

E.A.R.S. SARL

« Electronique Assistance Réparation Services »

DRIVE Effect Pedal

Price: 192,00 € including tax.

“The Drive”



Have you ever had to change a tube in a device, or had to grumble about the noise tube devices make?

Well, today, your worries are over, with this new tube-sounding transistor based drive pedal.

It is definitely the effect pedal you need!

The DRIVE pedal is made by hand in our lab, in France and was designed in relationship with guitarists of all styles in order to create a product meeting the expectations of the most demanding guitar players. Success and fun are guaranteed!

PLUG and PLAY !

- Please note that the equipment is built for MONO JACKS ONLY and might not work properly with stereo jacks.
- The battery power is automatically cut when the jacks are removed from the sockets to save 9v battery life span. The pedal will only work if jacks are plugged in the device.

Where did the idea come from?

It all started with a friend who designs very low gained guitar microphones. We specialize in analogue electronics.

. After the microphone was made, this friend of ours asked us to build an electronic circuitry that would compensate for the lack of amplitude for his microphones. So we started working from the diagram of tube electronics but with a single ended transistor instead of a tube.

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User-tested and custom- built for demanding musicians:

- **the first prototype** was made in 20 minutes with components specifically chosen to serve the initial purpose : an 8 Db rise in gain level.
- **The second version** was aimed at securing the electronic design by making a more elaborate casings for the circuitry and then handing them out to a dozen of guitarists all playing different kinds of musical styles.
- **The third version** was the result of the various feedbacks we got on sound quality, the way of using the in-gain, the output and the medium-gain; Lastly an optimisation of the electronic circuitry was achieved through a careful choice of components and paying particular attention to their specific values, the position of switches and knobs, the position of connectors, the size of the pedal and so on.
- **The fourth version** is the ultimate version of the effect pedal.

A noiseless and highly adjustable tube saturation sound:

The idea is to have a drive pedal offering a « tube-like » sound with a single ended transistor, using the inherent shortcomings of transistors to our own benefit to provide a sound texture very close to that of a “tube”.

It comprises :

- A volume knob for the output (which is none other than a classical volume divider in linear mode),
- An input gain knob (The general gain)
- A medium gain knob. It has two purposes: to cut low frequencies and to modify general gain

One pedal and 3 different sounds available:

When the guitarist plays at average level the transistor responds in a linear way.

When the guitarist wants to play loud, the transistor is in saturation mode which creates a slightly curved saturation with a rather warm and full sound.

If the musician plays even louder, the sound crosses the transistor's response curve and saturation occurs with a sharp angle under the curve.

Another more metallic and dry layer of saturation can be heard.

In other words, there are three types of sounds:

- a clear sound
- a sound with a first layer of saturation
- a third sound with another layer of saturation.

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That's when the medium gain knobs kicks in:

The “medium gain” is a subtle mix of general and medium gain to make sure only the top spectrum of the sound is saturated with the right chosen amplitude. (Obviously, all this highly dependent on your own guitar microphones)

For guitar keyboard organs, and possibly bass payers:

The pedal is ideal for guitarists as well keyboard players.

Vintage Rhodes pianos and synths sounds.

The pedal will bring a subtle vintage crunch to any sound and bring that extra bit of imperfection to sounds that tend to be a little too clean and perfect to be true, like most of the “digital” emulations out there. (Have you noticed that KORG has added a genuine valve to its latest SV digital piano series to make it sound more “vintage”? (Valve reactor system))

This is particularly true for digital Rhode piano sounds or synth lead sounds. It really fires them up. The DRIVE pedal also enables the user to adjust when the saturation will kick in thanks to the medium gain knob. When adjusted correctly you can have a clear sound when playing lightly with your Rhode or synth sound and a get more saturated sound when pounding down on the keys, it adds great drama to your playing.

Jazz and Rock Hammond Organ sounds

This is particularly true for organ sounds which sound extremely well with this subtle saturation device. (Or not so subtle if you wish so). Fancy a little “Smoke on the Water” organ solo?

Bass sounds.

We are pretty sure the same sound quality applies to bass sounds, but tests haven't been fully carried out yet at the time of publication.

Perfect Volume adjustment

Another advantage is that you can adjust the pedal to make sure your saturated sounds don't go bursting the sealing when you switch the pedal on thanks to three gain knobs. With the proper adjustment of three knobs you can keep the same output volume, even when the pedal kicks in.

A “silent Tube” sound

Lastly, the advantage of this pedal on tube amplification or saturation is that the bypass mode is totally silent owing to the quality of the components. Unlike tube devices which always tend to «hiss and buzz» even in bypass mode, the pedal will fit in your gig seamlessly with absolutely no hissing or buzzing what so ever. Unlike tube devices you have no risk of busting anything on transport or during a gig, the pedal is built like tank with top-of-the-range components.

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A tip-top power supply:

On this kind of circuitry, the power supply must be top-notch because it is crucial to making your pedal work efficiently. Thus a very high quality filtering device has been implemented inspired from that of a valve amplifier.

High-quality components:

All the components have been carefully selected and screened to meet the demand of artists from all musical styles.

- **Capacitors** are WIMA components to ensure top of the range precision and quality.
- **Semiconductors** are selected to have low noise and are MOTOROLA or TOSHIBA components.
- **Knobs and switches** are CERMET VISHEY components to ensure perfect stability, with metallic steps and axes.
- The **circuit tracks** are made of carbon layers.
- Lastly, **connectors** are NEUTRIK components; arguably the best quality there is out there.

A 3-year warranty:

The pedal is guaranteed 3 years (except for rust and batteries)

Ready to use straight from the box:

The DRIVE pedal comes with a **1000mA external power supply**.

A 9 Volt battery is provided and installed in the pedal and ready to use straight from the box!

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Technical data :

Input Impedance: 250 K Ω

Output Impedance: 5 K Ω

Consumption : 0.5mA (400-hour of use when powered on battery alone)

