

Thorn[®]

SOUNDLABS

• NASHVILLE TN USA •

Magma

Flexible Metal Distortion

User Manual



Thank you for purchasing the Magma Flex Metal Distortion with integrated Noise Gate.


The **Thorn Magma - Flex Metal Dist** is a versatile and powerful metal distortion pedal, specifically designed to meet the needs of modern heavy guitar tones. Equipped with a built-in **Noise Gate**, this pedal allows you to achieve tight, high-gain sounds while minimizing unwanted noise and feedback. The **Gain, Damping, Headroom, and Volume** controls provide complete command over your distortion, enabling you to shape everything from subtle grit to full-on, aggressive metal tones. The **Bass, Mid Freq, Mid, and Treble** controls offer precise tonal shaping, while the **Gate** control ensures a clean and tight signal even at high distortion levels.

The **Thorn Magma - Flex Metal Dist** is the ideal tool for delivering intense, cutting metal distortion with unparalleled flexibility and noise control.

Controls


- 1 - 1/4" (6.35 mm) mono output:** Use an instrument / patch cable to connect to your next pedal or the input of the amplifier.
- 2 - 9-18 VDC power supply jack:** Connect a regular pedal power supply unit with a 5.5 x 2.1 mm barrel plug, center negative. Battery operation is not possible. Do not connect more than 18 V!
- 3 - 1/4" (6.35 mm) mono input:** Use an instrument cable to connect your guitar or the previous pedal in your effects chain.
- 4 - GAIN control:** The GAIN control adjusts the input gain of the signal, i.e. the signal level before it is affected by the other controls. Increasing the gain produces a more pronounced distortion effect.
- 5 - DAMPING control:** The Damping control is a variable filter that reduces the low frequency content before the signal enters the distortion circuit. Allowing all of the low frequency content to be processed can make the bottom end sound loose and flabby. Reducing (damping) the low frequency content at the input will keep the bottom end tight and responsive. In general, higher DRIVE settings sound better with increased DAMPING (i.e. less low frequency in put into the circuits). Lower DRIVE settings with less DAMPING give a more open low end character. There is no damping at the lowest setting (7 o'clock).
7 o'clock position: „minimum damping = maximum bass“
5 o'clock position: „maximum damping = tight bass“
- 6 - HEADROOM control:** The Headroom control (in conjunction with the Gain control) contributes to the overall amount of distortion applied to the signal by setting the clipping threshold of the output stage.
7 o'clock position: „maximum headroom = minimum distortion“
5 o'clock position: „minimum headroom = maximum distortion“
- 7 - VOLUME control:** The volume control determines the signal level sent to the output jack.
- 8 - Tone Stack controls:** This is an active tone stack that can boost or cut **BASS, MID** and **TREBLE** frequencies. The bands are interactive, i.e., a boost or cut on the BASS control (for example) will also have some effect on the behavior of the MID control. In this sense, it is similar to the tone stack in a typical guitar amplifier. The center frequency for the MID band can be adjusted with the MID FREQ control.
7 o'clock position = lowest cut of the respective frequency band
12 o'clock position = flat / neutral response (no cut or boost)
5 o'clock position = highest boost of the respective frequency band
- MID FREQ control:** This control adjusts the center frequency for the MID control of the tone stack between 300 Hz and 2 kHz. Depending on the setting of this control, the MID control dampens or boosts the mids around the selected center frequency as a variable bandpass filter.
- 9 - Gate control:** This control sets the threshold for the noise gate. As long as the level of the input signal is below this threshold, the gate will close and the output will be muted. As soon as the input signal rises above this threshold, the gate opens and the circuit receives the full input signal. Stop playing and then turn the Gate knob clockwise until the output is muted (no more hissing or humming).
Start playing and you should hear your guitar signal distorted by the Magma. Adjust the Gate control to find the sweet spot where the noise is just muted, but the gate opens as soon as you play the first note using your typical playing style.
- 10 - Gate switch:** This switch activates / deactivates the Noise Gate circuit. The GATE control will have no effect if the Noise Gate is switched off.
- 11 - ON/OFF footswitch & LED:** This footswitch activates the pedal (LED above the switch is lit) or switches it to True Bypass (LED off).

Specifications

- Input: 1/4" (6.35 mm) mono (TS) jack, impedance = 470 k Ω
Output: 1/4" (6.35 mm) mono (TS) jack, impedance = 2.2 k Ω
- Power supply: 9-18 VDC, 5.5 x 2.1 mm barrel plug, center negative 
Battery operation is not possible.
Do not connect more than 18 V!
Current draw: max. 24 mA
- Dimensions: 3.70" x 4.72" x 1.50" (94 x 120 x 38 mm)
- Weight: 0.90 lbs (410 g)

Safety precautions

Power Requirements

Please only use a power supply adapter approved by the manufacturer (9-18 VDC and center negative polarity). 

Only use power supplies that have been approved by the relevant authorities and that meet UL, CSA, VDE or CCC standards. Unplug the power adapter when not in use or during thunderstorms.

We recommend pedal-specific, transformer-isolated wallwart power supplies or multiple isolated-output supplies. Pedals will make extra noise if there is ripple or unclean power. Switching-type power supplies, daisy chains and non-pedal specific power supplies do not filter dirty power as well and will let unwanted noise through. DO NOT RUN AT HIGHER VOLTAGES!

Storage and handling

- Do not use excessive force to operate the control elements of the pedal.
- Do not drop the pedal, and avoid placing the pedal in locations where it may be subject to shock or vibrations.
- Do not modify the pedal without authorization.
- Do not place the pedal in locations exposed to direct sunlight or excessively high or low temperatures.
- Do not place the pedal in wet locations or places with high humidity.
- Do not place the pedal in excessively dusty or dirty locations.

Cleaning

Clean only with a soft, dry cloth. If necessary, lightly moisten the cloth. Do not use abrasive cleaners, cleaning alcohol, paint thinners, wax, solvents, cleaning fluids, or chemical-impregnated wiping cloths.

Connections

Always disconnect the power supply from the pedal and any other equipment before connecting or disconnecting signal cables. Also make sure to disconnect all connection cables and the power supply before moving the pedal.

Warranty

This device has a limited warranty of 2 years to the original owner.

Should you encounter any issues, please visit www.thorn-soundlabs.com/warranty



RECYCLING

This product carries the selective sorting symbol for Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE). This means that this product must be treated in accordance with European Directive 2012/19/EU in order to be recycled or dismantled to minimize its impact on the environment.

The user has the option of returning the product to a competent recycling organization or to the retailer when purchasing new electrical or electronic equipment.



The exclamation point within an equilateral triangle is intended to alert the user to the presence of important operating and maintenance (servicing) instructions in the literature accompanying the appliance.