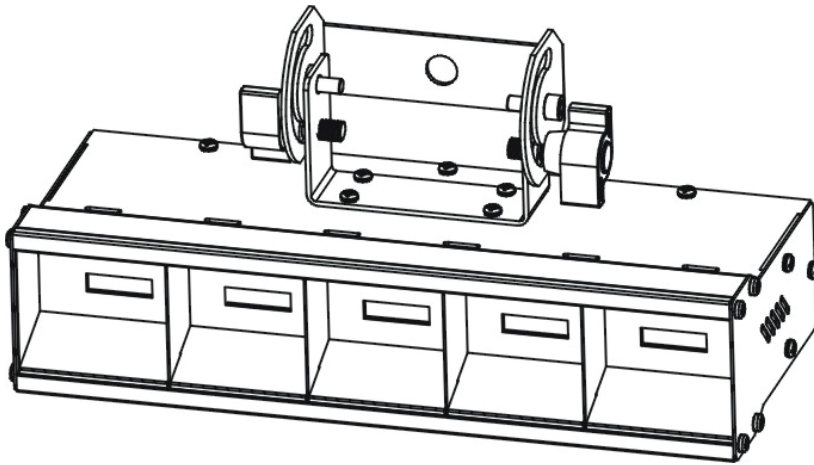




American DJ®

# FREQ 5 STROBE



## User Instructions

### FREQ 5 Strobe

**Unpacking:** Thank you for purchasing the American DJ®. Every FREQ 5 Strobe has been shipped in perfect operating condition. Please inspect the shipping carton for damage that may have occurred. If the shipping carton appears to be damaged, carefully inspect the unit for damage and be sure all accessories necessary for operation arrived intact. In the case damage has been done to the unit, please contact our toll free customer support line for instructions. Do not return this unit to your shipping location without customer support.

**Introduction:** The FREQ 5 Strobe is part of our new line of lighting in pursuit for creating high quality affordable lighting. The FREQ 5 Strobe is a revolutionary 5-zone LED strobe light with 5 modes; Sound Active (with adjustable sound sensitivity), Manual Mode, or DMX Control. This unit can be used as a stand alone fixture, or in a Master/Slave configuration.

**Customer Support:** American DJ® provides a 24-hour customer support line, to provide set up help and to answer any questions you encounter problems during your set up. You can also visit us on the web at [www.americandj.com](http://www.americandj.com) for more suggestions. Service Hours are Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Pacific Standard Time.

Voice: (800) 322-6337

Fax: (323) 582-2941

E-mail: [support@americandj.com](mailto:support@americandj.com)

To purchase parts online visit <http://parts.americandj.com>

**Warning!** To prevent or reduce the risk of injury, do not expose this unit to rain or moisture.

**Caution!** There are no user serviceable parts. Do not attempt any repairs yourself, doing so will void the warranty. In the unlikely event your unit may require repair, contact American DJ®.

**PLEASE recycle the shipping carton when possible.**

## FREQ 5 Strobe

## General Instructions

To optimize the performance of this product, please read these operating instructions carefully to familiarize yourself with the basic operations of this unit. These instructions contain important safety information regarding the use and maintenance of this unit. Please keep this manual with the unit, for future reference.

## FREQ 5 Strobe

## Features

- Built in Microphone
- 4 DMX Channel Modes: 1 Channel Mode, 2 Channel Mode, 5 Channel Mode, & 7 Channel Mode
- 12 Show Modes
- 4 Operating Modes - Sound Active, Show Mode, Manual Mode, and DMX Control
- Sound Sensitivity Adjustable
- UC3 Remote Control Compatiable (Not Included)
- Power Cord Daisy Chaining. See page 17.

## FREQ 5 Strobe

## Warranty Registration

The FREQ 5 Strobe carries a 3 year (1095 days) limited warranty. Please fill out the enclosed warranty card to validate your purchase and warranty. You may also register your product online at [www.americandj.com](http://www.americandj.com). All returned service items whether under warranty or not, must be freight pre-paid and accompany a return authorization (R.A.) number. If the unit is under warranty you must provide a copy of your proof of purchase invoice. Please contact American DJ® customer support for a R.A. number.

