



INTRODUCTION

G'Day! Congratulations on purchasing the MI Effects Super Crunch Box v.1 pedal. This pedal is an extension of one of our favourite and most popular pedals in the MI family, the Crunch Box, and is now more flexible to provide every level of crunch possible!

I have always wanted to fully trick-out a Crunch Box to see how many mods and features we could fit into its small enclosure. So one rainy afternoon I did just that, and decided to give three away for our Facebook and Twitter followers.

I was pleasantly surprised with how the Crunch Box sound had evolved with these added features. This, plus the constant feedback from customers wanting this new Crunch Box, led us to prototype the Super Crunch Box.

The Crunch Box has been around for quite a few years now, and has even inspired several clones and knock-offs. So I threw some ideas around the workshop, and came up with a design that expands the flexibility of the original, without a large rise in price.

FEATURES

HEADROOM!!

All previous MI drive pedals could be run up to 24V for more headroom, giving more clarity and a tighter bottom end. We know that a lot of our users run our pedals at higher voltage, but are aware of the troubles of running extra adaptors for these pedals. So a feature implemented in this redesign (also found in the Super Blues Pro, new Boost 'n' Buff and Megalith Delta) is the addition of circuitry to double the input voltage of your 9V adaptor/battery to supply 18V to the pedal. NOTE: THIS IS A 9V ONLY INPUT!*

This is a great feature that your pedal board will be happy with. The pedal sounds bigger, tighter and more responsive at 18V.

* refer to *POWERING THE PEDAL* section.

CONTROLS

PRESENCE and TONE – The internal presence control was implemented to integrate easier with every user's amp setup. Some amps are brighter or darker than the ones we use to test, so by dialling in the PRESENCE control you can shape your sound through your setup. By placing it as an external control, you can really pull some great sounds that sit well in a mix, or to have more control with a range of guitars/amps you might use. The interaction with the TONE control is important as dialling in more Presence can cut really well, but also the lows won't feel as powerful, so use it with that in mind. This greatly increases the versatility of the Crunch Box, but for those who want to rock it old school, just leave the presence at 50% and proceed as normal!

LO/HI GAIN MODE SWITCH – This switch adds a great amount of tones that will suit many different playing styles. In "LO" MODE, the Crunch Box really cleans up well with the guitar volume knob and has a glassier tone. It still has a lot of gain (it is a Crunch Box after all!) but there is more string definition and top end than "HI" MODE. This mode is the stock Crunch Box amount of gain, so you can still get that "hot-rod" sound as with previous versions.

COMP – Like the LO/HI GAIN SWITCH, the three-way COMP switch aims to tap in to the lower end of the gain spectrum. The switch selects between three different clipping structures:

1. Stock red LEDs as in the original.
2. Silicon diode pair for lower output, different harmonic content than the LEDs
0. A softer clip mode, again to provide some flexibility to the overall distorted signal. The softer clipping provides more clean signal in the mix and has the highest output.

VOLUME AND GAIN CONTROL

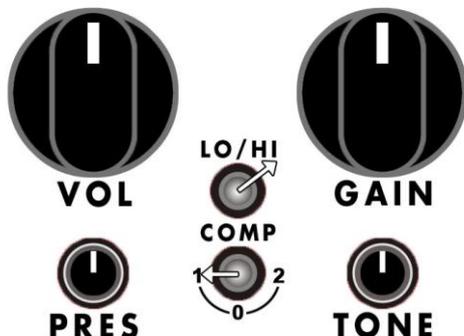
The GAIN and TRIM controls the amount of gain and overdrive of the pedal. The sweep and maximum gain is determined by both the level of COMP and what GAIN MODE (LO/HI) the Super Crunch Box is set to.

The final output section has been designed to provide you with maximum output volume. With VOLUME turned all the way up, the output signal can reach 14Vpp, which can seriously overdrive a good tube amp. The volume control is a logarithmic or 'volume' taper, which means that when the control is set to 12 noon, the volume is only 15% of the way up, so there's plenty of volume up your sleeve should you need it.

