

Suhr[®]

Andy Wood's

Woodshed
COMP

User Guide



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Thank you for purchasing the Suhr Woodshed Compressor

Please take the time to read this User Guide to get the most out of the Woodshed Compressor. The more you familiarize yourself with the features of this unit, the more you will enjoy its benefits and maximize its potential.

Woodshed Comp Overview

The Andy Wood Woodshed Compressor: The first pedal designed alongside one of our Suhr artists. Together, Kevin Suhr and Andy Wood have built a compressor that is the foundation of some of Andy's favorite tones. As you know, Andy plays in multiple musical environments and this small compressor echoes his versatility. Compression is used to even out your signal, as well as give you more sustain and punch, giving you added control over the dynamics of your audio signal. Dynamics refers to variation of the volume of a sound or note, over time. Some instruments have a fast initial sound and decay smoothly, while other instruments have a slower, more violin-like attack. All can be sculpted with compression. The conception of the Suhr Woodshed Comp was to make something unique and with more character than the commonly used compressors on the market. Compressors are like overdrives; they all have different flavors and do different things. With the Woodshed Comp, the main goals were to provide compression while maintaining the tone and transients of the guitar, without being as temperamental as vintage pedals.

Sometimes, when you start squeezing and compressing, you start losing transients, but not with the Woodshed Comp. There are spikes and imperfections, however, these are what make a tone truly great and make guitars sound like guitars, not like a midi file. Our goal was to retain these nuances while adding soaring sustain, without having to resort to too much drive and distortion. The Woodshed Comp is the best way to keep that fundamental tone, especially when you're using different amps at different volumes in different venues.



Woodshed Comp Overview (continued)

The Suhr Andy Wood Woodshed Comp is set with a fast-attack speed and balanced compression that allows the guitar to sing, punch, and have that sustain. Andy wanted the control's sweet spot to be in a specific place. In turn, you get a very sensitive range of the controls with a wide sweep, expanded ratio, threshold and gain range. This allows the threshold to work on lower signals, such as single coils. With the Woodshed Comp, a little goes a long way when dialing in your compression. Woodshed Comp is more natural, open, and present than anything else you've heard. This allows you to get long, soaring sustain, without the need to push your gain too high on your amp. This gives you that singing sustain, without the fizz.

There are all different types of compressors, VCA, FET, tube compressors, all with different characteristics. VCA compressors are known for being quick and having less distortion than FET or tube compressors. Our Koji Comp is a VCA compressor that's more similar to more popular compressor pedals on the market. The new Woodshed Comp is completely different. Though it's also a VCA compressor, it uses a completely different process for gain-reduction. The biggest difference between the Koji Comp and the Woodshed Comp is how the gain-reduction is controlled. Where the Koji is a 'feed-back' design, the Woodshed is a 'feed-forward' design. 'Feed-forward' works by the signal going into the side-chain, which controls the gain-reduction of the whole thing. In essence, in a 'feed-back' design, the output controls the gain-reduction, and in 'feed-forward', the input controls the gain-reduction. The Woodshed Comp is a very simple, feed-forward studio-type VCA compressor circuit that has been tailored to work incredibly with guitar. The 'feed-forward' aspect ultimately makes the Woodshed Comp more transparent and open than anything else you've heard.



One of the most exciting features of the Woodshed Comp is that it has a massive amount of headroom. In fact, the most headroom out of any of our pedals. In essence, you can use it as a clean boost, with minimal to no compression, and it would act as a high-gain boost. By boosting the beginning of your signal chain and clipping the front of a tube amp, you can get a nice saturation and palm-mutes sound just incredible. All of that in such a tiny and durable package.

Power Input

Connect to any 9Vdc (center negative) power adapter.

Threshold knob

Sets the level in which compression begins to occur.
(See page 6)

Ratio Knob

Adjusts the ratio of compression after the signal reaches the threshold set by the Threshold Knob.
(See page 6)

Output

Use this to connect your amp or pedals.

LED

LED Illuminated when Woodshed Comp is engaged.



Attack Speed Switch

3 settings to adjust your desired attack speed.
Fast, Medium and Slow.
(See page 7)

Gain Knob

Adjusts output gain.
(See page 7)

Input

Use this to connect your guitar.

On/Off Switch


Press to turn on and off Woodshed Comp.

Woodshed Comp Controls

This guide will show you how to get the most out of your Woodshed comp and give you an explanation of each control and how they work together.


Threshold Knob:

The Threshold Knob sets the level at which the compression starts to take effect. The higher (clockwise) you adjust this knob, the harder you must play before compression. The lower (counterclockwise) you set this knob, the sooner compression starts to occur, even when playing softly.

 **HELPFUL TIP:** The Threshold knob and Ratio knob work together to set the amount of compression, depending on how hard or soft you play. If you want compression when playing softer, set the Threshold low. If you only want your hardest played notes to compress, set the Threshold Knob higher.

Ratio Knob:

Once you have the Threshold hold set, use the Ratio Knob to control how much level reduction (compression) for any signal that goes above the set threshold. The counterclockwise position will give a 1 to 1 (1:1) compression ratio, meaning there is no compression occurring. As you turn the Ratio knob clockwise the ratio of compression will increase to ∞ to 1 (∞ :1). In essence, turning the Ratio knob clockwise increases the ratio, giving you more compression, while turning it counterclockwise lowers the ratio, giving you less compression.