## FREQ 5 Strobe

- To reduce the risk of electrical shock or rain or moisture
- Do not spill water or other liquids into
- Do not attempt to operate this unit if the cord is frayed or broken. Do not attempt to remove the prong from the electrical cord. This prevents electrical shock and fire in case of an accident.
- Disconnect from main power before making any adjustments.
- Do not remove the cover under any circumstances. Serviceable parts inside.
- Never operate this unit when it's cover is removed.
- Never plug this unit in to a dimmer pack.
- Always be sure to mount this unit in an area with good ventilation. Allow about 6" (15cm) between the unit and the wall.
- Do not attempt to operate this unit, if it is damaged.
- This unit is intended for indoor use only. Outdoor use voids all warranties.
- During long periods of non-use, disconnect from power.
- Always mount this unit in safe and stable location.
- Power-supply cords should be routed so they cannot be walked on or pinched by items placed on top of the fixture, paying particular attention to the point where the cord enters the fixture.
- Cleaning -The fixture should be cleaned regularly by the manufacturer. See page 17 for cleaning instructions.
- Heat -The appliance should be situated away from heat sources (such as radiators, heat registers, stoves, and other heat producing amplifiers) that produce heat.
- The fixture should be serviced by qualified personnel if:
  - A. The power-supply cord or the plug has been damaged.
  - B. Objects have fallen, or liquid has been spilled on the fixture.
  - C. The appliance has been exposed to rain or moisture.
  - D. The appliance does not appear to operate normally or has a marked change in performance.

**Power Supply:** The American DJ® FREQ 5 Strobe contains a automatic voltage switch, which will auto sense the voltage when it is plugged into the power source. With this switch there is no need to worry about the correct power voltage, this unit can be plugged in anywhere.

**DMX-512:** DMX is short for Digital Multiplex. This is a universal protocol used as a form of communication between intelligent fixtures and controllers. A DMX controller sends DMX data instructions from the controller to the fixture. DMX data is sent as serial data that travels from fixture to fixture via the DATA “IN” and DATA “OUT” XLR terminals located on all DMX fixtures (most controllers only have a DATA “OUT” terminal).

**DMX Linking:** DMX is a language allowing all makes and models of different manufactures to be linked together and operate from a single controller, as long as all fixtures and the controller are DMX compliant. To ensure proper DMX data transmission, when using several DMX fixtures try to use the shortest cable path possible. The order in which fixtures are connected in a DMX line does not influence the DMX addressing. For example; a fixture assigned a DMX address of 1 may be placed anywhere in a DMX line, at the beginning, at the end, or anywhere in the middle. When a fixture is assigned a DMX address of 1, the DMX controller knows to send DATA assigned to address 1 to that unit, no matter where it is located in the DMX chain.

**Data Cable (DMX Cable) Requirements (For DMX Operation):**

The FREQ 5 Strobe has 4 DMX Channel modes. The DMX address is set on the rear panel of the FREQ 5 Strobe. Your unit and your DMX controller require a approved DMX-512 110 Ohm Data cable for data input and data output. We recommend Accu-Cable DMX cables. If you are making your own cables, be sure to use standard 110-120 Ohm shielded cable (This cable may be purchased at almost all professional sound and lighting stores). Your cables should be made with a male and female XLR connector on either end of the cable. Also remember that DMX cable must be daisy chained and cannot be split.



Figure 1

**Notice:** Be sure to follow figures two and three when connecting cables. Do not use the ground lug on the cable to connect the cable’s shield conductor to the ground conductor to come in contact with the XLR connector. The shield could cause a short circuit and damage the fixture.

