

Compressor Compressor

Compressors are often misunderstood. A compressor, in the most straightfor-ward terms, makes loud sounds quieter and quiet sounds louder, "compressing" the signal's dynamic range. The loudest part of your instrument's note is the pluck, strum, or pick. That's referred to as the "transient" or the "attack" of the note, and it is usually quite percussive. The signal gets really loud for a fraction of a second before the note resonates and fades out. The actual character of the Controlling its level is part of what compressors do, but there's more.

Compressors work to control the overall level of your playing, keeping peaks from getting too loud and raising the level of the note as it starts to fade out. Think of it like an automatic volume knob that turns down for loud signals and turns up for quiet signals. Raising the Sustain control makes it work harder to make lower volume sounds louder. Raising the Sustain is useful when playing clean. Careful though, compressors don't the difference between notes and noise, so the more you raise the Sustain, the more noise you can expect. A compressor usually works best early in the signal chain if you're concerned about noise!

Some compressors have a really noticable 'pop-in' effect, where they squish the transient and then quickly raise up to the level of the note. That's because they are reacting to what they see as a HUGE volume jump in the transient. An 'attack knob', which adjusts how quickly the compressor responds, offers some control. Slower attack will mean less pop-in, but it also won't do as much to control the loud transient. Faster attack is great for chicken-pickin'.

The most flexible compressors are those with a blend control. This allows you to blend in the clean path with the compressed signal. That lets the loud transient through, preserving your playing dynamics, but seamlessly takes over to add sustain and fullness. You can adjust the balance of clean to compressed signal for your needs.

To get the most out of your new pedal, you'll want to become very familiar with the controls. For the Compressor side of things, it features Volume, Sustain, and Attack controls to dial in your preferred compression behavior, as well as a special Tone control which lets you go from nothing added to lots of sparkle and chime on top of your signal, adjustable to your preference. It also features the fantastic Blend knob, letting you easily adjust the degree of compressed to natural signal. If you've never tried a blend compressor before, you're in for a treat! As with all Wampler Pedals products, the Ego Compressor 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 soft touch relay switching footswitch that completely bypasses the signal when the pedal is off.

Volume - This control adjusts the output level of the Ego Compressor. There's plenty of volume on tap, so whether you want to go farther than your input level or just make sure it can do unity volume.

Sustain - Sustain controlls how hard the Ego Compressor works to maintain the signal within its compression threshold. Hisher sustain settings will let your notes go on for a very long time, but be careful, because higher sustain settings can also raise the noise floor. If you are running your compressor after overdrive or distortion, you will want to pay close attention to the sustain knobs and maybe back it off a little, otherwise ground noise may become an issue. The Ego is a quiet pedal, by compressor standards, but when the whole point of a pedal is to take a signal, even it out, and make the quiet parts louder and loud parts quieter, you can expect added noise as part of the process.

Attack - Attack controls how quickly the compression action start to take effect. At slower attack settings, it will more gradually begin to compress the signal, which can leave your early note less affected. With quicker attack settings, it gets a noticeable pop-in, because it clamps down on the high signal level if the initial note and then quickly raises the output level after that to begin its compression action. This is integral to the classic country chickin' pickin' sound. Dialing this control in is all about feel, and where your ideal setting ends up will be entirely based on what you need the compressor to do for your sound.

Tone - Not content to merely have a great sounding compressor, Brian has created what we feel is a virtually ideal Tone knob for use with comrpessors. At fully counter-clockwise, it doesn't have any impact on the signal at all. As you raise it clockwise, it adds extra sparkle and presence to the sound, and with the right gear it can be very 'jangly', a characterostic that a lot of players in Nashville especially look for.

Blend - At 50/50, you clean signal naturally fades, the Ego Compressor's compressed signal seamlessly fills in the gaps. This is a process no ear will hear because it's perfectly even and smooth, and the end result is all the benefits of a great compressor but a real authentic transient. Counterclockwise, you get less and less compressor and more clean. Clockwise, is more and more compression. Finding the balance is the key to this effect.

Suggested Settings



The Nashville wav.



Squashed, but with perfect transitions.



A gentle tone sweetener



Just a hint of clean.

WAMPLER Pedals Limited Warranty. WAMPLER offers a five (5) year warranty to the original purchaser that this WAMPLER product will be free from defects in material and workmanship. A dated sales receipt will establish coverage under this warranty. This warranty does not cover service or parts to repair damage caused by accident, neglect, normal cosmetic wear, disaster, misuse, abuse, negligence, inadequate packing or shipping procedures and service, repair or modifications to the product, which have not been authorized by WAMPLER. If this product is defective in materials or workmanship as warranted above, your sole remedy shall be repair replacement as provided below.

RETURN PROCEDURES. In the unlikely event that a defect should occur, follow the procedure outlined below. Defective products must be shipped, together with a dated sales receipt, freight pre-paid and insured directly to WAMPLER SERVICE DEPT – 3383 Gage Ave., Huntington Park, CA 90255, USA. A Return Authorization Number must be obtained from our Customer Service Department prior to shipping the products must be shipped in their original packaging or its equivalent; in any case, the risk of loss or damage in transit is to be borne by the purchaser. The Returns Authorization Number must appear in large print directly below the shipping address. Always include a brief description of the defect, along with your correct return address and telephone number.

When emailing to inquire about a returned product, always refer to the Return Authorization Number. If WAMPLER determines that the unit was defective in materials or workmanship at any time during the warranty period, WAMPLER has the option or repairing or replacing the product at no additional charge, except as set forth below. All replaced parts become a property of WAMPLER. Products replaced or repaired under this warranty will be returned via ground shipping within the United States freight prepaid. WAMPLER is not responsible for costs associated with expedited shipping, either to WAMPLER or the return of the product to the customer.

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FOR YOUR PROTECTION. Please complete the online warranty registration within (10) ten days of the date of purchase so that we may contact you directly in the event of a safety notification issued in accordance with the 1972 Consumer Product Safety Act.

This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation.

This equipment generates, uses and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures.

- Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
- Increase the separation between the equipment and the receiver.
- Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.
 - Consult the dealer or an experience radio/TV technician for help.

Changes or modifications not expressly approved by the party responsible for compliance could void the user's warranty to operate the equipment. **CUSTOMER SUPPORT**. Our dedicated staff is ready to help you with any warranty or product questions – please email us at **help@wamplerpedals.com** or call us on (765) 352-8626 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.RegisterYourWamplercom**