Ampeg 1978 Parts List — Reference Note

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About this document

This address used to serve a scan of the 1978 Ampeg service parts list. That scan is not recoverable. The Internet Archive holds two captures of this file, of 452 bytes and 293 bytes, and both carry the same content digest — in other words, both are placeholders rather than the document, and the real scan was never saved. The copy preserved on this site was 198 bytes of literal placeholder text.

> Rather than leave a broken file at a URL that is linked from every page of this site, this one-page document replaces it. It explains what happened and collects the parts reference information that is genuinely available. If you own a copy of the original 1978 parts list, or any Ampeg service document, please get in touch through the site's About page so that it can be published here.

Where to find parts now

Cosmetic and cabinet	Vintage Amp Restoration in St. Louis supplies correct blue check and black covering, grille cloth woven on the original manufacturer's equipment, reproduction script logoplates, Portaflex transformers, handles, latches, foot cups and chassis shock mounts.
General Ampeg spares	Fliptops carries a growing range of Ampeg parts, both new old stock and reproduction, including reproduction tube cages and NOS transformers.
Valves and components	Angela Instruments and Antique Electronic Supply stock valves, capacitors and related parts. Triode Electronics publishes the well-known discussion of 7027A substitutes in Ampeg amplifiers.
Baby Bass	Replacement necks, tuning machines, bridges, tailpieces, strings and retrofit pickups are covered in the Baby Bass section of the parts page on this site.

Full addresses, part numbers and notes on which suppliers are still trading are on the parts page: unofficialampeg.com/sources.html

Reading EIA date codes

Ampeg's own serial records are incomplete, and the most reliable evidence of when an amplifier was built is the EIA code stamped on its original components — potentiometers, transformers and speakers. The code is a source number identifying the component maker, followed by a date. The date gives the latest date the amplifier can possibly have been assembled, which is usually the answer that is wanted. See unofficialampeg.com/eia-codes.html for the source-number list and worked examples.

Valve types used in Ampeg amplifiers

7027A	Power valve in the V-2, V-3, V-4, V-4B, B-25B and others. Scarce and expensive. A 6L6GC may be substituted in most Ampegs, but read the documented discussion first and have the bias checked.
6550 / 6550A	Output valve of the SVT: eight of them, for 300 W. Replaced the 6146B used in the earliest SVT.
6146B	Transmitting valve used in the first SVT power amplifier. See both SVT schematics, which are free on this site.

7591 / 7591A	Power valve in the Jet, Reverberocket and other mid-1960s combos. A 7591A is in production again in Russia.
7199	Triode-pentode used in Ampeg reverb circuits. Russian production sold under this number has been reported to be pin-compatible rather than equivalent.
12DW7	Dual triode with two dissimilar halves, used in Ampeg preamplifiers.
6BK11	Triple triode used in some amplifiers including the J-12D Jet.
5Y3, 6V6, 6L6	Common in the smaller 1950s and 1960s models, and still readily available.

Cabinet hardware part numbers

Ampeg bought cabinet hardware from Excelsior Hardware of Stamford, Connecticut, which closed in 1995. These are the numbers to quote when hunting for the parts:

- 2801 corners — the three-finger corner used on the early Jet and other blue check cabinets.
- 2403-X clawbolt catches — the clasps that hold down the top of a Portaflex.
- 195 bell studs, 8/16 inch — the nickel hemispherical feet on the underside of a cabinet.

The large chrome handles on the bigger Portaflexes were made by Kason Industries; the part number has changed from 577 to 573. The rubber shock feet on a Portaflex dolly are simply number 4 single-hole black rubber laboratory stoppers.

Transformers

There is no single source for every Ampeg transformer. A failed output transformer can be rewound, but if you have one rewound, specify interleaved windings: primary and secondary layers alternating, as they were originally. Winding all of the primary and then all of the secondary is cheaper and audibly worse. This applies to output transformers, not to mains transformers.

Safety

> A valve amplifier holds 400 to 700 volts DC and can retain a lethal charge for hours after it is switched off and unplugged. Replacing a valve, or an external fuse of the correct rating, is a user task. Anything inside the chassis is not, unless you have been trained. Read the safety guide at unofficialampeg.com/safety.html before opening anything.

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