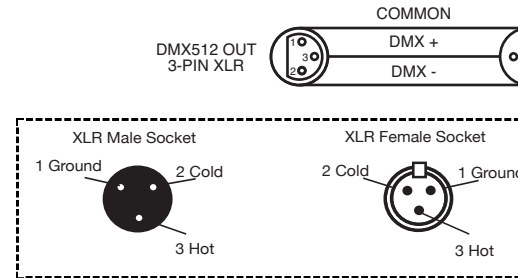


Figure 3

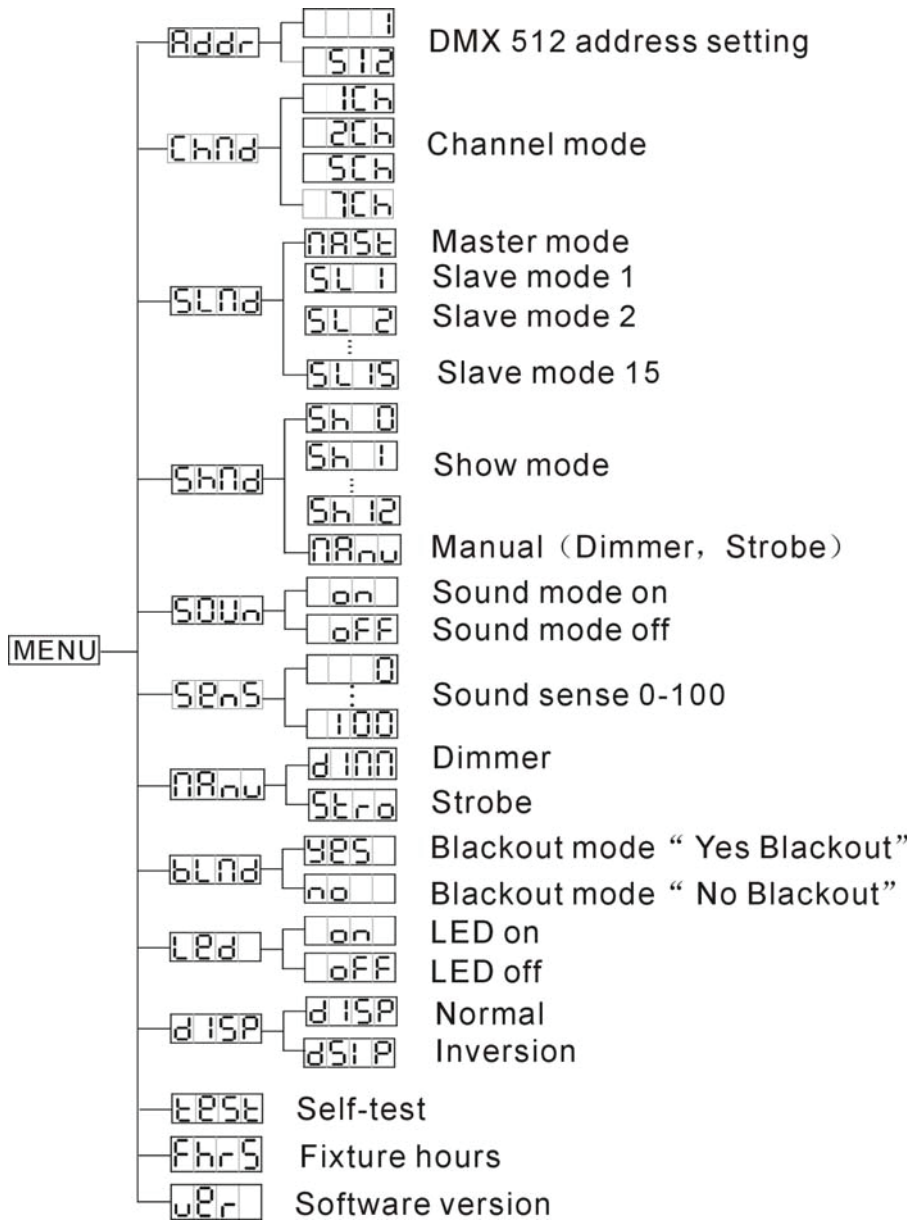
**Special Note: Line Termination.** When using a DMX cable, you may need to use a terminator or terminator block to prevent signal reflection behavior. A terminator is a 110-120 ohm resistor connected between pins 2 and 3 of a male XLR connector (DATA + and DATA -). This unit is inserted in the female XLR connector of the last unit in your daisy chain to terminate the line. The use of a terminator (ADJ part number Z-DMX/T) will decrease signal reflection behavior.



