



BLOOD DONOR

Product Manual

Effect Overview

In 2020, the folks at Catalinbread were hard at work coming up with any way they could to use their facilities to help those in need. From that, the Blood Donor was born. A portion of the proceeds was donated directly to charity and it sold out almost immediately. Just two years later, the Blood Donor is back on the menu but with a handful of updates. This year, we've updated the artwork for 2023 and selected a new charity to support. For every Blood Donor sold in the month of March, Catalinbread will donate a portion of each domestic sale to ALS research. Though the cause has changed, the message is as vital as ever; giving one's blood is still an important act of charity and you should continue to do so.



+ Like the original Katzenkönig, the Blood Donor combines the best elements of a Tone Bender MKII and a Pro Co Rat. Namely, a supercharged silicon Bender circuit and the output section of a Rat. By tweaking the knobs, you can cop everything from a robust, chimy clean tone to full-on high-gain meltdown. This comes at the expense of . . . nothing. You can use any stringed instrument, synthesizer or drum machine all to equal effect with only minor tweaking involved to find the sweet spots. +

PLEASE

This control adjusts the filter level, the same as found in rodent-related pedals. Think of it as a presence control in reverse: the brightest settings are found in the earliest part of the dial, with the darkest settings found in the final part of the sweep. The treble content of the Blood Donor has been adjusted to be useful throughout the entire knob's travel.

YOUR

It's simple: want more volume? Turn this up. The amount of volume given off by the Blood Donor is immense. We promise that the Donor can force even the most stubborn amp into rich breakup.



GIVE

This control is one of two gain-type controls found in the Blood Donor, but this one is used to adjust the gain generated by the core of the fuzz circuit itself rather than the input saturation. In short, think of it as your main gain control.

BLOOD

This knob controls the amount of input signal sent into the gears of the Blood Donor. The magic of the circuit lies within this knob. Think of it as an extension of your guitar's volume knob, but the Blood Donor has more range. You can use this control to temper the heat of the core, in case you're playing active pickups, humbuckers or a line-level instrument. You can also use it to limit the Blood Donor's havoc on pedals that follow, such as wahs.



A LITTLE CLOSER • • •



Compared to our original Katzenkönig, the Blood Donor offers more gain, less noise, more saturation, more ease of use, and tons of volume, enough to push your amp into breakup without breaking a sweat, allowing your amp to shake hands with the gain easier.

Have you ever heard the term “input impedance”? If you haven’t, the technical stuff isn’t super necessary for our purposes, but it does correspond to how well a certain pedal will function when following certain other types of pedals. For example, wah pedals are very finicky about the pedals that follow them, otherwise their sweep seizes up. The Blood control adjusts this “non-audible” value while also adjusting input gain, so mess around with this knob if you’re having trouble with your wah and Blood Donor failing to get along.

The Blood control is very close to the volume control on your guitar, so if you’re the type of player that is constantly riding your volume control, you would likely get better results from the Blood Donor by leaving the Blood knob at maximum or close to it.

If you prefer the sound of fuzz into a cranked amp (and let’s be real, who doesn’t), the Blood Donor has a neat trick up its sleeve in the form of other-worldly amounts of volume when cranked. No matter if you leave your amp’s volume in the extreme lower digits, the Blood Donor will easily push your amp into the throes of creamy distortion if you really want.

SPECS

The Catalinbread Blood Donor can be powered with a standard 9V battery, or a center-negative, regulated 9V DC external power supply.