avoid injury from tip-over.
  - 13) Unplug this apparatus during lightning storms or when unused for long periods of time.
  - 14) Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel. Servicing is required when the apparatus has been damaged in any way, such as power-supply cord or plug is damaged, liquid has been spilled or objects have fallen into the apparatus, the apparatus has been exposed to rain or moisture, does not operate normally, or has been dropped.
  - 15) Avoid placing any liquids on or near the amplifier that may splash or drip such as those contained in bottles, cans, glasses, etc.
- \*Dr Z amplifiers are capable of producing very high sound pressure levels which can cause temporary or permanent hearing damage.
- \*If any screw that is actually on the amp chassis needs to be replaced contact Dr Z Amps for the proper size. Screw size is critical for inner chassis clearances.

## General Information

When Joe Walsh approached Dr. Z for a new amp to use on the latest Eagles' tour, he harkened back to the legendary recordings with the James Gang, where Joe was using small, single ended Tweed combos. Never one to be satisfied with rehashing old designs, Dr. Z and Joe Walsh upped the ante by looking to hi-fi audio amplifiers; from this the Z-PLUS was born.

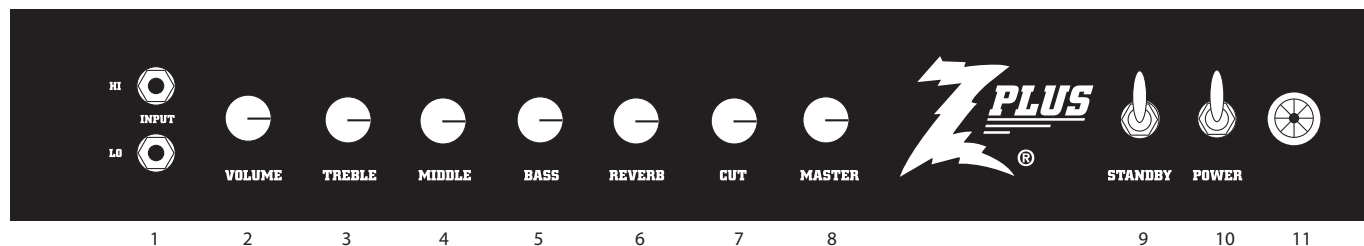
The Z-PLUS is a parallel, single-end amplifier in true Class A configuration, which yields a rich clean tone that smoothly overdrives into gritty, harmonic-laden distortion. Single-ended, Class A operation produces full even-order harmonics which are typically cancelled in traditional push-pull, Class A/B tube amp designs. The result is sparkling and satisfying tone with the full range of 2nd and 4th order harmonics with clarity akin to an full bodied, acoustic guitar. While typically class A designs are limited by lower clean headroom, the Z-PLUS utilizes two 6V6 power tubes in parallel which increases clean headroom, per Joe Walsh's request.

For the best of both worlds, the inclusion of a half-power switch drops the second 6V6 out of operation, rewarding you with touch responsive drive, dynamic compression, and lowered headroom. All of the typical Dr. Z features are included: full EQ with master volume and cut, hi and lo sensitivity inputs, an effects loop, a rich reverb circuit, and our variable boost footswitch. The output transformer is a special design for this amp, constructed with the highest grade M-6 stacked laminates, coupled with our custom all-aluminum chassis, and built like a tank to UL-60065 specifications. The Z-PLUS is available in our standard Ultra-Lite 1x12 combo or smaller studio-lite combo with either a ceramic Z12 Eminence designed speaker, or an upgraded Celestion Alnico Blue.

## Specifications

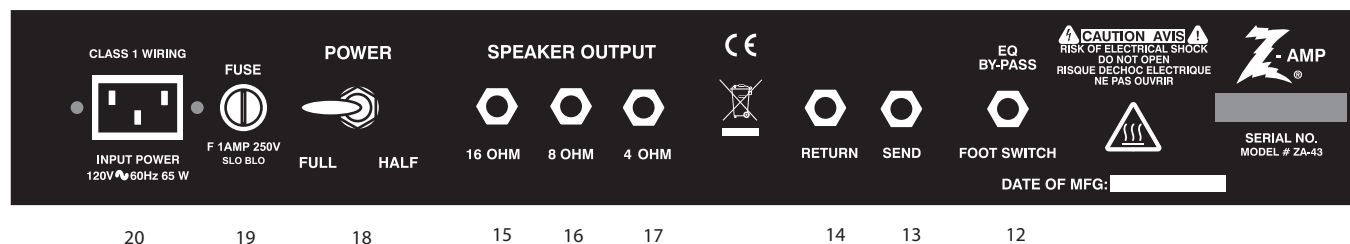
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|-------------------------------|--|
| <b>Power Output</b>           | 7/15 Watts   |
| <b>Output Tubes</b>           | 2 - 6V6 (Class A, cathode biased)  |
| <b>Preamp Tubes</b>           | 4 - 12AX7, 1-12AT7   |
| <b>Rectifier</b>              | 1 - 5AR4   |
| <b>Controls</b>               | Volume, Treble, Mid, Bass, Cut, Reverb, Master Volume, Half Power switch                                     |
| <b>Other</b>                  | 4, 8, 16 Ohm speaker outs, effects loop<br>EQ Bypass (Variable boost footswitch included)                    |
| <b>Configurations</b>         | 1x12 Studio Combo, 1x12 LT Combo (Z12 Speaker or Celestion Alnico Blue option)                               |
| <b>Colors</b>                 | Black, Blonde, Red   |
| <b>Dimension &amp; Weight</b> | 1x12 Studio Combo: 19 ¼" W, 19 ½" H, 10 ½" D; 38 lbs.<br>1x12 LT Combo: 22 1/2" W, 20 1/8" H, 10" D; 40 lbs. |