Termination reduces signal error and avoids signal transmission problems and interference. It is always advised to connect a DMX terminal, (Resistor 120 Ohm 1/4 W) between PIN 2 and PIN 3 (DMX +) of the last

**5-Pin XLR DMX Connectors.** Some DMX fixtures may be implemented in a 3-pin DMX line. These adaptors are readily available at most lighting stores. Below details a proper cable conversion.

3-Pin XLR to 5-Pin XLR Conversion	
Conductor	3-Pin XLR Female (O)
Ground/Shield	Pin 1
Data Complement (- signal)	Pin 2
Data True (+ signal)	Pin 3
Not Used	
Not Used	



**ADDR - DMX Address Setting via o**

1. Press the MENU button until "ADDR"
  2. "X" will now be displayed, "X" repres Press the UP or DOWN buttons to fin
  3. Press ENTER to confirm, then conn
- NOTE:** If after you connect your DMX fall into DMX mode, press and hold th 3 seconds.

**CHND - This will let select your de mode.**

1. Press the either the MENU button u press ENTER. Either "1Ch", "2Ch", "5C played
2. Press the UP or DOWN buttons to channel mode and press ENTER to co

**SLND - This will let you set unit a master/slave configuration.**

1. Press the MENU button until "SLND ENTER. Either "MASt", "SL 1", "SL 2" -
2. Press the UP or DOWN buttons un displayed, press ENTER to confir.

**NOTE:** In a Master/Slave configuration to Slave 1 (SL 1) and then set the nex in doing this the fixtures will now have each other.

**SHND: SH 0 - SH 12 - Show mod Show mode can run with or without**

**Manual show** is used in conjunction with knobs located on the rear of the unit. **NOTE: When running the fixture as a single fixture, it must be set to the Master setting.**

**See page 14 for Master setting.**

1. Press the MENU button until "SHND" is displayed, press ENTER.
2. "SH X" will now be displayed, "X" representing a number between 0-12 or "MANU" will be displayed. Shows 1-12 are preset shows, while "SH 0" is random show. "MANU" is Manual mode, in this mode you adjust the dimmer and strobe to your desire using the knobs located on the rear of the unit. Press the UP or DOWN buttons to find your desired show.
3. Once you have found your desired show press ENTER, and then press and hold the MENU button for at least 3 seconds to confirm.

**SOUN** - In this submenu you can activate sound active mode. **NOTE: When running the fixture as a single fixture, it must be set to the Master setting.**

**See page 14 for Master setting.**

1. Press the MENU button until "SOUN" is displayed, press ENTER.
2. Either "ON" or "OFF" will now be displayed. Press the UP or DOWN buttons to select one or the other.
3. When you have made your selection, press the ENTER, and then press and hold the MENU button for at least 3 seconds to confirm.

**SENS** - Sound sensitivity control.

1. Press the MENU button until "SENS" is displayed, press ENTER.
2. The display will show a number between 0-100. Press the UP or DOWN buttons to adjust the sound sensitivity. 0 being the least sensitive and 100 the most sensitive.

3. Press the ENTER, and then press and hold the MENU button for at least 3 seconds to confirm.

**MANU** - In this mode you can manually adjust the dimmer and strobe rate. Unlike the Manual Show Mode submenu, this Manual Show Mode submenu uses the knobs located on the rear of the unit.

1. Press the MENU button until "MANU" is displayed, press ENTER.
2. Either "DIMM" or "STRO" will now be displayed. Press the UP or DOWN buttons to switch between either function.
3. When you have decided on what you want to adjust first, press the ENTER button, and then use the UP or DOWN buttons to make adjustments. Once you are satisfied with your adjustments press ENTER.
4. Once you have finished with your adjustments, press the MENU button to exit this function. If you press the MENU button for more than 3 seconds, you will be lost and you will have to start over.

