



HEAVY  
user manual

## Further Information

On our website ([www.empresseffects.com](http://www.empresseffects.com)) you will find lots of further information and details on the following points:

### Download

This manual is also available as a PDF file for you to download.

### Keyword Search





Use the search function in the electronic version of this manual to find your topics of interest quickly.

### Customer Support

If you have any problems with the device our Customer Support team will gladly assist you.

## Symbols and Signal Words







Signal Word	Meaning
<b>DANGER!</b>	This combination of symbol and signal word indicates an immediate dangerous situation that will result in death or serious injury if it is not avoided
<b>CAUTION!</b>	This combination of symbol and signal word indicates a possible dangerous situation that can result in minor injury if it is not avoided.
<b>NOTICE!</b>	This combination of symbol and signal word indicates a possible dangerous situation that can result in material and environmental damage if it is not avoided.

Warning Signs	Type of Danger
	<i>General warning sign</i>
	<i>Electricity Hazard</i>
	<i>Hot Surface</i>
	<i>Sudden Loud Noises</i>

## Intended Use

This pedal is designed for enhancing guitar tones in live performances and studio recordings. Use as outlined in the user manual. The manufacturer is not liable for damages resulting from improper use or use under non-recommended conditions.

## Safety

	<p><b>DANGER! Danger for children</b></p> <p>Dispose of plastic bags and packaging properly to keep them out of reach of babies and young children to prevent choking hazards. Ensure children don't detach small parts like knobs to avoid choking. Never leave children unattended with electrical devices.</p>
	<p><b>DANGER! Electrical shock</b></p> <p>Risk of electrical shock from exposed wires or damaged components. Inspect pedals for damage before use. If damaged, stop use and seek professional repair.</p>
	<p><b>DANGER! Power Supply Issues</b></p> <p>Use the right voltage and current for your pedal's power supply to prevent damage and safety risks. Check the power supply's condition, and for multiple pedals, opt for a dedicated supply to avoid overloading by daisy-chaining.</p>
	<p><b>CAUTION! Overheating</b></p> <p>Avoid overheating. Do not stack pedals or place in confined spaces. If a pedal overheats, stop using and let it cool.</p>
	<p><b>CAUTION! Tripping Hazard / Pedal Placement</b></p> <p>Prevent tripping: Secure cables and place pedals firmly to avoid slips and falls.</p>
	<p><b>CAUTION! Volume Spikes</b></p> <p>Beware of volume spikes and unexpected sounds when adjusting pedal settings</p>



**NOTICE! Allergies or Sensitivities**

Allergy Alert: Some pedal materials, like adhesives and coatings, may cause reactions. Stop use and seek medical advice if needed.



**NOTICE! Fire Hazard**

Keep away from direct heat and open flames.

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## Introduction

Thank you for purchasing the Empress Effects Heavy! In this aptly named box you'll find a huge range of killer high gain tones. From crisp, mid-driven 80's metal, to scooped, modern down-tuned brutality, this little box of sonic mayhem does it all. The two independent channels can be voiced similarly so that one channel can be used as a solo boost, or they can be voiced entirely differently by using the mid range control in conjunction with the 3 position mid frequency select switch. Add in separate weight controls to shape the low end response of each channel, and a global hi/low eq section that allows you to fine tune your particular amp and cab combination, and you've got a serious tool to create a supremely heavy sounding rig.

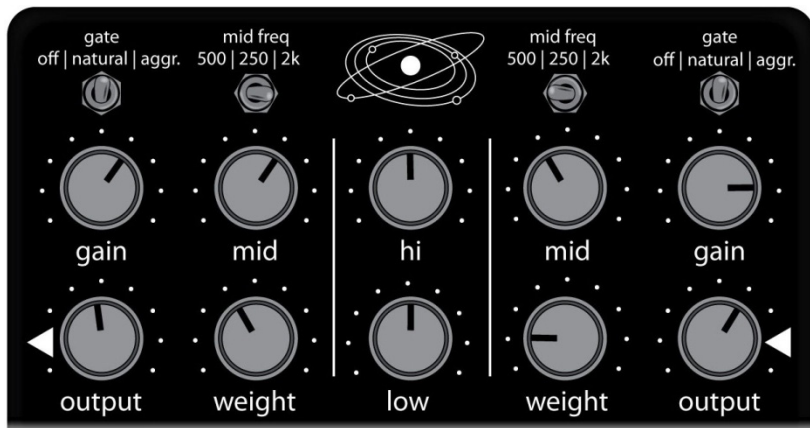
On top of all this we've added an extremely responsive and hassle free noise gate that will ensure dead silent operation with even the most obscene amounts of gain added.

Now go forth and riff. \m/

**Cody Gilchrist**

Lead Designer

## Quick Start



heavy: **Thick n' Punchy**

heavier: **Tight n' Brutal**

**Switching:** Press the heavy stomp to engage the heavy channel. Press the heavier stomp to engage the heavier channel. To return to bypass, press the stomp switch of whichever channel is currently active.

**mid freq:** Allows you to select the center frequency of the mid band EQ.

**mid:** Allows you to add or subtract the frequency selected with the mid freq switch. The 12 o'clock setting is 0 dB, no boost or cut, and the extreme boost and cut is about 10 dB.