SAMPLE SETTINGS

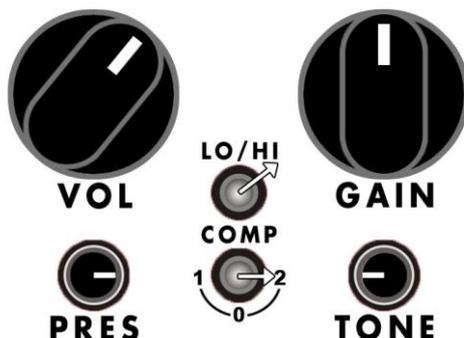
CLASSIC CRUNCH BOX

If you are familiar with the previous Crunch Box versions, this setting will help you get that classic hot-rod distortion. Place the PRESENCE at noon (factory standard), COMP at "1" (LED clippers) and "HI" MODE. The Super Crunch Box will now pull the same tones as the original using the VOLUME, GAIN and TONE to taste.



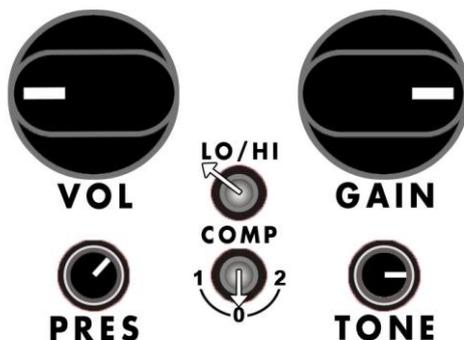
"JOSÉ" MID DRIVE

When the COMP mode is set to "2", the Super Crunch Box is at its most compressed. This mode brings forward extra saturation and harmonics, a la the José Arredondo Marshall mods made popular by Van Halen in the 80's. Cranking the PRESENCE gives extra aggression and sizzle, and rolling back on the TONE bumps up the mids for pinch harmonic heaven!



PLEXI PREAMP CRUNCH

The "LO" MODE and COMP mode "0" drastically drops the gain of the Super Crunch Box to deliver low- to mid-gain tones unachievable in the original Crunch Box. This setting delivers a much faster attack than the JCM 800 and has a "feel" closer to the Plexi-faced Marshall's. Watch the VOLUME control as COMP mode "0" has some serious output!



POWERING THE PEDAL PLEASE READ CAREFULLY!!!

THE SUPER CRUNCH BOX PEDAL RUNS OFF 9V ONLY. REPEAT. ONLY USE A 9V BATTERY OR 9V DC POWER ADAPTOR.

The Super Crunch Box is designed for 9v, and will not run better at higher voltages (for technical reasons). In fact you can cause damage to the circuit if a higher voltage is applied.

The 9 volt DC port (which accepts a standard barrel jack with a Negative centre pin.) or 9V battery may be used. If using battery to power the Super Crunch Box, and the pedal begins to sound different, please monitor the voltage of the battery with a multimeter and/or replace the battery with a new one.

If using a battery, the pedal is powered when a plug is inserted into the input jack. So when not in use, disconnect the input plug to maximise battery life.

To access the battery, unscrew the 4 screws at the bottom of the pedal and remove the bottom plate.

REGISTRATION & WARRANTY

To register your pedal, you can email your name, contact details, purchase date, and retailer details along with the pedal serial number to: register@miaudio.com

Alternatively, you can send the above information to the postal address on the front of this manual. **PLEASE REGISTER YOUR PEDAL.** In the long run, it will be difficult to have your pedal serviced if you need to if the pedal is not registered.

This pedal carries a 5 year warranty that covers all repairs due to manufacturer error. It does not cover any damage due to user mishandling, shipping, acts of God, and abuse. The owner should contact MI Audio directly for all repairs, and any work done by anyone other than MI Audio voids the warranty. All shipping costs are the responsibility of the owner, and are to be paid in advance of any work performed on the pedal. The owner may be asked to provide a copy of the sales receipt for verification.

DISCLAIMER

The owner or user assumes responsibility for death, injury and/or damages relating to the operation of this device. MI Audio assumes no responsibility for death, injury or damages relating from the operation of this device. I am always thinking of ways to improve things, so all specifications are subject to change without notice.