**BLND** - In this submenu you can activate the blind function.

1. Press the MENU button until "BLND" is displayed, press ENTER.
2. Either "YES" or "NO" will now be displayed. Press the UP or DOWN buttons to select one or the other.
3. Press ENTER to confirm your selection.

**LED** - With this function the LED dimmer can be set to stay on for a set number of minutes.

1. Press the MENU button until "LED" is displayed, press ENTER.
2. Either "ON" or "OFF" will now be displayed. Press the UP or DOWN buttons to select "ON" to keep the LED dimmer on for a set number of minutes.

times, or “OFF” to allow the LED display to turn off after 2 minutes. Press any button to turn the LED display on again.

3. Press ENTER to confirm your selection.

### DISP - This will “flip” the LED display

1. Press the MENU button until “DISP” is displayed, press ENTER.

2. When “DISP” is displayed the LED display will remain normal, when “DISP” is displayed, the LED display will be “flipped”. Use the ENTER button to find your desired display set up, then press MENU to confirm and exit.

### TEST - This function will run a self test program.

1. Press the MENU button until “TEST” is displayed, press ENTER.

2. The fixture will now run a self test. Press the MENU button to exit.

### FHRS - With this function you can display the running time of the unit.

1. Press the MENU button until “FHRS” is displayed, press ENTER.

2. The running time of the fixture will now be displayed. Press MENU to exit.

### VER - This will display the software version

1. Press the MENU button until “VER” is displayed. Press the ENTER button and the software version will be displayed.

2. Press the MENU button to leave this function.

**Universal DMX Control:** This function allows you to use a universal DMX-512 controller to control the timer and strobe. A DMX controller allows you to create programs tailored to your individual needs.

1. The FREQ 5 Strobe has 4 DMX Channels. See pages 15-16 for a detailed description of the 2 Channel Mode, 5 Channel Mode, & 15-16 for a detailed description of the 15-16 for a detailed description of the
2. To control your fixture in DMX mode, see the instructions on pages 8-9 as well as the set-up spreadsheet included with your DMX controller.
3. Use the controller’s faders to control the timer and strobe. This will allow you to create your own DMX programs.
4. Follow the instructions on page 8 to set the DMX Mode and to set the DMX address. A DMX controller in DMX mode and set the address, then use the controller.
5. For longer cable runs (more than a 100 feet), use the last fixture.
6. For help operating in DMX mode contact your distributor with your DMX controller.

**Sound Active Mode:** This mode allows you to link multiple fixtures together, to run to the beat of the music. ***the fixture as a single fixture, it must be set to the Master setting. See page 14 for Master setting.***

1. Press the MENU button until “SOUN” is displayed, press ENTER.
2. Press the UP or DOWN buttons until “SOUN” is displayed, press ENTER, and then press and hold the UP or DOWN button until “SENS” is displayed. Use the UP or DOWN buttons to adjust sensitivity. See page 9 for more info.
3. To adjust the sound sensitivity press the UP or DOWN button until “SENS” is displayed. Use the UP or DOWN buttons to adjust sensitivity. See page 9 for more info.
4. The optional UC3 Controller (not included) allows you to control different functions including black box controls and functions.

**Show Mode:** This mode allows a single fixture to be set to run a selected show. ***NOTE: a single fixture, it must be set to the Master setting.***

**for Master setting.**

1. Press the MENU button until “SHND” is displayed, and press ENTER.
2. Press the UP or DOWN buttons until you find your desired show, press ENTER, then press and hold the MENU button to confirm. Please see page 9 for more info about Show Mode.
3. The optional *UC3 Controller* (not included) may be used to control different functions including blackout. See page 14 for UC3 controls and functions.

**Manual Mode:** This mode allows a single unit to run a manual set up.

1. Press the MENU button until “MENU” is displayed, and press ENTER.
2. Either “DIMM” or “STRO” will now be displayed. Press the UP or DOWN buttons to switch between either setting.
3. When you have decided on what setting you would like to adjust first, press the ENTER button. Use the UP and DOWN buttons to make adjustments. Once you have made your desired adjustments press ENTER.
4. Once you have finished with your adjustments **DO NOT** leave this submenu. If you press the MENU button, all adjustments will be lost and you will have to start over.
5. The optional *UC3 Controller* (not included) may be used to control different functions including blackout. See page 14 for UC3 controls and functions.

