

Nirvana - Chorus / Vibrato



The Nirvana Chorus was designed by Brian not to emulate the chorus sound heard on a particularly famous grunge band, but rather to bring you tonal nirvana.

It's built with flexibility in mind, giving you a huge range of chorus and vibrato sounds. There have been a great deal of high-quality chorus units over the years, it's a classic effect in the guitarist repertoire without which no board is truly complete.

However, all those classic chorus pedals and rack units have something in common: one characteristic sound. You'll hear guitarists talk about how they love how dark and "wet" a particular chorus sounds, or jazz guitarists might really dig the dry, subtle chorus of a different unit.

They also have the unfortunate characteristic of often causing a volume drop or volume boost when engaged. Brian approached designing the Nirvana Chorus as a way to get the best sounds, capable of tons of tones, adjustable in all the important ways, from shallow and light and fast and bright, to dark and murky, slow, and deep as the ocean.

As a crowning element, it won't raise or lower your volume, because you can adjust its level! It really is an ideal chorus, tunable for any use that you can think of.

Oh, and it also does all that for Vibrato. Cool, huh? Dig in!

To get the most out of your new pedal, you'll want to become very familiar with the controls.

The Nirvana Chorus/Vibrato features a comprehensive control setup that will let you get whatever sounds you're after. There are knobs for Depth fine tuning how extensive you want the effect to be, Tone to adjust darker or brighter, Level to adjust the volume when you engage it (fixing the long-standing problem many Chorus and Vibrato units have of altering your output volume), Rate to control the speed of the Chorus/Vibrato, a three-position Depth Toggle which offers three very different amounts of depth available on the Depth knob, and finally a Chorus/Vibrato switch to set the operating mode. As with all Wampler Pedals products, the Nirvana Chorus/Vibrato includes a high-quality true-bypass switch which takes it completely out of the signal path when bypassed. Experiment and enjoy!

Bypass Switch – A true-bypass footswitch ensures solid, mechanical removal of the circuit when it isn't wanted, meaning you don't lose any tone when the pedal is off.

Volume – A solution to the classic problem of chorus and vibrato units from various makers either raising or lowering the volume when engaged, this control lets you specifically adjust whether the volume stays the same, is raised, or is lowered when you kick it on. The main interaction with the Level control comes from the Tone knob. Depending on how the Tone knob is set, you might need to raise or lower the Level to compensate for the slight volume difference. Thanks to this control, you don't have to worry about kicking in your chorus and dropping out of the mix!

Tone – This control adjusts from a dark chorus or vibrato tone fully counterclockwise to a bright and present character fully clockwise. You're not limited to one frequency emphasis as with most units, you've got full control. When you first get the pedal, make sure to run it through its range of adjustment so that you can get a good feel for how it responds with different Tone settings and your gear.

Depth Knob – This control fine-tunes the depth setting that you selected on the Depth Toggle. While there are three overall depth levels, each one carries a full range of adjustment, and this is the knob which allows you to access the range of each. Pay attention to the Rate control when adjusting Depth, as the two strongly determine the action of the Nirvana's Chorus or Vibrato functions.

Rate – This controls the speed at which the Nirvana's Chorus or Vibrato functions occur. From a very gentle, slow sound to a warbly, sea-sick jostle, you have full control over the speed of whichever effect you've chosen. Try a low Rate and a high Depth in Chorus mode for a moody, atmospheric effect, or adjust the Rate to match the tempo of your song in Vibrato mode to achieve a sound that is a staple classic in Indie rock.

Depth Intensity Toggle Switch – This three-position switch seriously shifts the range of the Depth control, giving you a sound anywhere from subtle to dramatic. The Middle position is the lowest Depth, the Bottom position is added depth, and the Top position is maximum Depth. When used with the Nirvana's Chorus mode, the highest Depth settings sound nearly underwater, and can even have a somewhat metallic edge when the Tone knob is set high enough. When used with the Nirvana's Vibrato mode, the greater the depth, the greater the difference in pitch (with the speed still controlled by the Rate knob). You can simulate, to a degree, the sound of one of the classic spinning speaker enclosures that used the doppler effect to achieve slow or fast warbles with the medium or high depth settings. It adds a great deal of versatility to an already very flexible pedal. At extremely intense settings, you may hear a "thumping" sound – turn the Depth knob counterclockwise to avoid that and it will go away.

Chorus/Vibrato Switch – This switch changes between the Nirvana Chorus/Vibrato's two modes. Toggle UP for Vibrato, toggle DOWN for Chorus. At subtle settings on the other knobs, Chorus and Vibrato sound somewhat similar, but start raising the settings at all and you'll quickly see that they are two very distinct sounds!

Power Requirements

The pedal can be powered by a 9V battery. The battery terminal is located inside the pedal. If using a power supply, power needed for the pedal is 9V DC, regulated, center pin negative, as supplied by most standard Boss™/Ibanez™/Etc. supplies. The pedal can be safely powered with a multi-supply, like the Visual Sound 1SPOT™. The pedal was designed explicitly around the usage of a 9V DC power source, and is intended to sound its best at 9V. To avoid damage to the pedal, do not exceed 18V DC, do not use center pin positive adapters, and do not use AC power. Using an incorrect power adapter can lead to damage and will void the warranty on the pedal. This pedal draws **13mA**.

Please note: If you are using a battery, it will drain when the input cord is plugged in.



Soft Warble

Suggested Settings (volume to suit)

Depth Intensity Toggle in MIDDLE, Chorus/Vibrato Switch set to DOWN, Tone at 9 o'clock, Depth at 2 o'clock, Rate at 3 o'clock



Slow Vibes

Depth Intensity Toggle in BOTTOM, Chorus/Vibrato Switch set to UP, Tone at 11 o'clock, Depth at 1 o'clock, Rate at 10 o'clock



Chorus Detune

Depth Intensity Toggle in TOP, Chorus/Vibrato Switch set to DOWN, Tone at 1 o'clock, Depth at between 3 o'clock and fully clockwise, Rate at 9-10 o'clock



Clean Vibrato

Blend at 2 o'clock, Sustain at 1 o'clock, Attack at 1 o'clock, Tone to taste

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Return and Warranty Policy

For direct sales, there is a 7-day "no questions asked" period where you may return the pedal for any reason, provided that it is in its original condition. Please retain all packaging within this period in case you decide to return it! We only require that you pay shipping back. The 7 days start when you receive the pedal. This does not apply to dealer or retailer sales – see their individual return policies for specific information.

All Wampler Pedals, Inc. pedals carry a 5-year, fully transferable warranty that covers defects due to parts and labor. The warranty begins at the point of purchase. Please remember to register your pedal as soon as possible after purchase at the following web page to ensure quicker service if you should ever need to make a warranty claim: www.wamplerpedals.com/warranty_registration