 **HELPFUL TIP:** If you have the Ratio set counter-clockwise, you will get no compression when your signal reaches the set threshold. However, if your threshold is set too high, you will also get no compression of your signal, regardless of your Ratio Knob setting.



Woodshed Comp Controls (continued)

Attack Speed Switch:

Instead of having a knob to adjust the Attack Speed, Andy wanted to simplify the choices. "On most compressors I use, the attack speed knob will stay in one of three positions, Fast, Medium or Slow attack speed. So we made it an easy switch."



HELPFUL TIP: A fast (F) attack speed, will allow less transients to come through before the signal compresses, smoothing out dynamics. The slower the attack speed, the more pick attack and punch will come through before compression starts.

Gain Knob:

The Gain knob can be thought of as "output" gain, or "make-up" gain. When using compression, the signal volume becomes lower initially. This knob allows you to "make-up" that lost level. Adjust this knob to boost a compressed signal back up to your desired level.



HELPFUL TIP: Because of the incredibly high headroom (9Vdc power adapter input gives the circuit 24V due to internal 'charge pump' circuit), with the Ratio Knob all the way down (1:1), Woodshed Comp can be used as a boost, allowing you to hit the front of your amp with additional level.



Quick Start Guide

Steps:

1. Plug-in 9vdc pedal power adapter.
2. Connect your guitar to the Input of the Woodshed Comp via a 1/4" cable.
3. Connect the Output of the Woodshed Comp to your amplifier's input.
4. Start with the Attack switch set to Fast (F)
5. With the Threshold Knob set all the way up (clockwise) and the Ratio Knob all the way down (counterclockwise), set the Gain knob around 12 O'clock. This is 'unity' gain. Adjust Gain Knob slightly as you play and turn on and off the Woodshed Comp, to find the exact spot where your volume is the same with the pedal on or off.
6. Set the Ratio Knob to ~10 O'clock
7. As you play, slowly turn the Threshold knob counterclockwise to lower the Threshold of when compression begins. As you turn the Threshold down, you will hear the Woodshed Comp compress your signal, lowering the over-all volume.
8. Then adjust the Gain knob to "make-up" the volume loss and return your signal to a similar level as when the Woodshed is off.
9. Now, listen to your compressed tone. If you wish to compress your signal more, turn the Ratio knob (clockwise) to increase the compression ratio or lower the Threshold knob (counterclockwise) to begin compressing your signal at quieter playing levels, or both. Always use the Gain knob to bring your levels back to unity gain.

(Quick Start Settings)



Technical Specifications

Input Impedance: 1MΩ

Output Impedance: 1kΩ

Compression Range: 1:1 – ∞:1

Power Connector: 9Vdc, center negative, 2.1mm x 5.5mm

Operating Voltage: 9Vdc

Reverse Battery Protection: Yes

Over Voltage Protection: Yes

Current Consumption: ~80mA

Dimensions: 1.82”(W) x 3.85”(D) x 1.89”(H)

Weight: 0.365lb

ROHS Compliant: Yes

***All specifications subject to change without prior notice**

Warranty

JS Technologies, Inc. (JST) warrants for lifetime from date of purchase by the initial retail purchaser that this product shall be free from defects in workmanship. Electronic components such as capacitors, resistors, filters, transformers, jacks, and pots are covered for 5 years. Any parts determined defective by JST within the five (5) year term shall be repaired or replaced by JST without charge for parts and labor provided the unit is returned, transportation costs prepaid, to JS Technologies, Inc., 601 Crane Street, Unit A, Lake Elsinore, CA 92530, or to such facility authorized by JST. JST will pay shipping costs to return the unit to its owner. Defects in workmanship will be determined by JST for limited lifetime coverage.

This warranty does not cover damage caused by accident, misuse, abuse, neglect, unauthorized or improperly performed repairs, alterations, and/or wear and tear occasioned by use of the product, and does not include any expense for inconvenience or loss of use while the product is being repaired or replaced. JST expressly disclaims any liability for consequential damages arising from the sale, use, or inability to use the product. Any warranty implied by law, including any warranty of merchantability or fitness, is expressly limited to the one (5) year warranty term for the parts on our amplifiers and electronic products. The foregoing statements of warranty are exclusive and in lieu of all other remedies. Workmanship lifetime warranty is limited strictly to the original retailer purchaser of the instrument registered with JST within 10 days of purchase from an authorized JST dealer or distributor. JST will pay shipping costs to return the unit to its owner within the mainland U.S.

The above warranty policy only applies to customers in USA. If you are an international customer, please check with your distributor and the dealer in your country for warranty matters. Warranty issues must be handled through your dealer or distributor. If you are an international customer who purchased (or plan to purchase) from a US dealer, we can handle warranty matters direct but you will be responsible for shipping both ways. We encourage international customers to purchase through your local distributor or dealer for this reason. Our international distributors are set up to handle warranty issues in their respective countries. If you do not have an authorized Suhr dealer in your country, please contact us direct for further details.

NOTE: This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures: - Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna. - Increase the separation between the equipment and receiver. - Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected. - Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/ TV technician for help.

Changes or modifications not expressly approved by the party responsible for compliance could void the user's authority to operate the equipment.

This device complies with part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) This device may not cause harmful interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.