**Master-Slave Operation:** This function allows multiple units together and operate without a controller. In this function one unit will act as the controlling unit and the other units will follow the controlling units programs. Any unit can be set as Master or Slave.

1. Using appropriate XLR cables, daisy chain the units. The XLR connector on the rear of the first unit is the input and the Female XLR connector is the output. The first unit in the chain (master) has the XLR connector only - The last unit in the chain (slave) has the XLR connector only. For longer cable runs use a patch cord between the last fixture and the last unit.
2. Set the Master unit to your desired operational mode. Press the MENU button until “SLND” is displayed, and Press ENTER. Use the UP or DOWN buttons to find the “FIRST” setting and press ENTER.
3. On the slave units tap the MENU button until “SLND” is displayed, and Press ENTER. Use the UP or DOWN buttons to find the “SL 1” to “SL 15”. Once you have found the setting press ENTER. For more info see page 14.
4. The slave units will now follow the Master unit.
5. The optional *UC3 Controller* (not included) may be used to control different functions including blackout.

Blackout	Blackout the unit
Function	Synchronous Strobe by auto Synchronous Strobe by sound (press and hold the button)
Mode	Strobe (LED OFF)

FREQ 5 Strobe		1 Channel Mode
Channel	Value	Function
1	0 - 7	SHOWS BLACKOUT
	8 - 27	SHOW 1
	28 - 47	SHOW 2
	48 - 67	SHOW 3
	68 - 87	SHOW 4
	88 - 107	SHOW 5
	108 - 127	SHOW 6
	128 - 147	SHOW 7
	148 - 167	SHOW 8
	168 - 187	SHOW 9
	188 - 207	SHOW 10
	208 - 227	SHOW 11
	228 - 247	SHOW 12
	248 - 255	RANDOM SHOW

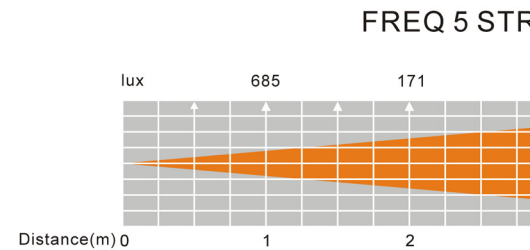
Note: All shows are sound active when a music source is present.

FREQ 5 Strobe		2 Channel Mode
Channel	Value	Function
1	0 - 255	MASTER DIMMER 0% - 100%
	9 - 255	STROBING SLOW - FAST
2	0 - 8	NO FUNCTION
	9 - 255	STROBING SLOW - FAST

FREQ 5 Strobe		5 Channel Mode
Channel	Value	Function
1 - 5	0 - 255	DIMMER 0% - 100%

FREQ 5 Strobe		
Channel	Value	
1 - 5	0 - 255	
6	0 - 255	M
7	0 - 8	
	9 - 131	STRO
	132 - 139	
	140 - 181	SLOW
	182 - 189	
	190 - 231	FAST C
	232 - 239	
	240 - 247	SOUN
248 - 255		

### FREQ 5 Strobe



## FREQ 5 Strobe

## Power Cord Daisy Chain

**With this feature you can connect the fixtures to one another using the IEC input and output sockets. The quantity that can be connected is 13 fixtures maximum. After 13 fixtures you will need to use a new power outlet. They must be the same fixtures. DO NOT mix fixtures.**

## FREQ 5 Strobe

## Fuse Replacement

Locate and remove the unit's power cord. Once the cord has been removed locate the fuse holder located inside the power socket. Insert a flat-head screw driver into the power socket and gently pry out the fuse holder. Remove the bad fuse and replace with a new one. The fuse holder has a built-in socket for a spare fuse be sure not to confuse the spare fuse with active fuse.

