

Overture[™]

User's Manual



This device complies with part 15 of the FCC rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions:

- (1) This device may not cause harmful interference, and
- (2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

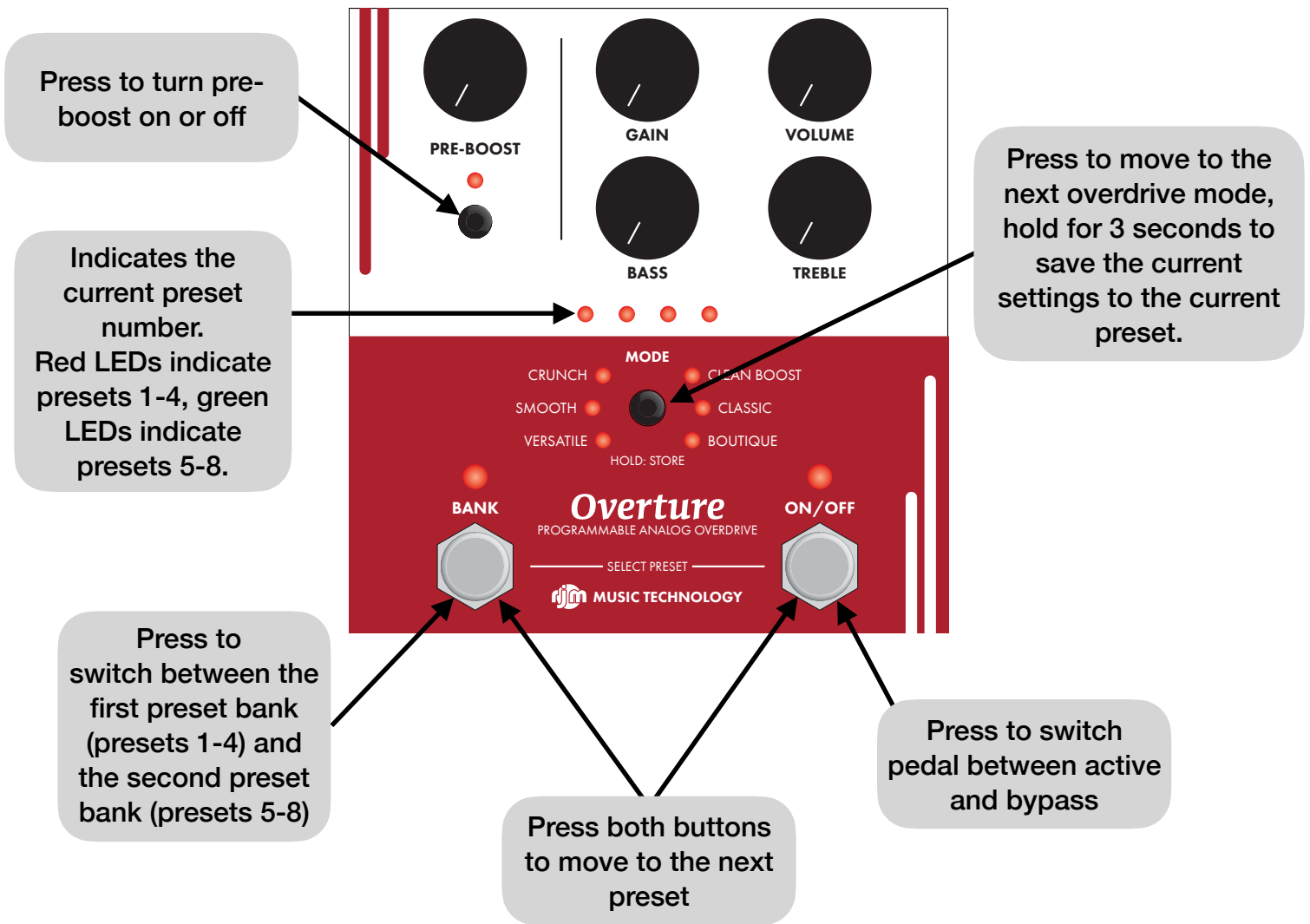
TABLE OF CONTENTS	3
INTRODUCTION	4
THE BASICS	4
FRONT PANEL CONTROLS	5
REAR PANEL CONNECTIONS	6
OVERDRIVE MODES	6
USING PRESETS	7
MIDI USAGE	8
MIDI EXPRESSION PEDAL SETUP	9
SETUP MODE	10

INTRODUCTION

Thank you for purchasing an Overture pedal! The Overture is a fully programmable overdrive pedal with multiple modes that can deliver familiar tones from classic and boutique pedals as well as some new sounds. The Overture's signal path is 100% analog, never digitizing your tone! High quality components are used throughout, and the pedal's power supply is boosted internally to give you the best response and overall tone.

