

IXION

User Manual





IXION

The Ixion is an optical photocell based compressor with a smooth fat tone and a number of interesting and exploratory features. The controls of the Ixion are simple to use, and can yield fantastic tones in nearly any position! Thoughtful tonal and dynamic options easily adapt the Ixion to any number of instruments and playing styles and use of the flexible sidechain offers a unique avenue for sonic experimentation.

LEVEL - Controls the make-up gain to compensate for the compression. Plenty available for signal matching, boosting, or driving your amp.

THRESH - Controls the amount of signal going into the sidechain. This determines at what level the compression kicks in. When set to maximum, gain is reduced at a 6:1 ratio.

MIX - Goes from 95% dry to 95% wet. Counter-clockwise for more dry, clockwise for more effected signal. Particularly useful for parallel compression techniques, and retaining the inherent transient response of your instrument.

CONTOUR - Blends from a custom designed A-weighted equal loudness filter in the counterclockwise direction, to flat in the clockwise direction. A completely unique way to maintain low frequency integrity with truly bottomless bass at its extreme.

TREBLE - Finely tweak the top end of your tone. Warm and thick when counter-clockwise. Neutral when the control is in the middle. Top boosted when turned clockwise.

SIDCHAIN - Sleeve-GND. Ring-SEND. Tip-RETURN. You may use a simple TS (mono) cable to send an independent audio signal to the sidechain to control compression. Additionally you could use a TRS (stereo) volume or expression pedal to control compression dynamically. Using a TRS to dual TS stereo breakout cable you may run separate pedals into the sidechain like an effects loop. Simply plug the ring TS adapter into the input of your pedal or chain and the tip TS adapter into the output of your pedal or chain. The sidechain is placed between the CONTOUR and THRESH controls, which make for easy control of external signals. Tons of bizarre and esoteric volume manipulations await!

The Ixion requires external power of 9-18V DC (+-G-), negative center via the 2.1mm jack. The Ixion has a high 500K ohm input impedance and a maximum current draw of 32mA when the effect is engaged. Please contact Spaceman if you are unsure about your DC adapter.

For user guides and recommended settings visit spacemaneffects.com/ixion
All Spaceman pedals are covered by a Limited Lifetime Warranty.

Quickstart/Tips and tricks

Tips for dialing in and understanding your compressor:

Compression is an often misunderstood effect that can sometimes be tricky and frustrating to use. Often it is used as a relatively extreme effect, like in funk, and country music. Other times, it may be so understated and transparent that you may wonder if it even needs to be employed. There are several schools of thought when it comes to finding your ideal compressor. Do you want a noticeable dip and swell effect? Would you prefer a more transparent quality to simply balance out string to string dynamics? Is it your always on tone sweetener? There is no wrong answer, but regardless of your use case, here are a couple helpful tips that can assist you in making use of all the features of this particular compressor.

Start with TREBLE at noon, and all other knobs at minimum. From there set the MIX control all the way up. The reason you would do this is that before you deal with parallel blended compression, you should start by hearing just the compression on its own. Set your THRESH, and LEVEL controls so that you can begin to hear the compression happening. The higher the THRESH, the more signal is allowed into the sidechain, and therefore the more gain reduction is happening. You can adjust your LEVEL control to compensate for this gain reduction, keeping the output at or above unity gain.

Try adjusting the CONTOUR control. Depending on your instrument it may be somewhat subtle. This is not necessarily a "tone" kind of control. It will determine how much of your low-end is going into the sidechain. When counter-clockwise, less of your lows get compressed, so your low-end will feel bigger, wider, warmer. When clockwise the frequency response of the sidechain is flat, so your lows will tend to sound tight, focused, and compression overall will be more noticeable.

Adjust the TREBLE control to taste. Perhaps you'd like a little livelier jangle. Turning the TREBLE control clockwise will emphasize that. Perhaps you'd like a smoother, mellower top end. Counter-clockwise can get you there. When you're happy with your compressed sound, try adjusting the MIX. This will blend your compressed and buffered dry sound in parallel. This can help keep your note attack and dynamics feel more natural while taking advantage of the benefits of compression; namely smoothness, and evenness. You might find that you can dial-in a fairly heavy compression tone, and then use the MIX control to make it feel natural.

