



PRODUCT OVERVIEW

This triple channel switching overdrive stomp box offers *true* channel switching between three completely different tube amp characters, “Tweed,” “California,” and “British.” For greater flexibility and usefulness, each channel is independent with its own *Drive* and *Level* controls. Tech 21’s custom footswitch actuator provides a smooth transition between channels for instantaneous switching.

The TRI-O.D. can be used for live performances with an amp/combo, or to drive a power amp and guitar speaker cabinets. Turning off all 3 channels enables you to use the *Speaker Simulator* and *Master Output Section* only. This feature is useful when you want to record direct with a pre-amp, fuzz box, or any other stomp boxes in your collection.

Manufacturer of the highly-acclaimed SansAmp™ line of Tube Amplifier Emulators, Tech 21’s proprietary circuitry is engineered in the true tradition of tube amplifiers in their *totality* --with a pre-amp stage and an output stage. It incorporates the harmonics and sweet overdrive characteristics uniquely inherent to tube amplifiers. This is largely caused by what is referred to as “push-pull” symmetrical clipping, which a single tube is physically incapable of accomplishing.

The TRI-O.D. employs aspects of this technology to deliver the same dynamics, responsiveness, and sound quality of the top pro stage rigs in a conveniently portable, **switchable**, pedal format.

WARNING:

DO NOT run the speaker output of *any* amp directly into the TRI-O.D. Severe damage to the amp and/or the TRI-O.D. may result.

APPLICATIONS

You can have the best clean, rhythm and lead tones right at your feet. For best results, we suggest the following:

WITH GUITAR AMPS: Run the output of the TRI-O.D. directly into the input of the power amp input, a.k.a. “effects return,” (if applicable) of an amp. This will bypass the tone coloring section of the pre-amp. Otherwise, run the TRI-O.D. into the front input of an amp. (See *Noteworthy Notes* section.)

TO DRIVE A POWER AMP: Run the output of the TRI-O.D. into the input of a power amp and use the master *Volume* control to adjust your stage volume.

TO RECORD DIRECT: You can plug directly into the input of a mixer/recorder and use the on-board sounds of the TRI-O.D. or just the *Speaker Simulator Mode* by itself with a pre-amp, fuzz box or other effect boxes. Bear in mind full-range systems yield a wide frequency response. Therefore, we suggest you start with the TRI-O.D.’s EQ levels at 12 o’clock and increase/decrease, with restraint, to taste.

GUIDE TO CONTROLS

3 TUBE AMP CHARACTERS / 3 INDEPENDENT CHANNELS

Tweed	=	Fender [®] -style
California	=	Mesa/Boogie [®] -style
British	=	Marshall [®] -style

Each channel is pre-voiced with the specific characteristics of the 3 most coveted tube amp sounds. Switching between channels changes the entire sound, not just the gain structure and EQ.

Each channel has its own *Drive* and *Level* controls. These controls are atypically sensitive and need not be set at max for maximum results.

DRIVE adjusts the overall amount of gain and overdrive, similar to when the output section of a tube amp is being pushed. NOTE: The louder your stage volume, the less overdrive may be needed for sustain. Best results are achieved when used sparingly at first, and then adjusted to taste.

LEVEL adjusts the relative output level of each channel --without altering any of the tonal characteristics. These controls are designed to be set *relative to each other*. Use the master *Volume* control to adjust the overall volume. (We recommend setting the *Master Output Section* controls at 1 o’clock to initially determine desired *Level* settings, then adjusting to taste.)

[®]Fender, Mesa/Boogie and Marshall are all registered trademarks of their respective companies.

Each channel can be turned off so you can designate which tube amp characters you want to switch between: all 3, 2, just 1, or even none.

# OF CHANNELS ON	SWITCHING SEQUENCE
3	x - y - z, x - y - z, etc.
2	x - y - Bypass, x - y - Bypass, etc.
1	x - Bypass, x - Bypass, etc.
0	Speaker Sim-Bypass, Speaker Sim-Bypass, etc.

MASTER OUTPUT SECTION

BASS & TREBLE

Unlike passive controls that can only cut, these **active** tone controls cut or boost ± 12 dB. This powerful EQ section effectively reduces the need for a fixed frequency mid control and enables you to achieve an extensive variety of curves --including a “mid-cut” as well as a “mid-boost.”