## FREQ 5 Strobe

## Cleaning

Due to fog residue, smoke, and dust cleaning the internal and external optical lenses must be carried out periodically to optimize light output.

1. Use a soft cloth to wipe down the outside casing.

Cleaning frequency depends on the environment in which the fixture operates (i.e. smoke, fog residue, dust, dew).

## FREQ 5 Strobe

## Trouble Shooting

Listed below are a few common problems the user may encounter, with solutions.

### **Unit not responding to DMX:**

1. Check that the DMX cables are connected properly and are wired correctly (pin 3 is "hot"; on some other DMX devices pin 2 may be 'hot'). Also, check that all cables are connected to the right connectors; it does matter which way the inputs and outputs are connected.

### **Unit does not respond to sound:**

1. Quiet or high pitched sounds will not activate the unit.

*If problems are not resolved; Contact American DJ® for service.  
1-800-322-6337*

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## FREQ 5 Strobe

### MANUFACTURER'S LIMITED WARRANTY

A. American DJ, Inc. hereby warrants, to the original purchaser, that all American DJ, Inc. Audio products to be free of manufacturing defects in material and workmanship for a period from the date of purchase (see specific warranty periods for each product). This warranty is valid only if the product is purchased within the United States and territories. It is the owner's responsibility to establish a chain of custody. In the absence of acceptable evidence, at the time service is sought.

B. For warranty service you must obtain a Return Merchandise Authorization (RMA) by sending back the product. Contact American DJ, Inc. Service Department for more information. The product only to the American DJ, Inc. factory. All shipping charges for the product requested repairs or service (including parts replacement) shall be the responsibility of American DJ, Inc. American DJ, Inc. will pay return shipping charges only to the United States. If the entire instrument is sent, it must be shipped in its original packaging and should be shipped with the product. If any accessories are included, they must be included. American DJ, Inc. shall have no liability whatsoever for loss of or damage to the product upon its safe return thereof.

C. This warranty is void if the serial number has been modified in any manner which American DJ, Inc. concludes to be fraudulent. American DJ, Inc. will not be responsible for the product; if the product has been repaired or serviced by a third party, American DJ, Inc. factory unless prior written authorization was issued to the factory. If the product is damaged because not properly maintained as specified in the user manual, this warranty is void.

D. This is not a service contract, and this warranty does not include periodic check-up. During the period specified above, American DJ, Inc. will provide parts and repair labor by reason of defects in material or workmanship. American DJ, Inc. under this warranty shall be limited to the repair or replacement of including parts, at the sole discretion of American DJ, Inc. All products manufactured after January 1, 1990, and bear identifying numbers.

E. American DJ, Inc. reserves the right to make changes to its products without any obligation to include these changes in the original product. No warranty, whether expressed or implied, is made by American DJ, Inc. for any product supplied with products described above. Except to the extent that the implied warranties made by American DJ, Inc. in connection with the sale of the product of merchantability or fitness, are limited in duration to the extent of the implied warranties, whether expressed or implied, including warranties that may apply to this product after said period has expired. The cost of such repair or replacement as is expressly provided for in this warranty shall American DJ, Inc. be liable for any loss or damage, direct or indirect, use of, or inability to use, this product.

This warranty is the only written warranty applicable to American DJ, Inc. Audio Products and supersedes all prior warranties and written conditions heretofore published.

### MANUFACTURER'S LIMITED WARRANTY PERIODS:

- All American Audio Products = 1-year (365 day) Limited Warranty (excluding amplifiers)
  - All American Audio V-Plus Series Amplifiers = 3-year (1095 day) Limited Warranty
  - American DJ Lighting and American DJ Branded Products (Such as: Special Effect Lighting, Intelligent Lighting, UV Light Machines, Mirror Balls, Par Cans, Trussing, Lighting Stands, and Star Tec Series)
  - American DJ Laser Products and Star Tec Products = 90-day Limited Warranty
  - American DJ L.E.D. Products = 3-year (1095 day) Limited Warranty (excluding boards, and power supplies, which have a 1-year (365 day) Limited Warranty)
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