## Front Panel:



- 1. Input:** Input jack for your guitar. Hi is for normal use. LO has 3 dB less gain. Use LO with Humbucker equipped guitars for a cleaner sound.
- 2. Volume:** Controls overall gain. Set over half way for over-driven sounds. Set below half way for cleaner sounds.
- 3. Treble:** Controls overall high frequency response.
- 4. Mid:** Controls overall mid frequency response.
- 5. Bass:** Controls overall low frequency response.
- 6. Reverb:** Turn clockwise to add reverb.
- 7. Cut:** Controls overall tone/presence of amp. Turn clockwise for chime.
- 8. Master:** Controls overall amp volume and output tube compression.
- 9. Stand-By:** Leave in off position for 1 minute when powering up the amp. Turn on for play. Place in off position for extended break periods.
- 10. Power:** Switch up to turn on amplifier. Switch down to turn off amplifier.
- 11. Power Indicator:** Lights up when power is switched on. If bulb fails replace with type T47.

## Rear Panel:



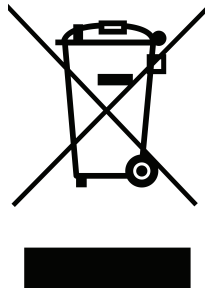
- 12. EQ bypass footswitch jack:** Plug supplied single button footswitch in here. This will enable you to engage the EQ bypass/gain boost mode. The variable boost footswitch features an added knob to control the amount of boost. Simply turn this knob clockwise to increase the amount of boost.
- 13. Send Jack:** This will send the signal from the amp to the “in” of your effects chain.
- 14. Return Jack:** Plug the “out” of your effects chain to return the signal back to the amp.
- 15. 16 OHM Speaker Jack:** Plug in 16 ohm speaker here. Always have a speaker plugged into the amp when it is powered on. Always match the speaker impedance to the proper speaker out jack. This will allow the amp to sound its best and avoid damage.
- 16. 8 OHM Speaker Jack:** Plug in 8 ohm speaker here. Always have a speaker plugged into the amp when it is powered on. Always match the speaker impedance to the proper speaker out jack. This will allow the amp to sound its best and avoid damage.
- 17. 4 OHM Speaker Jack:** Plug in 4 ohm speaker here. Always have a speaker plugged into the amp when it is powered on. Always match the speaker impedance to the proper speaker out jack. This will allow the amp to sound its best and avoid damage.
- 18. Half Power Switch:** This switch will remove one power tube from operation for lower headroom, more power tube distortion, and increased compression.
- 19. Fuse:** The fuse protects the amp from electrical faults. Replace only with the same rating and type stated below fuse holder (1A 250v SLO BLO). If the amp repeatedly blows the fuse contact your dealer or Dr Z Amps.
- 20. AC Inlet:** (Class I Wiring). This device is used for disconnection from power mains and must remain readily operable. The power indicator light does not indicate connection to power mains. The power cord must be disconnected to disconnect amplifier from power mains.



MODEL: \_\_\_\_\_

SERIAL NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

INPUT VOLTAGE: \_\_\_\_\_



MADE IN USA



## EC/EU Declaration of Conformity

Document: CE – ZA-43

Manufacturer: Dr. Z Amplification  
17011 Broadway Ave.  
Maple Heights, OH 44137 -3407  
USA

We declare that the designated product (s)  
**DR. Z Z-PLUS**  
is/are in conformity with the European Directives:

2014/30/EU EMC Directive of 26 February 2014

2011/65/EU RoHS Directive of 8 June 2011

2014/35/EU Electrical equipment designed for use within certain voltage limits

This declaration certifies compliance with the indicated directives but implies no warranty of properties. The safety instructions of the accompanying documentation shall be observed. This declaration of conformity is issued under the sole responsibility of the manufacturer.

Issuer: Dr. Z Amplification  
17011 Broadway Ave.  
Maple Heights, OH 44137 -3407  
USA

Place, date: Maple Heights, OH USA , 01.NOVEMBER.2017

Legally binding signature:

M.D. Zaite, General Manager, Dr. Z Amps