

Analog Man King Of Tone overdrive JAN-04



Analog Man, in collaboration with Jim Weider, have come out with the pedal we have been looking for for many years - the King Of Tone. There are many overdrive pedals on the market, but none of them have been quite right, preserving the tone of the guitar and adding the right amount of overdrive without compromise.

There are 2 channels available on this pedal by pressing the switch on the right. Each channel has its own volume control and LED. We use SUPER BRIGHT Yellow and Red LEDs so you can easily tell which channel is selected. The switch on the left is a normal on/off switch, true bypass of course. The selected channel's LED will glow dimly when the pedal is off, so you know what mode you are in. This does not take any more power as they are extremely efficient LEDs, but if you don't want the LED to glow when the pedal is OFF you can cut the jumper which is on the right of the DIP switch, or push down the 4th DIP switch.

There is also a master DRIVE and TONE control on the pedal, these are active on both channels. In addition, there is a TREBLE BOOST knob on the inside of the pedal. Turn the treble boost all the way down for normal setting, most people may like it best turned up a few notches especially with a darker sounding guitar or amp.

There is also a 3 (or sometimes 4) position DIP switch on the inside of the pedal, which you can use to choose between two OD modes and a DISTORTION mode. I designed this switch to allow almost anyone to be able to find the exact sound they want in this pedal. The modes are:

1) Normal Overdrive mode (OD mode): This is the standard King Of Tone sound, which Jim likes best- a little less drive available than a tube screamer. Factory DIP switch setting has this mode on the first (red) channel. This mode can get about 4 times louder than a tube screamer if desired.

2) CLEAN mode : This mode has less drive, can be used for clean boosts or clearer, louder sounds. It's sort of a cross between a true clean boost and an overdrive. CLEAN MODE is even less compressed than the standard OD mode. The factory DIP switch setting uses this mode on the second (yellow) channel. This mode can get twice as loud as the OD mode.

3) DISTORTION mode : This mode has more drive than the standard mode- a touch of hard distortion. The sound is a little more compressed, yet retains the pedal's character. This mode can get almost twice as loud as a tube screamer. At low DRIVE settings or when playing softly, there is not much difference between the three modes, they all can get pretty clean. I recommend the factory setting for best results.



DIP switch settings

There are 3 or 4 DIP switches. Factory setting is 1 2 3 4: OFF ON OFF UP (down, up, down, up)

This factory setting makes the red channel OD and yellow CLEAN, so you can decide if you like one sound best, or would like to have both available. If you want both available, leave switches in this setting.

To set both channels to be normal OD mode (CLEAN mode will not be available) then set switches to: ON OFF OFF

To set both channels to CLEAN mode (OD mode not available), set to: OFF OFF OFF

The third DIP switch is for additional distortion. When you turn it ON, you get significantly more and harder distortion, and less volume. When this switch is on you can't get the normal OD or CLEAN modes, it is additional distortion ON TOP of those modes. You can choose any of the three OD / CLEAN DIP settings along with the DIST setting. But once you turn on the DIST switch, the OD (actually OD/DIST) will sound pretty close to CLEAN (CLEAN/DIST) mode as both will have quite a bit of distortion.

You can get the 2 channels to have different levels of distortion in DIST mode. This can be accomplished because the King Of Tone gets cleaner when you turn your guitar's volume down. Turn the YELLOW channel VOL up higher than the RED channel, then back your guitar down when using the YELLOW channel and you'll get a cleaner sound.

The fourth DIP switch is to enable the DIM LED feature when the pedal is off. Turn it OFF (down) if you want the LED totally off when the pedal is off.

POWER SUPPLY: A Standard Boss PSA120 type 9V DC adaptor will work fine. Center is negative. The pedal uses under 10mA of current at 9V. You can get a fuzzier sound if you want, at lower voltages, for example the SAG mode on the pedalpower2. When your battery dies you will notice the pedal will not get nice and clean, the sound will be hairier.

CHIPS: You can also try other standard dual op-amp chips in the king of tone. Just make sure you put it in the right way, lettering is readable when holding the pedal with jacks towards the top and the surface on the board is right side up. Also the dot or cut on the chip will be facing left. The old TS-808's JRC4558D chip sounds good in this pedal, especially with single coil guitars and smaller Fender type amps.

ENJOY!!!!

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