**gain:** Controls how much gain is added in each channel. The heavier channel has more gain available than the heavier channel.

**weight:** Changes the character of the low end. Low settings will give you a tighter bass response and will sharpen up palm muted riffs. Higher settings add more size to the bottom end.

The weight control is best used in conjunction with the low EQ. Set the character of the low end with the weight control and the overall level of the low end with the low EQ band.



**heavy/heavier:** Used to toggle bypass the pedal. LEDs indicate given time. When no LEDs are lit

## at a Glance



**hi:** Controls the amount of high frequency content in the output signal. It is a gentle high shelf filter starting around 3 kHz. The 12 o'clock setting is 0 dB, no boost or cut, and the extreme boost and cut is about 10 dB.

**low:** Controls the amount of low frequency content in the output signal. It is a low shelf filter starting around 80 Hz. The 12 o'clock setting is 0 dB, no boost or cut, and the extreme boost and cut is about 10 dB.

The hi and low EQ bands affect both the heavy and heavier channels of the pedal

**gate:** Helps to eliminate noise by muting the output of the pedal when you are not playing.

- **natural:** Allows you to play normally without your notes getting cut off. Has a gentle slope that lets notes decay naturally.
- **aggr:** Clamps down quickly. Great when playing tight starts and stops.

**trim:** There is a trim pot on the side of the pedal that lets you set the threshold for the gate.

**output:** Controls the output gain. The point where unity gain is achieved varies and depends on the individual section volumes.

between the 2 channels and to  
e which channel is active at any  
it, the pedal is bypassed.

## Noise Gate

The Heavy features an internal noise gate which is triggered from the input, before the signal is distorted. This results in a noise gate that is extremely responsive and dynamic. Whether you're playing a long sustaining note that's meant to ring out into feedback, or you need a tight gate for those quick stops, the noise gate will react and adjust accordingly. In Natural mode, the gate sensitivity is high and will open with very small input levels. This mode works great for all styles of playing from leads to tight rhythms. However, Aggressive mode may be better suited to your playing if all you require is a hard clamping gate for fast stops. The noise gate can be set to either mode on either channel, for maximum flexibility.

**Setting the threshold:** The side mounted trim pot lets you increase or decrease the threshold to best suit your guitar's output. It comes factory set in the middle (arrow up) which we've found works really well with most guitar/pickup combinations, but there's some room for adjustment if you need it. Use a small flathead screwdriver and turn clockwise to increase the sensitivity (lower the threshold), or counter-clockwise to decrease the sensitivity (increase the threshold).

# Regulatory Compliance Information

## FCC (USA)

This device complies with Part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions:

- (1) this device may not cause harmful interference, and
- (2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

### Responsible Party in the USA

Americas Compliance Consulting LLC dba iCertifi

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Changes or modifications not expressly approved by the party responsible for compliance could void the user's authority to operate the equipment.

Note: This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

- Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
- Increase the separation between the equipment and receiver.
- Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.
- Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help.

## ICES-003 (Canada)

CAN ICES-003(B) / NMB-003(B)

## CE (European Union)

This declaration of conformity is issued under the sole responsibility of Empress Effects Inc- 105-62 Steacie Dr, Kanata Ontario K2K 2A9. The device identified on the front page of this manual is in conformity with the requirements of the European Union's Electromagnetic Compatibility Directive 2014/30/EU, in accordance with the following harmonized standards:

- EN 55032:2015/A11:2020 – Electromagnetic compatibility of multimedia equipment - Emission Requirements
- EN 61000-3-2:2014 – Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) - Part 3-2: Limits - Limits for harmonic current emissions (equipment input current  $\leq 16$  A per phase)
- EN 61000-3-3:2013 – Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) - Part 3-3: Limits - Limitation of voltage changes, voltage fluctuations and flicker in public low-voltage supply systems, for equipment with rated current  $\leq 16$  A per phase and not subject to conditional connection
- EN 55035:2017/A11:2020 – Electromagnetic compatibility of multimedia equipment - Immunity Requirements



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Date: August 19, 2023

Location: 105-62 Steacie Dr, Kanata Ontario K2K 2A9

## WEEE (2012/19/EU)



This product must not be disposed of with regular household waste. In compliance with WEEE regulations, please take this product to a designated collection facility or return to the supplier for proper recycling. Comply with local laws and regulations for disposal. Contact your local authority or [support@empresseffects.com](mailto:support@empresseffects.com) for specific information.


## Disposal of the packaging material



For the transport and protective packaging, environmentally friendly materials have been chosen that can be supplied to normal recycling. Ensure that plastic bags, packaging, etc. are properly disposed of. Do not just dispose of these materials with your normal household waste, but make sure that they are collected for recycling. Please follow the notes and markings on the packaging.



## Specifications

Input Impedance:	1 M $\Omega$
Output Impedance:	510 $\Omega$
Input Voltage:	9V DC +  -
Required Current:	200mA
Power Input Connector:	2.1 mm Barrel Connector
Height:	2"
Length:	3.5"
Width:	4.5"
Weight:	1lb