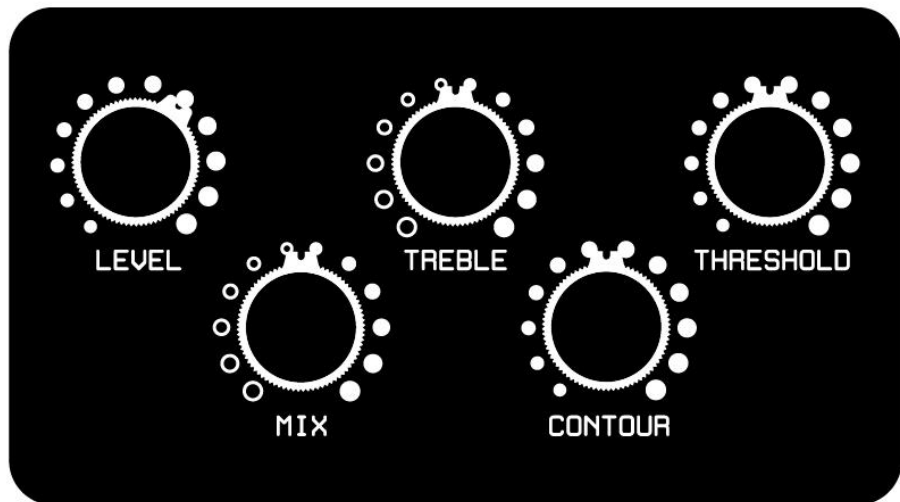
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Suggested Settings

On the following pages you'll find a collection of carefully crafted settings to get your started on your journey.



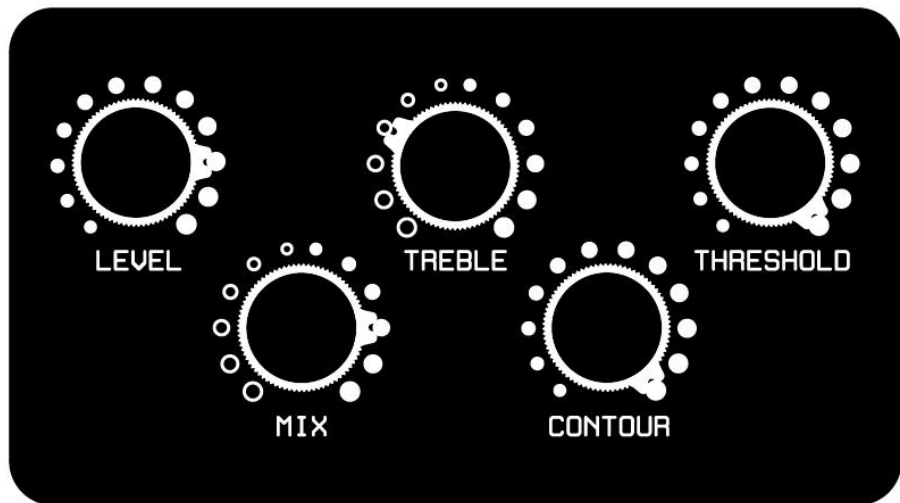
IXION Suggested Settings



Moderation

**Moderate transparent compression with
a dynamic and natural feel.**

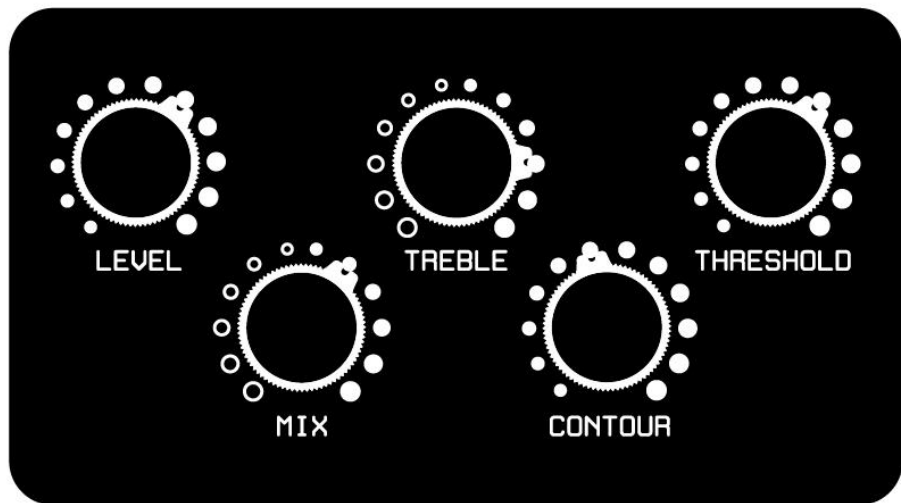
IXION Suggested Settings



Smoothie

Heavy compression with smooth character and tight controlled bass.

