

BabyBlue Echotapper Guitar Effect Pedal

Vintage Tape Echo Guitar Effects Pedal

The BabyBlue (Echotapper) is a guitar effects pedal design with a strong emphasis on accurately emulating the sounds of vintage tape-based echo units as used by Hank Marvin of The Shadows as well as others.

Main Features

- Accurately emulates many classic tape echo machines including Meazzi Echomatic I and II, Vox Long Tom and Roland RE301.
- Advanced low-noise 4-FET preamplifier designed to emulate the valve preamplifiers used in some of the classic tape echo machines
- A 'Drive' Mini control and an internal Level control alters the generation of 'valve-like' harmonics, and allows for the matching of a wide range of guitar pickups from vintage single coils to 'hot' humbuckers.

Advanced Preamp and Controls

Featuring an advanced low-noise 4-FET preamplifier designed to emulate the valve preamplifiers used in some of the classic tape echo machines; it has Drive and Level knobs to control the generation of 'valve-like' harmonics. In addition it has three further controls which can be used to adjust the parameters of individual effects such as the mix of Dry and Wet signals, the number and configuration of emulated tape heads and the feedback

Emulation Control

The emulation knob selects accurate settings of seven much sought after vintage tape echo machines along with an eighth selection which is a reverb and tremolo setting:

1. Meazzi Echomatic-1 Model 'J' Classic with controls for Dry/Wet mix, echo Program and Feedback
2. Meazzi Echomatic-1 Model 'F' Classic with controls for Dry/Wet mix, echo Program and Feedback
3. Meazzi Echomatic-1 Model 'F' Special with controls for Dry/Wet mix, echo Program and Feedback
4. Meazzi Echomatic-II Model 'B' with controls for Dry/Wet mix, echo Program and Feedback
5. Vox Long Tom Classic with controls for Dry/Wet mix, echo Program and Feedback
6. Meazzi Echomatic-II Classic with controls for Heads 123 level, Head 4 level and Feedback
7. Roland RE301 Mode 5 with controls for Dry/Wet mix, vari-speed (Delay) and Feedback
8. Reverb and Tremolo with controls for Reverb level, tremolo speed and depth.

Important Power supply Requirements

For quiet operation of the pedal a high quality power supply designed for use in guitar and musical instruments is highly recommended, it must be of the 9 volt DC variety with a Centre negative plug connection. Recommended power supply units available include the Boss PSA230-240, and Visual sound 1-spot.

Controls

The Baby Blue Echotapper Tape Echo Emulator pedal has four external adjustable potentiometers, and one eight position switch for controlling the settings of the effect unit along with an internal level trim control.

Emulation: This eight position switch selects which effect model the pedal will use.

Patch: A dual purpose control in conjunction with the Emulation switch. The first five emulations use this control as a five position selector using the A-B-C-E-F scale. The remaining three emulations use this control as a standard variable using the 0-10 scale.

Feedback: This controls the amount echo repeats of the echo emulations and controls the tremolo depth on the Reverb/Tremolo emulation.

Dry/Wet: Used to control the balance of the dry and effect signals of the echo emulations or the reverb level on the Reverb/Tremolo emulation.

Drive: The drive mini control can be used to adjust the amount of harmonic content in the signal and in conjunction with the internal drive trim can be used to balance the signal levels for different guitars and harmonic levels in the signal. NOTE – This is not an 'overdrive' control.

The Table below outlines the emulations and controls.

Program	Emulation	Dry/Wet	Patch	Feedback
1	Meazzi Echomatic I (E1J)	Mix	5 pos Switch	Feedback
2	Meazzi Echomatic I (E1F)	Mix	5 pos Switch	Feedback
3	Meazzi Echomatic I (E1S)	Mix	5 pos Switch	Feedback
4	Meazzi Echomatic II Bank	Mix	5 pos Switch	Feedback
5	Vox LongTom Classic	Mix	5 pos Switch	Feedback
6	Meazzi Echomatic II Classic	Dry/Wet Heads 1,2,3	Dry/Wet head 4	Feedback
7	Roland Model 301 Mode 5	Mix	Varispeed	Feedback
8	Reverb / Tremolo	Reverb	Tremolo Freq	Tremolo Depth

So what exactly do the Emulation and Patch switch combinations do?