On its own, you can program up to 8 presets and recall them with the press of a button. If you add a MIDI controller to your setup, you can access up to 100 presets. The Overture can connect to other devices via its standard 5-pin MIDI jacks or its USB-C connector.

THE BASICS



FRONT PANEL CONTROLS



PRE-BOOST - Applies an adjustable boost, up to 12dB, in front of the overdrive circuit. Pressing the button below will turn the boost on and off, holding it for 2 seconds will lock the boost in the on position. Pressing it again will unlock the boost. The LED will turn red when boost is active and yellow when boost is locked. Due to the design of the overdrive circuit, adding boost will mix in some clean signal as well. This sounds best when using an amp set to “edge of breakup”, which helps reduce the contrast between the overdriven and clean sounds.

GAIN - Adjusts the gain for the overdrive circuit.

VOLUME - Adjusts the overall output volume. Different overdrive modes have different maximum volume levels.

BASS - Adjusts the overall bass content. This control doesn't have any effect in the Classic and Boutique modes.

TREBLE - Adjusts the overall treble content.

Preset LEDs - The row of 4 LEDs below the Bass knob indicates the current preset. 1 LED will light for preset #1, 2 LEDs will light for preset #2, etc. The LEDs will change colors to indicate different banks of presets. For example, presets 1-4 light up in red, and presets 5-8 light up in green.

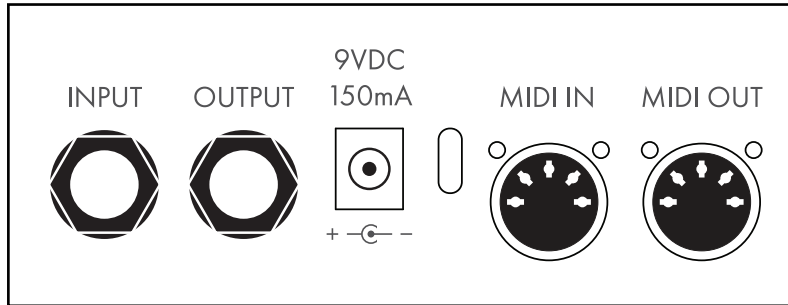
MODE Switch - Selects the overdrive mode. Press to change to the next overdrive mode. Hold for 3 seconds to store the current settings to the currently selected preset. Storing a preset saves all knob and button settings except the **ON/OFF** button.

BANK Footswitch - Switches from the first bank to the second, or vice-versa. For example, if you are in preset #1 (shown as 1 red LED), then press **BANK**, the display will switch to show 1 green LED, indicating you're on preset #5. Pressing it again will go back to preset #1. This allows you to switch quickly between two presets, for example, a rhythm sound and a lead sound.

ON/OFF Footswitch - Press this button to switch the pedal on or off. When off, the pedal uses a relay for true bypass, allowing your tone to pass through transparently. The LED above turns red when the pedal is active, and yellow when the current preset has been edited.

NOTE: Press both the **BANK** and **ON/OFF** footswitches at the same time to switch to the next preset in the current bank.

REAR PANEL CONNECTIONS



INPUT - A mono 1/4-inch input for your guitar.

OUTPUT - A mono 1/4-inch output to go to your amp.

Power input - The pedal requires a 9VDC power supply providing 150mA or more of current, with a 5.5mm/2.1mm “BOSS-style” barrel connector. Center negative polarity is required.

USB - The connector between the power and **MIDI IN** jacks is a USB C connector. This allows you to connect this pedal to your computer, phone or tablet using the appropriate cable. The pedal will appear as a MIDI device in any MIDI enabled app. The Overture will power itself from some USB ports, but using a 9VDC power supply is recommended when using USB for the most reliable results.

MIDI IN - Standard 5-pin MIDI input for connection to a MIDI controller.

MIDI OUT - Standard 5-pin MIDI output for connection to the next MIDI device in the chain.

OVERDRIVE MODES

Clean Boost - This mode, an RJM original, offers boost up to a light overdrive. It has the highest maximum output level of all of the modes, and is excellent at pushing an amp into overdrive. Both Bass and Treble controls are active in this mode.

Classic - A tribute to what is arguably the most popular overdrive ever made. It can be smooth or a little aggressive, with a prominent midrange emphasis. This mode has the lowest output level of all the modes, but it's still plenty for almost any purpose. The Bass control isn't active in this mode.

Boutique - Based on the a boutique version of the classic. This mode is much less compressed and has somewhat less midrange focus. It has a “leaner” and more open sound. The Bass control isn't active in this mode.

Versatile - Based on another, more extensive modification of the classic circuit, this one has a flatter frequency response compared to the other modes and offers a wider range of tones than the previous two modes thanks to the Bass control.