The TRI-O.D.’s mid-range level is preset. **Boosting Bass** and *Treble* gives you the equivalent of a “mid-cut” where the relative mid-range level is lower than the *Bass* and *Treble* frequency levels. **Cutting Bass** and *Treble* is the equivalent of a “mid-boost” where the relative mid-range level is higher than the *Bass* and *Treble* frequency levels. NOTE: The overall output level will change in relation to the adjustments you make with the EQ controls. You can compensate accordingly with the master *Volume* control.

VOLUME

After setting the individual channel *Levels* appropriate to each other, the master *Volume* control adjusts the overall output level to be suitable for any occasion--gigging, rehearsing, jamming, recording.

Suggested Initial Set-Up: See cover illustration. Adjust to taste.

NOTEWORTHY NOTES:

- When using the input of an amp, keep the TRI-O.D.’s level close to unity gain, so as not to overload the amp’s input, which could result in undesirable distortion.
- When running into the power amp input of an amp or a power amp alone, adjust the *Volume* as needed. (If you are so inclined, this is the time to crank it!)

-When going direct into a mixer/recorder, work with the input trim control on the mixer and be sure not to overload its input.

SPEAKER SIMULATOR

The *Speaker Simulator* is engaged at all times. It shapes the sound to match the particular cabinet of the amp type selected. It is specifically designed for a smooth, even response as would be achieved by a multiple-miked cabinet, without peaks, valleys, and notches associated with single miking. Therefore, it will not adversely affect or interfere with the sound of your own guitar speaker cabinet.

When you disengage all 3 channels, the *Speaker Simulator* remains active, as does the *Master Output Section*. The switching sequence then becomes *Speaker Simulator* - *Bypass*, *Speaker Simulator* - *Bypass*, etc. This feature is useful to:

Record direct with a pre-amp, fuzz box or any other stomp boxes in your collection that could use some warming up.

Warm up your favorite fuzz boxes in live performances, as well.

Use as a clean boost into the input of a tube amp.

Suggested Initial Set-Up: Turn all channels off. Turn the master *Volume* to maximum. Set *Bass* and *Treble* at 1 o'clock. Adjust to taste.

SIGNAL LEVEL TO INPUT

The TRI-O.D. is designed to accommodate instrument level signals to the *Input*, such as the output of a guitar, the output of a pre-amp, the output of distortion pedals, etc. Signal level to *Input* should be close to that of a standard electric guitar (approx -10dB / 250mV). NOTE: Using hot pickups will increase the gain structure of the TRI-O.D. For best results, use single coil pickups with *Channel 1 (Tweed)* and double coil pickups with *Channels 2 and 3 (California and British)*.

REMEMBER THIS WARNING:

DO NOT run the speaker output of *any* amp directly into the TRI-O.D. **Severe damage to the amp and/or the TRI-O.D. may result.**

PLACEMENT ORDER OF OTHER EFFECTS

Place the following effects **BEFORE** the TRI-O.D.:

Wah-Wah, Pre-Amp, Compressor, Fuzz Box, Envelope Follower.

Place the following effects **AFTER** the TRI-O.D.:

Chorus, Delay, EQ, Pitch Shifter, Reverb.

POWER REQUIREMENTS

- *Utilizes standard 9V alkaline battery (not included). To install, simply remove back plate. (NOTE: The *Input* activates battery. To conserve energy, unplug when not in use.) Power Consumption: approx. 10mA.
- ***USE DC POWER SUPPLY ONLY!** Failure to do so may damage the unit and void warranty. DC Power Supply Specifications:
 - 9V DC regulated or unregulated, 100mA minimum;
 - 2.1mm female plug, center negative (-).

WARNINGS:

- * Attempting to repair unit is not recommended and may void warranty.
- * Missing or altered serial numbers automatically void warranty. For your own protection, be sure serial number labels on the unit's back plate and exterior box are intact.

ONE YEAR LIMITED WARRANTY. PROOF OF PURCHASE REQUIRED.

Manufacturer warrants unit to be free from defects in materials and workmanship for one (1) year from date of purchase. This warranty does not include damage resulting from accident, misuse, abuse, alteration, or incorrect current or voltage. If unit becomes defective within warranty period, Tech 21 will elect to repair or replace it free of charge. After warranty expires, Tech 21 will repair defective unit for a fee.

ALL REPAIRS for residents of U.S. and Canada: Call Tech 21 for **Return Authorization Number**. Manufacturer will **not** accept packages without prior authorization, pre-paid freight (UPS preferred) and proper insurance.

FOR PERSONAL ASSISTANCE & SERVICE:

Contact Tech 21, Inc., any weekday from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM, EST.

MADE IN THE U.S.A.

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