

User manual

Reuss FZ-01 'Vintage Three Volt Fuzz'

The Reuss FZ-01 is a clone of the world's very first guitar pedal, the 1962 Gibson Maestro FZ1 'Fuzz-Tone'. Pre-dating rock'n'roll, it was originally intended to make your bass sound like a sousaphone. It's a quirky sounding fuzz. Very grainy and lo-fi, with a healthy dose of that 'dying battery' quality. The nasal voice is due to the very limited bandwidth of the 2N270 transistors. This is not the fuzz to end all fuzzes, but it has some unique sonic qualities, not found in the popular vintage fuzz circuits, like the tonebenders or fuzzfaces

Controls

- 'ATTACK' sets the amount of distortion of the fuzz circuit
- 'VOLUME' sets the output level of the pedal
- Internal trimmer pot (see picture). This is for calibrating the circuit to fit the unique electronic properties of each set of matched transistors. This is not a 'bias pot' and the trimmer is preset by Reuss before shipment. There is no risk in adjusting it yourself, if you are curious to see what happens

Please note: The germanium transistors of the pedal needs a few seconds to adjust to the new operating condition, when the controls is turned. You will notice this as a delayed reaction to your adjustments, and it's part of the vintage circuit's oddball nature - not a malfunction. The pedal also takes some time to warm up. It's turned on, when a plug is inserted in the input jack (IN)

Connectors

- 'IN' is the input of the unit. Connect your guitar here
- 'OUT' is the output. Connect your amp here

Please note: The unit is drawing power from the batteries, when there is a jack in the input connector. Always remove the input jack when the pedal is not in use.

Also please notice: Being a vintage circuit, the fuzz wants to see a high impedance input signal to sound correct. Any low impedance signal from a buffered bypass pedal (like a Boss or Ibanez or similar type) will make the fuzz sound wrong. It will loose punch and fullness and sound thin and fizzy. Not as intended. Always put a vintage fuzz-circuit (tone benders, fuzzfaces etc.) first in your chain.

Specifications

- Original 1962 FZ-1 circuit (which is a quite unusual and weird sounding one)
- Gloss brown finish with 'cream' silk screen printing
- Vintage new old stock germanium transistors (two 2N270s and one AC125)
- Carbon film resistors
- Handmade in the European Union
- Neutrik jacks
- 'Pro' upgrade footswitch (good for at least 15000 stomps)
- True bypass-switching
- Orange LED pilot light (resembling a vintage control lamp)



- Runs on 3V (two 'AAA' batteries included)
- Positive ground - external power supply not possible - pedal may interact unexpectedly with other pedals
- RoHS compliant / 'CE'-marked

Battery access

- Remove the four screws at the bottom side of the pedal with a philips head screwdriver to remove the bottom plate and gain access to the batteries

Warranty

- All Reuss pedals comes with a limited 24 months warranty against manufacturing faults
- The warranty is not covering normal wear and tear or abuse
- Any wear or damage to the finish is not covered by the warranty

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