Diamond GUITAR PEDALS

Diamond Comp Jr

Opto Compressor + EQ

User Manual
v1.01 • October 30, 2015

INTRODUCTION

When we began work on the original Diamond Compressor back in 2004, our goal was to build a versatile 'guitar channel' – a dynamics and tone shaping tool to front-end your effects chain - much like the gain, compression and EQ channels used in traditional recording studio mixers. Introduced at MusikMesse 2005 in Frankfurt, the Diamond Compressor has found its way onto thousands of pedal boards worldwide - and our sincere thanks to all those who have supported us over the years. Since introducing the original comp, we've released a version tailored to the bass (the Bass Comp), as well as a special 'audiophile' edition of the comp called the Comp SE. Through this time, we've also had many requests for a more compact version of the original Diamond Compressor… **now introducing the Diamond Comp Jr!**

Remember to protect your hearing and wear appropriate hearing protection when playing loud…

FEATURES

- Vactrol opto-isolator variable resistance path as used in high-end studio compressors for smooth attack and decay characteristics while preserving initial signal transients.
- Post-compressor 'tilt' EQ provides a very musical tailoring of frequency response - seamlessly transition from a darker jazz voicing to a bright jangle, with flat frequency response at the center position.
- Optimized gain staging and use of ultra low noise transistor and opamps in signal path for lowest possible noise and extended signal headroom.
- Premium audio components, including tight tolerance PPS capacitors and metal film resistors.
- Top mounted jacks on a small enclosure for tight pedalboard layouts
- 9V battery power, with standard 9V negative tip adapter ready
- Bi-color LED provides visual indication of depth of compression and power
- true bypass operation

CONTROLS

It really doesn't get any simpler than the on/off footswitch and three controls:

ON/OFF switch: this switches the pedal between bypass and in-circuit operation. A green color in the LED indicates that the pedal is on, while increasing levels of red mixed with the green indicates increasing levels of compression on the guitar signal.

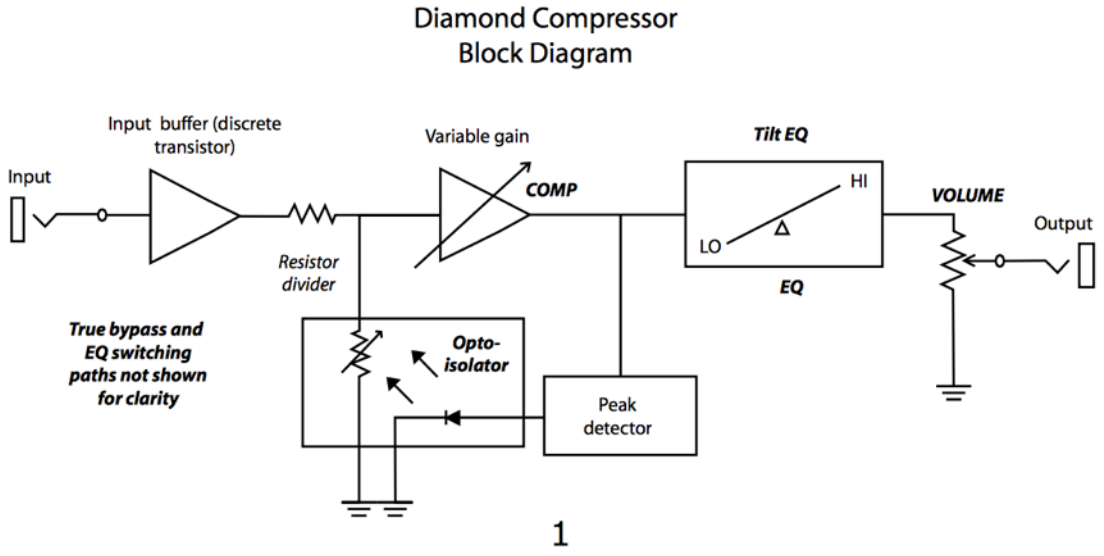
COMP: this controls the amount of compression to be applied to the guitar signal. Backing it off all the way gives just a touch of compression on signal peaks, while turning the control clockwise gives an increasing amount of signal 'squash'. The compression threshold, the input signal level at which compression begins to take effect, is sensitive to level variations like pickup output and players picking strength, so certainly experiment with this control for your particular setup.

EQ: the EQ in the Diamond Compressor is not a typical boost/cut treble control. Instead, we've implemented a 'tilt' style EQ first introduced in the 1970's hi-fi market. The goal of this eq is to provide subtle yet powerful spectral shifts in the overall frequency balance, not just a simple dulling or brightening of the treble frequencies. You can think of the EQ as a spectral 'see-saw' with the balance point fixed at a mid range frequency. With the EQ in the center position, the EQ is completely flat. Turning the EQ counterclockwise tips the balance of the 'see-saw' to- wards the low-end, with a gradual increase in lows moving out from the midrange balance point toward the low end of the frequency spectrum and a simultaneous gradual decrease in highs moving toward the high end. Clockwise past the center position, the converse takes place, with a gradual increase in highs moving out from the midrange balance point toward the high end of the frequency spectrum and a simultaneous gradual decrease in lows moving toward the low end. So, it works like a tone control, but it affects sound more musically.