Smooth - This mode combines fairly high headroom with a special MOSFET clipping circuit that produces a more saturated sound, similar to some cascaded gain amps. The Bass control operates differently in this mode, adjusting both bass and treble at the same time and changing the overall voice of the overdrive.

Crunch - The last mode, another RJM original, adds some hard clipping and more aggressive midrange, allowing it to get into harder rock territory. Both Treble and Bass controls are active in this mode.

USING PRESETS

Programming Presets

The preset programming process is fairly simple:

1. Use the **BANK** button to select the bank of presets you want to work on (**BANK** button off = presets 1-4, **BANK** button on = presets 5-8)
2. Press the **BANK** and **ON/OFF** buttons at the same to switch presets within the current bank. Press repeatedly until you reach the desired preset.
3. Now adjust the controls to get the sound you're looking for.
4. Hold the **MODE** button for about 3 seconds, until the Mode LEDs flash.

Your preset is now stored. You can repeat this process to set up each preset.

Writing to a Different Preset

You can also write your current settings to a preset other than the currently selected one:

1. Press and hold the **MODE** button. It needs to be held throughout this process.
2. Before 3 seconds have elapsed, press the **BANK** button to start preset selection. The pedal will move to the next preset and the LEDs will start flashing.
3. Press the **BANK** button repeatedly until you reach the desired preset. You can select any of the available presets (1-4 in bank 1, and 5-8 in bank 2).
4. After 3 seconds of no buttons being pressed (except the **MODE** button, which is being held), the current settings will be stored to the currently selected preset.
5. If at any time you release the **MODE** button before the preset is stored, this process will be cancelled.

Recalling Presets

Recalling presets is even easier! Simply press the **BANK** and **ON/OFF** buttons at the same time to switch to the next preset. Pressing them repeatedly will advance through the 4 presets in the current bank.

Pressing the **BANK** button by itself will switch between the first bank (presets 1-4, red LEDs), and the second bank (presets 5-8, green LEDs)

Using a MIDI Controller

You can also use a MIDI controller to select presets. This allows you to select up to 100 individual presets. To store and recall presets, use the above instructions, but instead of using the **BANK** and **ON/OFF** buttons, select presets using your MIDI controller. More details on MIDI using can be found in the next section.

MIDI USAGE

Program Changes

The Overture responds to standard MIDI program changes on its specified MIDI channel. Please refer to the Setup Mode section for details on how to set the MIDI channel. PC numbers 0 through 99 are accepted, for a total of 100 presets. Receiving PC#127 will cause the Overture to bypass itself. After bypassing the Overture using this method, the next PC message received (in the range of 0-99) will re-activate the pedal.

Please note that PC numbers are one lower than preset numbers on the Overture. For example, send PC#0 to recall the first preset, send PC#1 to recall the second preset, etc.

Continuous Controllers

By default, the following CC numbers are defined. These numbers can be changed by the user using the editor software.

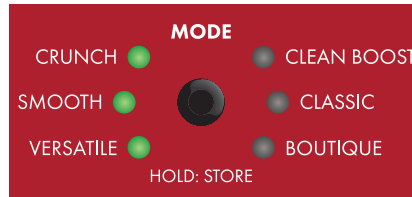
Function	CC Number	Notes
Expression Pedal	4	See Expression Pedal section
Volume	7	Value 0=0% volume ... 127=100% volume
Expression Volume	11	Value 0=0% volume ... 127=current volume knob setting
Drive	12	
Bass	13	
Treble	17	
Boost Level	18	
Active	102	Value 0-63 = pedal bypassed, 64-127 = pedal active
Boost On/Off	103	Value 0-63 = boost off, 64-127 = boost on
Drive Mode	104	0-20: Clean Boost 21-41: Classic 42-62: Boutique 64-84: Versatile 85-105: Smooth 106-127: Crunch
Bank	105	Value 0-63 = first bank (presets 1-4) Value 64-127 = second bank (presets 5-8)

MIDI EXPRESSION PEDAL SETUP

The Overture supports the use of a MIDI-connected expression pedal. Incoming “Exp Pedal” CC messages will change the values of one or more of the knobs. CC#4 is the default CC number for the expression pedal.

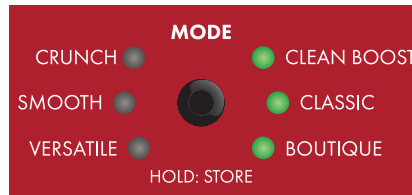
Programming the Expression Pedal Limits

Press the **ON/OFF** and **MODE** buttons. The left side **MODE** LEDs will light up:



Using the knobs, set up your tone for the “heel down” position of the expression pedal. (This is also the tone you will get for the minimum CC value of 0).

