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## VOD (Variable Overdrive)

Operating Manual

PATENTS PENDING WORLDWIDE



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### Check-out the MEGA-WAH:

- Classic Wah: Mono or STEREO
- Mega-Wah: Wah on steroids
- Trig-Wah: Note-triggered
- Auto-Wah: Variable frequency
- Reverse-Wah: Unique
- Foot-volume control: Noiseless

Check it out on [www.gig-fx.com](http://www.gig-fx.com)

### Safety first

**Electrical faults can kill you.**

In the music world, the most common form of electrical shock occurs when the musician forms a path for an electrical current between two different circuits where one of them is faulty. Usually this is caused by holding a guitar plugged into one circuit and touching a microphone which is plugged into a different circuit. If one of the circuits (or a piece of equipment in the path) is faulty, there is a real danger of electrical shock.

NEVER USE outlets which are not wired correctly. If you have ANY doubt at all, please call an experienced electrician.

In addition to the above, make sure your amplifiers are wired correctly and have not been modified by inexperienced personnel. Beware of amplifiers that have switches that reverse polarity or 'ground lift' connections. When touring in foreign countries, make sure your amplifiers are set for the correct voltage. If you use a transformer to change the mains voltage from 110VAC to 220VAC

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### What to expect

The VOD will give you tones you did not believe you can get from a distortion pedal. It is like having a three-channel amplifier at your feet. You can change the amount of edge / distortion with three different levels. And you can change the EQ to give you the tone you want, from fat and warm all the way to bright and aggressive. You can boost the mids and cut the treble and bass to get that throaty WAH sound that some pedals (such as the MEGA-WAH) can give. Or you can add edge to get that Albert King sound. Or make it fat like the Clapton "woman tone". Push the pedal all the way down to get enough gain and distortion to give you all the weight you need, and you will not lose the body of your tone if you keep the bass fat.

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### Hooking it up

A distortion pedal is best placed (in our opinion), after a wah pedal and after a compressor, but before a delay, reverb or modulation pedal, such as a tremolo, chorus, flanger etc. This is because a distortion pedal will amplify, distort and compress the incoming signal, and you would not want to distort your echo or reverb. You should try yourself to see which order suits your own sound.

### Powering it up - AC Adapter

The preferred adapter is a regulated 9V DC supply class 2 adapter with minimum 50mA output current capability. Most commercially available 9V adapters designed for pedal effects will work (2.1mm diameter plug)). No harm will come to the unit if the power supply jack has the wrong polarity, but double check that the center-pin of the power jack is negative polarity.

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### Battery Power

The unit can be operated on a single 9V battery and will be 'on' and drawing current as long as there is a ¼" jack plug inserted in the input jack socket. To replace battery, unscrew the smaller base panel as indicated underneath the unit. When the battery is running low, the most likely event is that the unit will fail to turn off as there is insufficient current to drive the optical switch.

The VOD draws around 25mA giving a reasonable battery life but it is recommended that you use a power adapter for important sessions or gigs. Be aware that if your power supply does not supply enough current to power all your effects, power supply noise can increase substantially or cause other unwanted sound defects. To preserve battery life, always unplug the input jack when pedal is not in use.

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### Pedal Board Mounting

Attach strips of self-adhesive Velcro sufficient to cover the rubber pads on the base plate of the pedal. Cover your pedal board with the other side of the Velcro et voilà!

### By-Passing the unit

The unit is by-passed if the pedal is in the full-back position. You will not feel any switch as it is a noiseless, wear-free optical switch. The effect will turn on when the pedal is depressed. Please note, even when by-passed, the pedal will draw current as long as there is a jack plug inserted in the input jack socket so to preserve battery life, remove jack plug when pedal is not in use. The nature of the bypass is a silicon switch (as opposed to a mechanical switch) which has an open bandwidth and will not affect the harmonics or integrity of your sound, and provides a silent switching mechanism.

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### Troubleshooting

All gig-fx pedal products are tested three times - once with a scope looking for correct waveforms, one electrical test on the bench before assembly, and then a final full audio test and visual examination prior to packaging. Having said all this, some components can change characteristics or fail without our permission so if you have a problem, please let us know.

### Adjusting pedal resistance

gig-fx pedals can be adjusted for resistance to movement. If the pedal is too loose or too tight for you, you can adjust to your liking. Having said this, if the pedal is too loose, it can cause the bypass not to work if it does not stay in the back position.

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To adjust the pedal resistance, you will need a 10mm crescent wrench and a Phillips screwdriver. Most wrenches can fit in the cavity so that they can hold the locking nuts, but some are too fat and the wings need to be filed or ground a bit in order to fit in the limited space. If you do not have one, gig-fx will send you a wrench free of charge. Insert the wrench into the cavity under the pedal from the back and locate the locking nut into the jaw of the wrench so that the nut is held. Now use the screwdriver to tighten or loosen the screw to provide the resistance of choice. Be careful to tighten both sides evenly. If you have a spring-scale, such as those used for weighing fish, the correct uplift force need to lift the front of the pedal is in the range of 1kg (2lbs), but if not, just set it so that is tight enough to stay in the off position or any other position, but not so tight it is stiff to move with your foot. Let your foot be the judge, as it is much stronger than your hand. DO NOT OVERTIGHTEN as the locking mechanism might get damaged.

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### Safety, EMI

This unit is compliant with:

- FCC requirements for conducted and radiated emissions
- EMI as described in CISPR 22
- EMI requirements as described in EN55013
- UL listing not required if used with class 2 (limited current) power supply or 9V battery
- CE norms

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For assistance with any other problems, please email us at [info@gig-fx.com](mailto:info@gig-fx.com)

Please also give us your feedback, we would love to know.

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