VOL: this adjusts the overall output volume of the compressor. Once the relative levels of compression and EQ are set, this control can be used to adjust overall clean vs. effect levels.

ARCHITECTURE

The Diamond Comp Jr is architecturally identical to the original Diamond Compressor, with a very simple analog signal path and optical driven resistor divider for optimal transparency.



POWERING

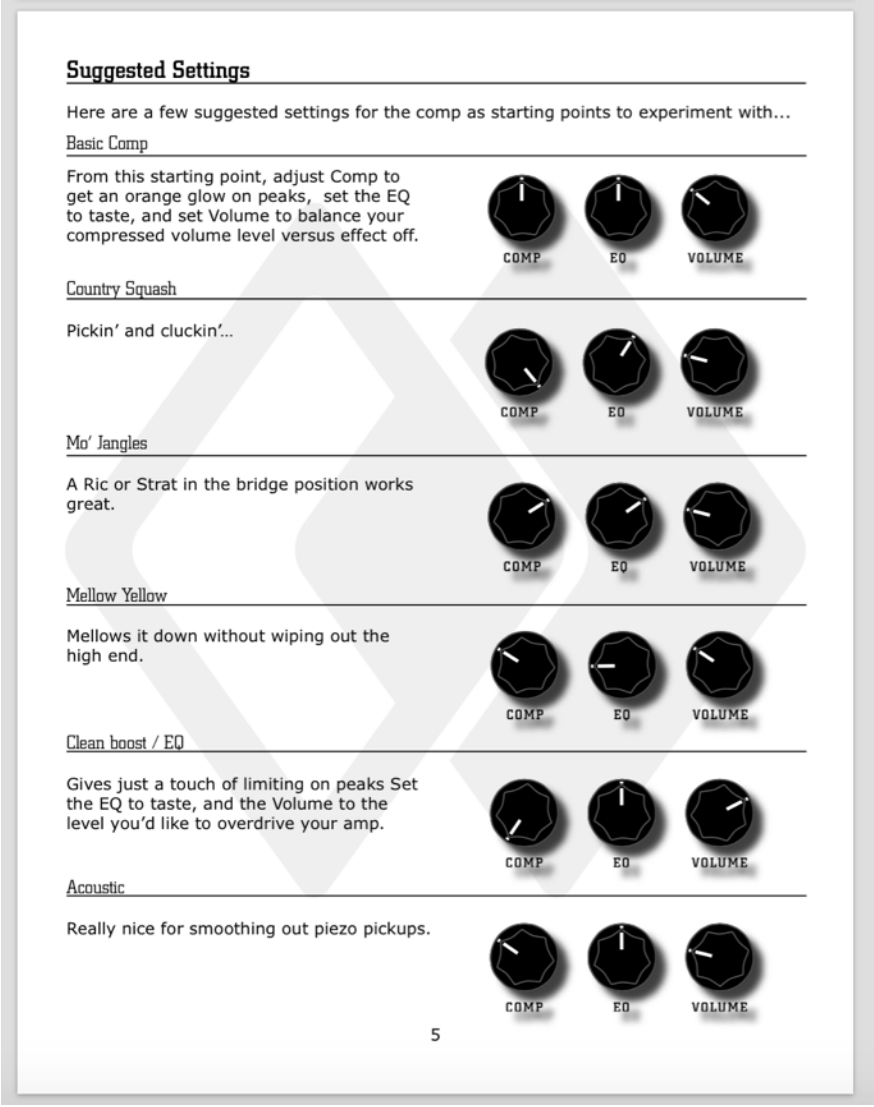
The Diamond Comp Jr is designed to be powered from either a 9V battery (included), standard 9V negative tip DC power adapter or from a multi pedal power supply. It can also be powered from negative tip supplies up to 18V for additional headroom as needed.

WARRANTY

Your Diamond pedal is covered by a 5 year warranty on materials and workmanship. Please contact us by telephone (902-832-7139) or email info@diamondpedals.com if you experience any problems with your pedal. We're here to help!

SUGGESTED SETTINGS

As a starting point for finding your tone, we've copied the original Diamond Compressor suggested settings page. If you find a special setting and setup that you'd like share with others, please share it on any of facebook, instagram, tumblr, twitter and email (info@diamondpedals.com). We really hope you enjoy the Comp Jr!



Suggested Settings

Here are a few suggested settings for the comp as starting points to experiment with...

Basic Comp

From this starting point, adjust Comp to get an orange glow on peaks, set the EQ to taste, and set Volume to balance your compressed volume level versus effect off.

COMP EQ VOLUME

Country Squash

Pickin' and cluckin'...

COMP EQ VOLUME

Mo' Jangles

A Ric or Strat in the bridge position works great.

COMP EQ VOLUME

Mellow Yellow

Mellows it down without wiping out the high end.

COMP EQ VOLUME

Clean boost / EQ

Gives just a touch of limiting on peaks Set the EQ to taste, and the Volume to the level you'd like to overdrive your amp.

COMP EQ VOLUME

Acoustic

Really nice for smoothing out piezo pickups.

COMP EQ VOLUME

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