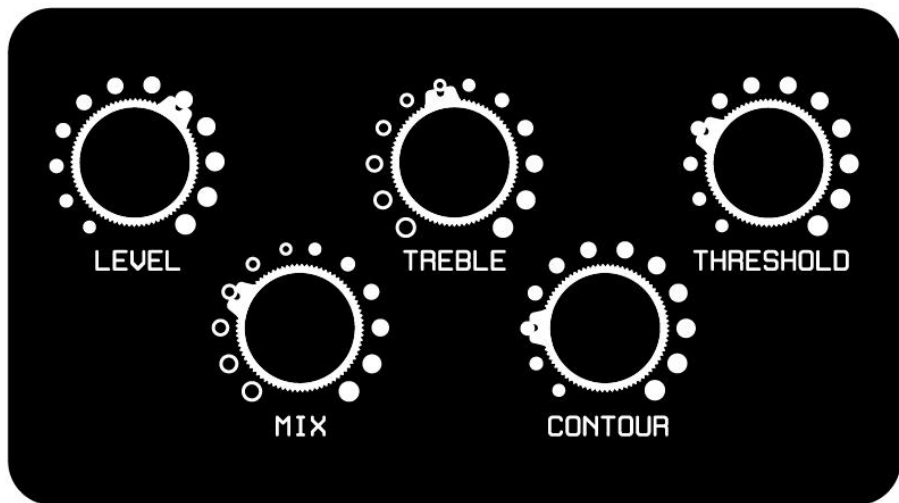
IXION Suggested Settings



Jangle

**Punchy and articulate with a balanced
open bass response.**

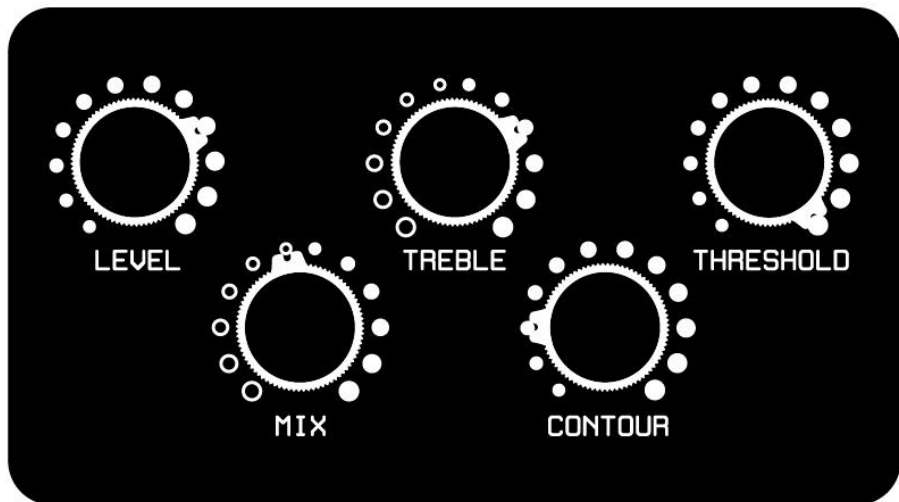
IXION Suggested Settings



Take The Edge Off

Light compression with an open low end, just enough to even things out. Great for hybrid picking.

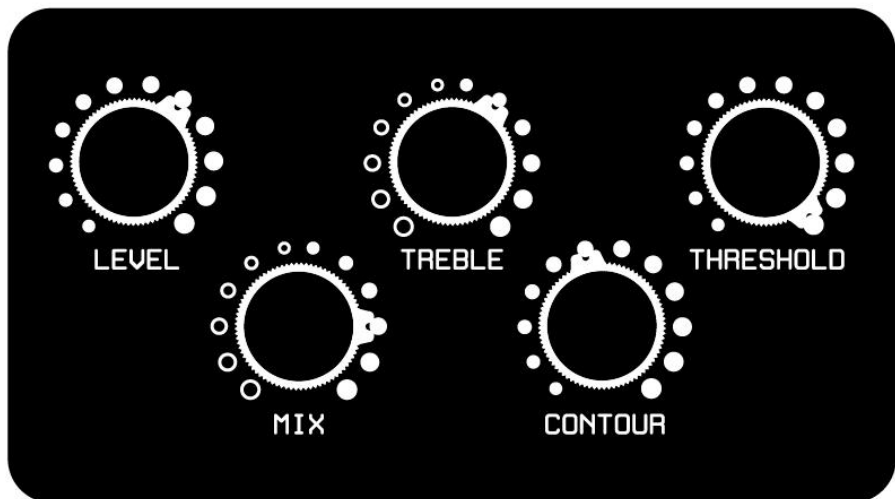
IXION Suggested Settings



Double Wide

Big wide sound with compression focused on the midrange.

IXION Suggested Settings



Metamorph

Plug an expression pedal into the sidechain jack!

Toe down - Focused and controlled compression

**Heel down - Open boosted tone with a nice
harmonic growl.**



Technical Specifications

Width:	3.68 inches / 93.5 mm
Depth:	4.73 inches / 120 mm
Height:	2.25 inches / 57 mm
Weight:	14.6 ounces
Input Resistance:	500K Ohm
Bypass Current Draw:	14mA
Engaged Current Draw:	32mA
Input Voltage:	9V-18V DC, negative center via the 2.1mm jack

Please contact Spaceman if you are unsure about your DC adapter.

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Block Diagram



