



Small Basstar user's manual.

Please read carefully this manual, it explains how to use the pedal at its best.

Please feed the pedal with a 9v or 12v center negative power supply.

About the Small Basstar sound

The Small Basstar has something of Dr Jeckyl and Mr Hyde... It works very well for guitar AND bass. With a bass, it inherits of the Glorious Basstar qualities, going from nice crunch to heavy saturation, always with a clear attack and nice bottom. With a guitar, the Small Basstar is a more on a nice vintage tone, dynamic and precise blues rock overdrive, with a stoner feel on some settings.

The most intriguing feature is the mix knob that no other overdrive pedal for guitar has, but that one can see on bass overdrives. In fact the Small Basstar actually split the instrument's sound in two. On one side there's the bass and the attack from the instrument, that will remain clean whatever the gain's knob position is. On the other side the trebles from the instrument are saturated with the gain knob and eventually softened with the tone knob. These two separates signals (Bass+ attack / saturated treble) are then balanced with the mix knob.

Also the saturation's color can be radically changed with two settings:

Either with the MID (H/L/M) switch in the middle of the pedal: it changes the frequency at which the bass from the treble from H=800Hz, M=400Hz to L=200Hz. This changes radically the tone of the pedal.

Or under the pedal are two mini dip switches. See page "what are these knobs for?" .

Getting started.

With his strange settings this pedal can feel a little weird at the beginning. I suggest to begin by testing the extreme settings to understand it well. All these settings are with the volume between 12 and 2 o'clock.

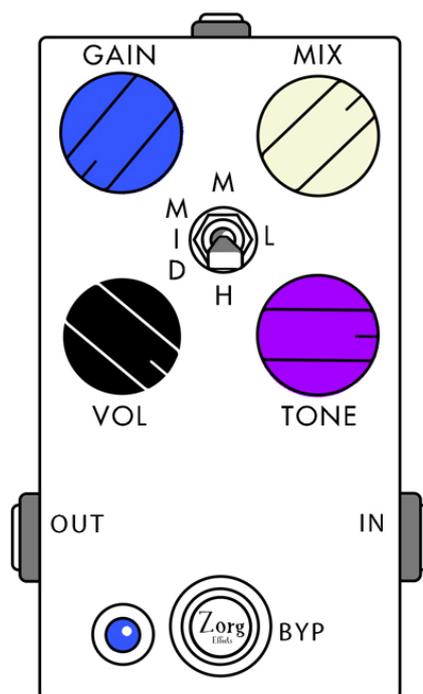
First listen to the bass and attack band, with the TONE, the GAIN and the MIX at 7 o'clock and the MID switch in "L" position. Listen to the pedal's sound, you should hear only the bass of your instrument and a little attack. Move the MID switch to hear how it adds or removes mids depending on its position.

Then move the MIX at 5 o'clock, listen how the signal changes to a medium/treble sound. Then move again the MID switch and listen how it changes the treble band.

Then rise the GAIN up to its maximum (5 o'clock). Once it's at the maximum, test the mini switches under the pedal and hear how it changes the saturation color.

Now, move the tone until you get something that suits you. Then back down the MIX to 7 o'clock. In this position, find that the bass is still clean and there's a tiny bit of saturated signal on. Then rise up the MIX until you find a balance between bass and treble that suits you. And then keep on experimenting!

What are these knobs for?



Gain: With this knob you can adjust the overdrive gain of the treble of your instrument. It goes from clean to very saturated.

Tone: Allows to soften the saturated sound and darken your sound. Turn clockwise to remove trebles.

Mix: allows to blend the two separate bands from the instrument. On the right there's only the treble band (with its gain and tone settings), on the left there's the attack and the bass from the instrument. It's up to you to find the balance between these signals that suits you according to your pickups level.

Volume: This is the general volume of the pedal.

The Mid H/L/M switch: Allows to choose the frequency which separates the bass band from the treble band. The two bands are cross-dependent: the bass bands ends where the treble band begins. Three frequencies are available: 200Hz, 400Hz, 800Hz. The choice of this setting has a major importance for your sound. For example at 200Hz, the bass band will mainly be sub, whereas at 800Hz there's a lot of medium content in it.

And then, if you turn the pedal upside down, you'll see a hole with two mini dip switches which allows to change the color of the distortion by choosing between 3 clipping options:

- Mosfet: gives a dynamic saturation with a little medium bump. (Off-On position)
- Diode + Led: gives a more compressed distortion with less mediums. (On-Off or On-On positions)
- No clippers: has not yet been explored by the author of this user's manual. You'll get sound, you might not like it, but maybe you will... (Off-Off position)