

Nocturne

THE FEZ

This drive box pays homage to the venerable Grey Box 250 Overdrive Preamp
In being faithful to the original circuit design and signal path, but
Then I completely toss out all the lame crap the original was
Constructed with and replaced it with all kinds of good components.
Metal film, polystyrene fast caps and tantalum capacitors, carbon comp and metal film resistors
even a NOS metal can 741 opamp in my little boutique tone stew. Smells soooo
good I can taste it (and I have)!

The sum of all These hi-fi analog goodies result in a superior version of the
original in my own ears. Plus finding a vintage original is tough and costs upwards of
over \$200+ and they don't even have an LED or True bypass let alone a socket chip
so you can swap in other variations of the LM741.

Okay I'm done blowing the horn, you bought one so I'm sure you
Want to know what the function of the controls are about....



Lets get dirty:

On the left side of the pedal is the "output gain" control

All the way to the left is off of course and all the way to the right is fully open.

This control interacts tonally with the drive control on the right. The control on

The right is the output gain or overdrive level.

Let me explain the interaction between the two. As the overdrive knob starts moving past 12 o'clock, the pedal's tone will begin to sound brighter and anything above 2 o'clock causes the low end of the pedal to start thinning out. This is the Nature of the 250 overdrive and to compensate you will have to bring the output volume of the pedal up past 12 o'clock and 1 o'clock is optimal in my opinion with the overdrive control about 2 o'clock for a good rocking tubey overdrive effect. **For using it as a reverb tank driver I like the overdrive knob at 10 o'clock and the output level knob at 2 o'clock. YA.. it kicks ASS as a dirty tube spring reverb tank driver. Garage Surf heaven in my book.** (yes a solid state reverb tank will response nicely too, I've got that in my roland space echo)

There is no black and white settings on the FEZ pedal in my opinion because each knob affects

The other and all are yet still texturally affected by the amp's settings.

FWIW, the louder and cleaner the amp The better sounding the FEZstomp. There are some example
Settings on the last page of this manual for those that are more visually orientated

Or bored out of their minds reading what I've written thus far! ☺

Okay.. lets talk about the switches. The bottom right stomp switch is simply
The true bypass "on-off" control for the pedal. Fully hardwire bypassed
For your tonal transparency and with one of the best on off stomp switches
On the market mind you. The stomp switch on the bottom left is what
I'm calling the "Fur" stomp and it comes to life when the overdrive
Control sits at or above 12 oclock.

This Fur stomp switch makes two things happen at once. The Low mids EQ shifts to a fatter gear
And the gain texture cleans up slightly, this allows you to get a beefier low end from say a bright
Single coil plank guitar like my own maple neck Stratocaster and by slightly cutting the gain saturation, that
beefy character gets an increase in note clarity (I'm obsessed with that bit).

It matters to me especially

If you want to keep the output level down and have the overdrive control cranked up.
AND.. if you DO have the overdrive gain cranked up, it may be too dang bright for your
Guitar and amp SO... that's why I put that nifty little two way panel switch up
At the top of the pedal above the LED. When this switch is flipped toward the input
Jack, the treble of the circuit is completely stock.

When its flipped toward the
Output jack, the treble "CUT" is engaged which warms up the high end
Just enough to smooth out the shard like nature of the pedal
When you've got everything at 11!!

Inside the pedal on the circuit board there is a socket for the Opamp

You will notice the swank and rare metal can opamp version
Of the infamous LM741. It is socketed for you to
Swap in variants of this chip, just remember that the notch in the
Socket it to be matched with the tap on the metal can opamp or circle
Divot on the plastic opamps. If you put it in backwards, you probably
Will kill it. These chips are sensitive to static charge.
If you remove the chip and damage it, I cant replace it
With another Metal can 741 but don't fear, the
More common but not cheap LM741 or TL071 will not be too
Different in response.
Just not so clear and vintage cool.



**You may contact me at anytime
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Or by phone Mon. -Fri. 11am-
5pm
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Heavy duty **9v power input** (-) tip, standard high quality audio boss PSA style adaptor **only**
 Note: Using a non regulated non audio quality 9 volt (-) tip 2.1mm power adaptor will void the one yr warrantee (original owner only)

Output volume Control – works in conjunction with your amps volume.

Hint: Set above 1-2 o'clock for punchiness w/ dist low. For driving your reverb tank 4 more drip

Fur Control

When this stomp switch is engaged there is a low mids boost when the overdrive control is Above 12 noon-ish. At the same time this fur/fat control boosts, the gain cleans up slightly

OUTPUT jack
Mono output only.

INPUT Jack
Mono in only



distortion control, controls the amount of clipping. Set low for warmer clean boost. Up past 12noon the dirt ramps up with more upper mids bite. Perfect for pushing your amps spring reverb for wetter response with a filthy grind.

LED on/off Tru-bypass

Treble Cut

Treble Cut

