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PICO SHIMMER

User Manual

Cosmic Reverb



Welcome to the Electro-Harmonix Pico Shimmer,

a compact yet powerful reverb pedal designed to transform your instrument into immersive, ethereal soundscapes. Pico Shimmer is built on the highly acclaimed algorithms of the Oceans, Canyon, and POG (Polyphonic Octave Generator), while adding a new polyphonic strings synthesis engine to deliver lush, cinematic atmospheres. With three distinct effect scenes, including a new glitch delay engine, Pico Shimmer invites you to explore everything from classic shimmer tones to otherworldly ambient textures, unlocking endless creative possibilities.

Operating Instructions

Insert the output plug from the supplied 9VDC AC adapter into the power jack at the top of Pico Shimmer. The unit must be powered to pass signal, even in bypass. Pico Shimmer features buffered analog bypass or digital bypass depending on settings. Connect an instrument cable from your instrument to the Input jack. Connect an instrument cable between the Output jack and a suitable amplifier. Press the footswitch to engage Pico Shimmer and light the LED.

Power Supply Requirements: Voltage: 9VDC Current: 100mA Polarity: Center-Negative

This device comes equipped with an Electro-Harmonix 9.6DC-200 power supply. Use of the wrong adapter or a plug with the wrong polarity may damage the device and void the warranty. Do not exceed 10.5VDC on the power plug. Power supplies rated for less than 100mA may cause the device to act unreliably.

Controls & Jacks



1. BLEND Adjusts the overall output mix from 100% dry to 100% wet.

2. TIME Controls the decay time of the reverb. The TIME knob goes all the way to infinite at its maximum setting.

3. VOICE Morphs between a clean plate reverb at minimum, classic shimmer at noon, and ethereal strings at maximum

4. TONE Controls the brightness of the effect.

5. SCENE Button Cycles through the three effect modes. Each Scene has a different signal chain resulting in a unique effect.

Green: INTERGALACTIC a classic shimmer made up of polyphonic octaves (POG), reverb, modulated delay and compression with the addition of a string synthesis engine. Turn the VOICE knob between plate reverb, original POG shimmer, and ethereal strings to create cinematic atmospheres beyond time and space.

Orange: OFF-WORLD a smoother, mellower

shimmer effect with enhanced delay modulation. Set BLEND to maximum and VOICE to its upper half for vintage synthesizer textures that lift this mode into the orbit of retro-futuristic soundscape engines.

Red: ETHERDUST a glitch shimmer effect where the delay time is randomized, creating stutters ranging from short granular sparkles to distinct glitch echoes. Set the secondary RVB MIX knob to a low setting to highlight the glitch stutter.

6. Footswitch and Status LED The footswitch engages or bypasses the effect. The LED color indicates the scene. In bypass mode, the LED is off.

7. Input Jack Impedance: 2.2M Ω ,
Max In: +1.5dBu

8. Output Jack Impedance: 680 Ω ,
Max Out: +2.1dBu

9. Power Jack Current draw: 100mA at
9.0VDC

Secondary Knob Functions

To access the secondary knob controls, press and hold the SCENE button for 1 second, until the LED starts blinking, and then release. Turning the knobs while the LED is blinking adjusts the following secondary controls:

RVB MIX Adjusts the reverb mix from 100% dry to 100% wet.

DELAY Sets the delay time of the discrete echoes, ranging from 0 to 950ms.

DEPTH Controls the modulation depth.

RATE Controls the modulation rate.

While in secondary mode, press and release the SCENE button to cycle through the three scenes and adjust the secondary knobs for each scene.

To return to the main knob functions, press and hold the SCENE button for 1 second, until the LED stops blinking. Then release the button.

The secondary knob settings are remembered separately for each scene and through power cycles.

Infinite Reverb

To activate infinite reverb, you can either turn the TIME knob to maximum or press and hold the footswitch. The following steps detail how to activate infinite reverb with the footswitch:

1. Press and hold the footswitch.
2. After 500ms, the LED begins to flash through all three colors. Infinite is now active.
3. Infinite reverb continues until you release the footswitch.

The infinite reverb feature is only available when Bypass Mode is set to Digital Bypass or Hybrid Bypass (see the next section for more details).

Bypass Modes & Selections

Pico Shimmer features three distinct bypass topologies:

Digital Bypass (Green) In this mode your signal is fully digital, even in bypass. The tails of the shimmer effect continue to decay naturally upon entering bypass; no new audio enters the shimmer effect in bypass.

Analog Bypass (Orange) The bypass signal is fully analog and buffered. The shimmer effect instantly mutes upon entering bypass. Analog bypass gives you the purest, least-colored sound in bypass mode.

Hybrid Bypass (Red) When you switch from effect to bypass, your bypass signal is initially digital, but the pedal will seamlessly switch to analog bypass when the reverb tail has decayed and there's a brief gap in your playing. Hybrid Bypass allows for a smooth transition from effect to bypass, allows for reverb tails to ring out, and allows for footswitchable Infinite mode all while keeping your bypass signal analog for the vast majority of the time.

Hybrid Bypass is selected by default from the factory. To change the bypass topology, do the following:

1. Power down the Pico Shimmer.
2. Press and hold the footswitch.
3. While holding down the footswitch, apply power to the unit.
4. Continue to hold down the footswitch. After about 2 seconds, the LED begins blinking rapidly.
5. Release the footswitch. The color of the blinking LED represents the current bypass setting: green is Digital Bypass, orange is Analog Bypass, and red is Hybrid Bypass.
6. Press and release the SCENE button. The LED color changes with each press.
7. When the LED color matches your desired bypass mode, press and release the footswitch once to select and exit.

The bypass mode setting is remembered through power-cycles so you can set it and forget it.

Factory Restore

A reset can be performed on the Pico Shimmer to restore all settings to their factory defaults. To perform a factory restore, follow these steps:

1. Power down Pico Shimmer.
2. Press and hold the SCENE button while re-applying power.
3. Continue to hold down the SCENE button for about two seconds. The LED will cycle through all three colors before ending on green.
4. Release the SCENE button. All secondary knob values are restored to the following factory defaults:

SCENE	LED	RVB MIX	DELAY	DEPTH	RATE
INTERGALACTIC	Green	100%	40%	40%	40%
OFF-WORLD	Orange	100%	40%	50%	40%
ETHERDUST	Red	25%	40%	18%	50%

Bypass Mode is set to **Hybrid Bypass**.

Pico Shimmer starts up in **INTERGALACTIC (Green)** scene.