Next press the **MODE** button. The right side LEDs will now light up:



Set your knobs the way you want them to be in the “toe down” position of the expression pedal. (This is also the tone you will get for the maximum CC value of 127).

You can repeat this process, pressing **MODE** to switch back and forth between the heel down and toe down position. You can test your settings in real time by moving your expression pedal, or any other method of sending CCs to the Overture. The parameter settings will smoothly transition between their heel down and toe down settings as you move the expression pedal.

Saving the Expression Pedal Settings

Once you’re satisfied with your settings. Press **ON/OFF** to store your settings to the current preset. Or, you can press **BANK** to cancel expression pedal editing and discard your changes.

SETUP MODE

Entering Setup Mode

To enter setup mode, hold the **ON/OFF** button as you power up the pedal. The mode LEDs will spin for 3 seconds. Keep holding until the LEDs stop spinning and all light up in green.

Once in setup mode, you can change these parameters:

Default Bypass State

Press the **BANK** button to turn it on or off. If the **BANK** button is on, the pedal will power up in the active state. If the button is off, it will power up in the bypassed state. The default is to power up in the bypassed state.

Setting MIDI Channel

Press the **MODE** button repeatedly to select a MIDI channel. The current MIDI channel is indicated by the four preset LEDs using the following code:

MIDI Channel	LED 1	LED 2	LED 3	LED 4
1 (default)	off	off	off	off
2	ON	off	off	off
3	off	ON	off	off
4	ON	ON	off	off
5	off	off	ON	off
6	ON	off	ON	off
7	off	ON	ON	off
8	ON	ON	ON	off
9	off	off	off	ON
10	ON	off	off	ON
11	off	ON	off	ON
12	ON	ON	off	ON
13	off	off	ON	ON
14	ON	off	ON	ON
15	off	ON	ON	ON
16	ON	ON	ON	ON

Selecting Preset and Bank Mode

Starting in firmware version 1.3, you can turn the **GAIN** knob in setup mode to change how the footswitches select presets and banks. As you turn the **GAIN** knob, the **ON/OFF** LED will change colors. Each color means a different mode:

Blue - Indicates Bank mode. Pressing the **BANK** button switches between two banks of presets, and pressing both footswitches together switches to the next preset in the current bank. This is the default setting.

Purple - Indicates Preset mode. This is the opposite of Bank mode. Pressing **BANK** switches to the next preset in the current bank. Pressing both footswitches together switches between the two banks of presets.

White - Indicates Flat mode. In this mode, pressing **BANK** switches to the next preset. If the pedal is on the last preset of a bank, it will switch to the next bank, and if it's on the last preset of the last bank, it will switch back to preset 1. Pressing both footswitches at the same time has no effect. This mode allows you to select 8 different presets, but that limit can be changed using the RJM Pedal Editor app.

If turning the **GAIN** knob doesn't do anything in setup mode, you can update the pedal's firmware using the RJM Pedal Editor app.

Factory Reset

You can return your Overture to factory settings by holding the **BANK**, **MODE** and **ON/OFF** buttons while in setup mode. The LEDs will flash red and yellow. If you hold the buttons for 3 seconds, the LEDs will stay on continuously and the factory reset will begin. The process takes about 10 seconds, at which point the Overture will enter the normal operating mode with the factory settings.

MIDI Cable Tester

The Overture also features a built-in MIDI cable tester. To test, plug your MIDI cable into the **MIDI IN** and **MIDI OUT** jacks. Hold the **MODE** button. After a few seconds of holding, some of the **MODE** LEDs should start flashing. The meaning of the flashes are as follows:

CRUNCH flashes yellow - the primary MIDI wires are good. This means that pins 4 and 5 are connected properly from one end to the other. This is the minimum needed for a functional MIDI connection. If this LED doesn't flash, the cable is bad.

CLEAN BOOST flashes yellow - the secondary MIDI wires are good. This means that pins 1 and 3 are connected properly from one end to another. These secondary wires are used for bidirectional communication, primarily between RJM Music products. 3-pin active MIDI cables will not flash the **CLEAN BOOST** LED. For standard (unidirectional) MIDI connections, the secondary wires are not needed.

If both the **CRUNCH** and **CLEAN BOOST** LEDs alternate flashing yellow, the cable is a properly working 5-pin active MIDI cable.

If all of the **MODE** LEDs turn off and don't flash, the cable is not working.

If either the **CRUNCH** and **CLEAN BOOST** LEDs flash red, the MIDI data is getting corrupted. Your MIDI cable is likely intermittent.

Once you release the **MODE** button, the Overture returns to setup mode.

Leaving Setup Mode

Press the **ON/OFF** button to save your changes and exit setup mode.