Fromel Electronics



Thank you for purchasing the Velvet Vice Optical Compressor.

I have always had a love/hate relationship with compressors, so I decided to make my own that sounded how I want. I designed this compressor to have a natural feel, soft knee, that kept the tone intact and does not introducing any additional noise into the signal path at unity gain.

Controls are simple—Compression, Release, and Volume. A good place to start is with all the controls straight up, this will give a natural sounding compression close to unity gain. You can get about 5db of boost before it gets noisy and you can use the compressor as a slight boost.

The pedal has an internal switch for a buffered bypass. You can use the buffer to help boost your signal through a long line of true bypass pedals, which will sap your tone a little. The pedal comes with the switch set to true bypass.

I suggest using an external AC adaptor, any 9v Negative Ground 2.1mm (Boss Type) adaptor should work fine. This unit will run just fine up to 12v and can give you a little more headroom. If your unit shipped with a 9v battery clip it should be reserved for emergency gig situations only, The OP-amp used in the Velvet Vice sounds great but does draw a lot of current.

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The enclosure is hand etched and polished, and finished with a thin volatile clear coat, the organic nature of the finishing process gives each pedal a unique look, that will change over time, this is normal. The clear coat will adhere to the etched metal better than the bare aluminum and after a few weeks or months of gigging your pedal should start to look even more beat up than it does right now.

The pedal is rugged and uses high quality components, however just about anything can break if enough force is applied. If you have any problems with your pedal send it to me for repair, if the problem was caused by excessive force, I will charge you for the broken parts, and shipping. If there was a defect in the product in manufacturing or parts I will fix it and cover shipping back to you in the continental US. There is no need to register your pedal if you purchased it directly from me, if you purchased from an authorized retailer just send me an e-mail with the model and serial number of your pedal.

A note on the environment. When quality is not compromised I use lead free parts. However, the silver bearing solder does contain lead and if vintage NOS components are used they may contain lead as well. I don't use fancy shipping boxes and try and re-cycle as much as I can. The box your pedal is shipped in and the packing material used to protect it during transport to you have been re-used if possible. God has given us a beautiful place to live, let's all do our part to keep the place picked up.