

Hello, and welcome to the wonderful world of AC30 emulation! The CB30 was designed to give you that distinctive chewy, sparkly (yet extremely touch-sensitive) grime that the AC30 is famous for. Several amazing players employed whole walls of these amps in classic rock's heyday to achieve their signature tones, and luckily, you can achieve this legendary tone with your own amp and just one CB30. You lucky dog, you! Let's jump right in!

QUICK START

Plug your guitar straight into the CB30 and then into your amp set clean to get acquainted. As for amp settings, we're looking for a cleanish neutral setting. On a typical Fender amp that would be:

Volume - between 2 and 4
Treble - around 6
Middle - around 6
Bass - around 3

Starting pedal settings:

Volume - 2:00
Treble - 1:00
Bass - 11:00
Gain - 5:00

This is the cranked AC30 sound. Try turning your guitar's volume down and notice how you can go from crunch to crystal clear!

CONTROLS

VOLUME

The Volume knob sets the output level of the CB30. Depending on your guitar, amp, and other effects used, you'll find unity (when the volume of the pedal being "off" about the same volume as pedal on) between noon and 3:00.

TREBLE & BASS

The Treble and Bass tone controls utilize the exact same tone circuit (tone-stack) as that used in an actual AC30. They are very interactive (meaning adjusting one will affect the behavior of the other) and a key part of the AC30 sound. The Treble control allows you to dial in just the right amount of AC30 brightness and the Bass control gives you the right amount of body. But remember they are interactive; if you adjust the Treble control, you should also sweep around with the Bass knob to find your sweet spot. As mentioned in the Quick Start section, Treble at 1:00 and Bass at 11:00 is a good starting point. The CB30 was voiced specifically to get the cranked AC30 tones of classic rock records past, so go ahead and set the Gain at maximum and back it off if you feel necessary (or to compensate for hot pickups). Otherwise, set the Gain to max and use your guitar's volume control to go from crunch to clean!

POWER REQUIREMENTS

You can power your CB30 with any quality power supply designed for use with effects pedals. The output should be a negative tip DC from 9 to 18 volts. If you want more volume, headroom, and percussive attack, try running an 18 volt power supply. A 9-volt power supply will have a slightly softer sound that saturates more easily. Also, you'll find using it with a 9-volt battery will give a slightly different response as well that is slightly softer. Try using a battery that is drained slightly to get a nice sag that's perfect for late night lower volume practice sessions!