BASIC SETUP PROCEDURE

1) Set THRESHOLD Knob Indicator to desired level (light changes quickly upon playing for more noticeable "always active" compression, set to point that light only changes at the loudest levels for more subtle compression or limiting.
2) Set COMPRESSION (Ratio) to taste, moving right will result in more compression, left for less compression
3) Adjust GAIN to compensate for any loss of output level.

THRESHOLD:
Use this Knob to set the Threshold, or trigger point, of compression. Lower settings will cause compression to occur more often, higher settings will require you to play harder before compression begins.

COMPRESSION (RATIO):
Use this knob to set the Compression Ratio above the Threshold. 1:1 represents no compression or no reduction above Threshold. Infinity:1 Represents a hard limiter, or zero volume increase above Threshold.

GAIN:
Adjust this control to increase output level to compensate for level lost from compression. Adjust higher then unity for a boost.

THRESHOLD INDICATOR:
This LED will be Green if there is no compression, red when the threshold has been met and gain reduction (compression) is being applied.
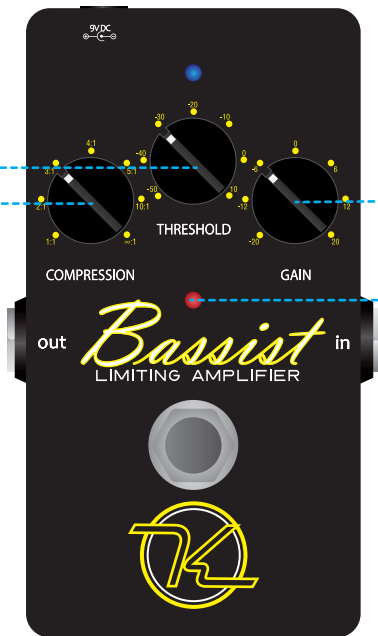
Bassist
LIMITING AMPLIFIER

EFFECT TYPE:
Compressor / Limiter

Power Requirement:
9VDC Center Negative 50mA+
Power Supply Required

Input/Output:
Mono Instrument In,
Mono Instrument Out

out *Bassist* in
LIMITING AMPLIFIER

COMPRESSION   THRESHOLD   GAIN

Keeley Engineering

NOTES ON CONTROLS

THRESHOLD: The THRESHOLD control is, in most cases, the first control to set on a compressor. Signals that surpass the threshold level in volume will be reduced by the factor set on the COMPRESSION control, all signals that do not meet or exceed the threshold level will pass through unprocessed. To begin setup start with GAIN set to a moderate level, and COMPRESSION set to 1:1. Play through the pedal noting when the THRESHOLD INDICATOR changes color. The indicator should not remain green the whole time under normal circumstances. To use as a limiter or transparent compressor, set to a level where only the hardest playing causes a change to red, for more noticeable compression effects, adjust to a level where any not played causes a change to red.

COMPRESSION (RATIO): The COMPRESSION control sets the amount of gain reduction that will occur past the Threshold level. The ratio refers to the number of decibels that must be introduced over the threshold level to produce a 1db increase in output level. So, for example, a 5:1 ration means that every 5db of level increase to the input of the compressor will yeild 1db of final output. Higher ratios will produce a more noticeable "squish" and less dynamics, lower ones will be less noticeable and more transparent. Adjust this control to taste.

GAIN: The GAIN control adjusts the final output level of the pedal. This pedal is capable of much higher than unity output levels (up to +20db) so this control can either be used to compensate for the level lost through compression, or it can be used to boost the signal to drive an amplifier. With any gain control comes the possibility of a bit of noise. If you find yourself pushing this control higher and higher, it is worth looking at your THRESHOLD and COMPRESSION settings to ensure they are not reducing gain more than is necessary.

ATTACK and RELEASE: This pedal does not have attack and release controls. There is a good reason for this. This pedal operates with a figure determined years ago to be pleasing to the ears, which is 125db / second. Feed forward compressors with True RMS detection (such as this one) use a single time constant parameter. Then, a timing capacitor yields attack and release times adaptive to your playing or the input level. Bottom Line: Attack and Release vary depending on content.

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