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# Diamond Bass Comp Jr

Compact Opto Compressor + EQ

User Manual

v1.0 • July 19, 2018

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Thank you for purchasing the Diamond Bass Comp Jr pedal. Following in the footsteps of the original Diamond Bass Comp, the new Bass Comp Jr offers the same high quality optical compression and a simple but effective ‘Tilt’ EQ control with selectable center frequency, an extended frequency response and high headroom to suit a wide variety of passive or active 4/5/6 string basses. All in a smaller, more pedalboard friendly package that is compatible with a wider range of pedalboard power supplies.

We hope you’ll enjoy using this pedal as much as we have enjoyed designing it.

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

## IMPORTANT NOTES ON POWERING

The Diamond Bass 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. However, for maximum headroom and tone, we recommend using a negative tip, 18V power supply such as the commonly available Dunlop ECB004. Many multi pedal power supplies also offer 18V, negative tip outputs. Current draw of the Bass Comp Jr is very low- only 20mA.

**Note that the Comp Jr is the opposite polarity of the original Bass Comp- power supplies are not interchangeable between the two units.**

## DESIGN BACKGROUND

The original Diamond Bass Comp was released in August, 2009 and quickly became a hit with bass players for its smooth sound and ease of use. While bassists loved the tone of the Bass Comp, not everyone was quite as enamoured of the size or the power requirements. Based on feedback from players across the globe, it became clear that some players had a need for a smaller, easier to power version. The Diamond Bass Comp Jr is the result!

## 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- from a massively fat low end, to a bright solo tone with flat frequency response at center

- Selectable 250Hz or 900Hz EQ tilt point
- Optimized gain staging and use of ultra low noise transistors and opamps in the signal path for lowest possible noise and extended signal headroom
- Premium audio components, including Elna electrolytic capacitors, 2% film capacitors and 1% metal film resistors
- Bi-color LED provides visual indication of depth of compression
- True Bypass operation

## **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 bass signal.

**COMP:** this controls the amount of compression to be applied to the bass 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 player’s string attack, so certainly experiment with this control for your particular setup.

**EQ:** The EQ in the Bass Comp is not a typical boost/cut tone control. Instead we’ve incorporated a ‘tilt’ style EQ first introduced in the 1970’s hi-fi market. The goal of this control is to provide subtle yet powerful shifts in overall frequency balance, not just a simple dulling or brightening of treble frequencies. You can think of the EQ as a ‘see-saw’ with the balance point determined by the 250/900Hz switch (see below). Turning the EQ control counterclockwise from center provides a boost to low-end frequencies below the tilt point while simultaneously providing a gradual decrease in frequencies above the center point. Turning clockwise from the center position provides the reverse- a boosting of frequencies above the tilt point while decreasing those below the tilt point. This control is easy to use and provides a very musical means of adjusting your overall tone.

**250/900Hz switch:** This switch determines the center frequency of the EQ control around which the low and high frequencies are adjusted. 250Hz or 900Hz can be selected as the ‘tilt’ point. There is no ‘correct’ setting for this switch- experiment and find the setting that provides the best tone in your particular setup.

**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 bypass vs. effect levels.

**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](mailto:info@diamondpedals.com) if you experience any problems with your pedal. We’re here to help!