There are 8 Emulations to select from as outlined in the table above numbered from 1-8. Emulations 1-5 use the patch selections A-F from the patch knob which selects different combinations of playback heads. Using Program 1 which is the Meazzi Echomatic 1 Model J (E1J) the following table shows the delay time of each head, the output level of the heads and when selecting A-F which heads are being used.

Program 1 – Meazzi Echomatic 1 Model J (E1J)

Heads	Delay (ms)	dB	A	B	C	E	F
1	121	0	y	y	y		y
2	239	0	y	fbk			y
3	330	-2	y		y		y
4	425	-2	y	y	y		y
5	510	-4	y		y +fbk		y +fbk
6	595	-4	y +fbk	y	y	y +fbk	y

Program 2 – Meazzi Echomatic 1 Model F (E1F)

Heads	Delay (ms)	dB	A	B	C	E	F
1	121	0	y			y	
2	280	0	y	y		y	
3	360	-2	fb	y			fbk
4	420	-2	y	y+fbk	y		y
5	603	-2	y		y +fbk	y+fbk	y

Program 3 – Meazzi Echomatic 1 Model F Special (E1S)

Heads	Delay (ms)	dB	A	B	C	E	F
1	121 (87*)	0	y	Y*	y	y	y
2	280 (180*)	0	Y*	Y*	y	Y*	Y*
3	360	-2				y	
4	420	-2	y	y			y+fbk
5b	503	-4	y+fbk	y+fbk	y		y
5	603	-4			y+fbk	y+fbk	

Program 4 – Meazzi Echomatic 11 Bank Configurations (E11B)

Patch	
A	36-24-36
B	General use
C	General use
E	General use
F	Foottapper, Dance-On

Program 5 – Vox Large (VOXL)

Heads	Delay (ms)	dB	A	B	C	E	F
1	86 (101*)	0				Y*	
2	160 (188*)	0			y	Y*	y
3	234 (276*)	0				Y*	
4	308 (364*)	-2			y + fbk	y + fbk*	y
5	382	-4		y + fbk	y		y + fbk
6	456	-4	y + fbk	y	y	y	y
7	530	-4	y				
8	604	-4	y				

The last three patches, 5 to 7 use the Patch knob on a 1-10 scale to control the parameters set out in the tables below.

Program 6 – Meazzi Echomatic 11 Classic Configuration (E11C)

Heads	Delay (ms)	dB	Dry/Wet	Patch
1	106	0	Level	
2	204	0	Level	
3	285	-2	Level	
4	360	-2		Level

Program 7 – Roland 301 Mode 5 Head Configuration (R301)

Heads	Delay (ms)	dB	Patch	Head selection
1	121	0	Varispeed	off
2	232	0	Varispeed	on
3	598	0	Varispeed	on

Program 8 – Tremolo / Reverb (T/Rev)

Dry/Wet	Patch	Feedback
Reverb Level	Tremolo speed	Tremolo Depth

Suggested Song settings (Updated 20/2/2016)

Song	Emulation	Dry/Wet	Patch	Feedback
Apache	E1J	4.5	B	0
Argentina	R301	3.5	6	5
Atlantis	EIIC	3.6	5.5	3.6
Deer hunter Cavatina	R301	5.5	5	4.5
FBI	E1J	4.5	C	3.6
Flingel Bunt	VOXL	1.8	C	2.7
Foot Tapper	EIIC	1.8	3.6	4
Frightened City	E1J	4.5	B	3
Cosy	EIIC	3.5	F	4
Man of Mystery	E1J	5.5	C	4.5
Midnight	E1J	5.5	F	4.5
Mustang	E1J	4.5	B	3.6
Peace Pipe	EIIC	3	4	4.5
QMS	E1J	4.5	A	2.7
Shadoogie	EIIC	2.5	3.6	3
Shingdig	EIIC	2	3	5
Sleepwalk	EIIC	2.7	4.5	3.6
Riders in the Sky	R301	3.6	3	4.5
The Savage	EIIC	3.6	5.5	4.5
The Stranger	E1J	3.6	B	2.7
Wonderful Land	EIIC	3	5.5	4
Kon Tiki	EIIC	3.6	5.5	4.5
Theme For Young Lovers	EIIC	3.6	5.5	3.6