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Subject: Fisher SA-300b volume]balance Mod

Posted by [Peter Swartz](#) on Fri, 30 Nov 2007 01:17:13 GMT

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Hello, I need a little help. I have my Dads old Fisher amp which I love. I am going to be mounting it in a cabinet and have purchased an Alps dual gang Log volume pot and a dual gang balance pot. Both 500k as the original is. The amp has two separate gain controls on the amp chassis, my plans are to remove the factory pots, and replace with the new dual gang set of volume and balance controls so I can mount them separatly outside the cabinet.I need help as to how to wire the two together. The volume pot alone is easy , I can just take the wire leads from the original pots. But I'm not sure how to wire in the balance pot in the curcuit and I understand there are several different ways to do so.Can anyone draw me a point to point drawing, or send me a schematic with the best way sonically to wire these up?Thanks for your help, Peter

note: each pot has three leads, numbered 1,2,3 per channel.

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Subject: Re: Fisher SA-300b volume]balance Mod

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Sat, 01 Dec 2007 00:55:53 GMT

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For the balance pot, connect the left channel input to lug 1 and the ground to 3. Connect the right side just the opposite, with input to 3 and ground to 1. The center lug 2 goes out to the amplifier circuit, through the volume pot.What this does is to make clockwise rotation of the balance knob turn the left channel up and the right channel down. Counter-clockwise rotation does just the opposite.

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Subject: Re: Fisher SA-300b volume]balance Mod

Posted by [Peter Swartz](#) on Mon, 03 Dec 2007 21:09:48 GMT

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Hello again Wayne, Thanks for the reply.So I'm a little hesitant to wire this up until I'm confident I know which wire goes where. When you say input and output, I'm not sure on the stock pot which is which. I do have a schematic but not sure of the signal flow. I'm not sure if I go from the amps (out)( From the orig. pot ) to the new volume pot then the balance then back to the amp?????I hate to ask you but what I really need to feel confident to do this is to ask you to draw me a picture, form the nine different lead/contact points per channel. 3 leads from the orig. pot, 3 contacts on each channel of the alps volume pot and 3 contacts on each channel of the alps balance pot.Thanks for your help, Peter

Subject: Re: Fisher SA-300b volume]balance Mod  
Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Mon, 03 Dec 2007 22:12:32 GMT  
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When I say "input" what I mean is input to the potentiometer. The signal then flows through the potentiometer, which is a voltage divider to ground. Internally, the potentiometer has a resistive substrate with connections on both ends, pins 1 and 3. It also has a wiper that can be moved along the substrate, pin 2. The audio signal flows out of the preamp circuit to the potentiometer. The resistance across the potentiometer is the load to the preamp circuit. One side of the pot is connected to the preamp output (input to the pot) and the other side is connected to ground. The wiper rests on some point between the signal side and ground. This makes two resistances from this point, one to ground and another to the preamp signal. This forms a voltage divider, and the signal level depends on the position of the wiper. To wire this up properly, you will need to know what wires go to what points in the circuit. You need to identify which lines are ground, what lines are from the preamp output and what lines are inputs to the next stage.

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Subject: Re: Fisher SA-300b volume]balance Mod  
Posted by [Peter Swartz](#) on Sat, 08 Dec 2007 16:19:58 GMT  
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Thanks for your help Wayne, I think I've got it figured out. Off to Electronic City for some wire, etc...I appreciate your excellent descriptions, etc...Peter

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Subject: Re: Fisher SA-300b volume]balance Mod  
Posted by [Peter Swartz](#) on Sun, 09 Dec 2007 04:19:31 GMT  
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Well I guess I didn't quite have it figured out just right. I wired it all up and when I went to test it, you'll laugh here, I didn't hear any music until I turned the balance pot left or right from center. The volume control appears to work it raises each channel. So I'm hoping I don't have to tear back into the chassis of this old amp as it's quite messy. I'm hoping that maybe I only need to change the wiring on the balance pot. But I'm not going to do anything until I hear back from you. Thanks, Peter 310-465-5629

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Subject: Re: Fisher SA-300b volume]balance Mod  
Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Mon, 10 Dec 2007 16:21:48 GMT  
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Subject: Re: Fisher SA-300b volume]balance Mod  
Posted by [Peter Swartz](#) on Tue, 11 Dec 2007 05:55:03 GMT  
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Subject: Re: Fisher SA-300b volume]balance Mod  
Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Tue, 11 Dec 2007 20:24:10 GMT  
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Page 3 of 4 ---- Generated from [AudioRoundTable.com](http://AudioRoundTable.com)

this for very little money.

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Subject: Re: Fisher SA-300b volume]balance Mod  
Posted by [Peter Swartz](#) on Sat, 29 Dec 2007 19:30:07 GMT  
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Thanks Wayne, Well I decided just to forget the balance pot since I had the wrong value and hope the units outputs would be balanced. So I hooked up only the 250K volume pot and had a surprise. I obviously hooked it up wrong because it works in the opposite direction. Turning the knob clockwise turns the volume down to silence and counter-clockwise makes it louder. Any suggestions? Could it be just a matter of switching the wires on the pot? It seems to work fine. And sound fine. But sure makes me wonder if it could cause some problems. Happy New Year!  
Peter

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Subject: Re: Fisher SA-300b volume]balance Mod  
Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Sat, 29 Dec 2007 19:54:51 GMT  
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No problem, you just have wires on pins 1 and 3 reversed. Swap them and your volume knob will work like you expect it to.

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