

HIWATT CUSTOM TUBE OVERDRIVE OWNER'S MANUAL

Thank you for purchasing the HIWATT Custom Tube Overdrive. This unit is a floor all-tube preamp that uses a 12AX7 tube. Due to our new development for low plate electric line, you can use 9-volt power supply, instead of higher voltage connectors. By using a 12-volt supply, more responsive and powerful overdrive will be obtained. Unlike standard tube overdrive pedals, active EQ can widely adjust sound characteristics. Operation is simple based on knob controls, however, please read owner's manual entirely for safe and proper use.

CONTROLS

① OUTPUT JACK

This is where signal exits unit. To be connected to amplifier or external devices/processors.

② DRIVE KNOB

Overdrive gain control. Clockwise motion increases distortion.

③ TONE KNOB

One of our special features, active equalizer, modifies overdriven sound. Flat or zero point is located at center (12 O'clock), clockwise motion emphasizes high tone, counterclockwise emphasizes low.

④ LEVEL KNOB

Master volume. Please note that volume will increase with drive, adjust as desired.

⑤ INPUT JACK

Connection to instrument, where signal enters unit.

⑥ LED INDICATOR

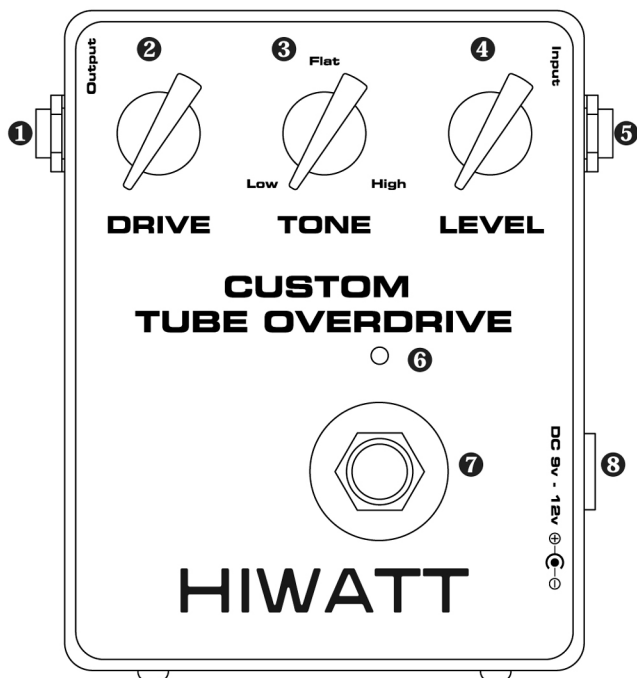
Will light when unit is activated.

⑦ ON/OFF SWITCH

Activates or bypasses the unit. Audio signal does not go through circuit when bypassed (Off).

⑧ DC JACK

Connection for power supply.



POWER SUPPLY

The Custom Tube Overdrive can be operated by any power supply that provides 9 to 12 volts DC, minimum amperage is 300mA and plug is 5.5mm female center-negative. With 500mA and 12 volts, tube performance is maximized. Sound quality is noticeable when using different voltages inside the 9-12V range, due to special circuit structure with following diode configuration: 1st layer receives high impedance signal, 2nd and 3rd are tube processing, 4th channels low impedance signal. Distortion is produced consistently by tube.

Diode-based distortion processors, distort at certain voltages as specified, however, this product is not adjusted to regular voltage since distortion is produced by the tube. Therefore if maximum allowed voltage is supplied to unit, maximum distortion can be achieved, and you can enjoy various ranges of sounds. Using a voltage supply higher than 12 volt may cause damage and low quality sound.

Any analog machine's power supply can extremely affect sound. Please make sure the correct power supply, output voltage, and any other power settings are correct before using. Sound may also vary by using different kinds of power supplies, including a battery-powered supply.

DC jack is set as center-negative. It will still work if a center-positive supply is used since circuit protection is present, however, it is not recommended for long hours of use. It may damage power supply. If the power supply is not operating when connected to unit, please remove the power supply immediately. We are not responsible for any damages caused by usage of wrong power supply.

TUBE CHARACTERISTICS

Tube cannot be properly effective unless inside temperature increases. It is normal to not have any sound shortly after activating the unit. Please warm up tube for approximately one minute before operating, just like a tube amplifier. There is not a specific life span for tube, usually depends on use and amount of gain/overdrive produced. It is changeable at any time. It will gradually change its original quality of sound. When you feel a noticeable difference, may be time to replace the tube. Not replacing it wont damage unit. In normal conditions, it can be estimated to last for over 5 years. Tube replacement is very simple. Access tube by removing bottom panel. Pull straight out from socket and push replacement firmly until fully inserted. Electro-Harmonics TM s12AX7 is recommended. Using different types/brands of tubes may change sound.

USER INFORMATION

As mentioned, sound quality of Custom Tube Overdrive is designed according and determined by tube characteristics. This means you can obtain different sounds by using different kinds of tubes, please enjoy various possibilities, but keep in mind that we are not liable for problems that may result from operation by tubes other than original or recommended by us.

Drive and Noise

You may experience noise or hum, specially when operating unit at very high Drive/Gain levels. This is perfectly normal, it is due to changes in signal properties inside tube, noise can be caused when voltage is changed by a direct element.

SPECS

In: 510 Ω

Out: 1 kΩ

Power Consumption: 9V 130 mA
12V 160 mA

Size: 99mm x 122mm x 74mm

Weight: 450g

HIWATT AMPLIFICATION
www.HIWATT.com

