



Use Extreme Caution! Lethal voltages are present in this device. Ensure that power is disconnected and that the power supply is fully discharged before servicing this amplifier or attempting this modification.

This modification WILL void your warranty. Performing this modification improperly may result in destruction of the amplifier, other serious property damage, personal injury, and even death!

If you choose to service this amplifier or perform this modification you do so solely at your own risk. Neither the manufacturer of the amplifier nor the author of this modification shall be liable in any way for damages or injury resulting directly or indirectly from this modification.

This modification should only be performed by qualified personnel. If this drawing and any accompanying article does not seem to convey enough information for you to attempt the modification with confidence, that is probably a good sign that you are not qualified and should not attempt the modification!

This modification applies only to the specific model mentioned, the Crate VC-508 amplifier. The newer V58 amplifier MAY have the same circuit but it might also be completely different. Please note that occasionally manufacturers change their designs without notice, so this modification might not apply to all VC-508 amplifiers. If you do not have the technical knowledge to determine whether this schematic matches your specific amplifier, then you DO NOT have the technical knowledge to complete this modification safely!

NOTE: Moving the volume control to its "correct" location allows us to saturate both preamp stages independently of the power amp (increasing "fatness" and sustain) at the very slight cost of having the line out (which may also be wired as an effects loop using a stereo plug) be affected only by the gain and tone controls.

The values shown will cause the second tube stage to saturate just slightly before the first tube stage. When line out is wired as an effects loop using a stereo plug, use the output level of the effects to attenuate the signal if no post-effects overdrive is desired.

The values shown allow about 50% more maximum drive to the power tube for a given saturation level in the preamp. This allows for completely independent control of preamp and power amp saturation.

Replace 12AX7 tube with 12AT7.

C9 remove (opt)

560 or 600

Replace R10 and R15 with 560 ohm resistors, or place a new 1k ohm resistor across each, for better results with either a 12AT7 or 12AX7 preamp tube.

EXPORT WIRING	
CONNECT AC SWITCH WIRE TO:	FUSE VALUE
J12 FOR 100V	1/2 AMP
J11 FOR 115/120V	SLO-BL
J10 FOR 230V	1/4 AMP
J18 FOR 240V	SLO-BL