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› BOSS FV-500L Low-Impedance Foot Volume Pedal Instruction Manual

BOSS FV-500L

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Model: FV-500L

1. INTRODUCTION

The BOSS FV-500L is a robust, low-impedance foot volume pedal designed for use with electronic instruments such as keyboards, synthesizers, and stompboxes. It provides precise control over volume levels and can also function as an expression pedal for compatible devices. Constructed with a heavy-duty aluminum die-casting body, the FV-500L offers durability and stable operation.



Image: The BOSS FV-500H and FV-500L volume pedals, highlighting their robust construction.

2. KEY FEATURES

- **Low-Impedance Design:** Optimized for electronic audio devices with an input or output impedance of less than 600 ohms, making it suitable for stompboxes, keyboards, and other digital instruments.
- **Durable Construction:** Features a heavy-duty aluminum die-casting body for enhanced longevity and stability during use.
- **Smooth Pedal Movement:** Engineered for ultra-smooth and comfortable pedal action, allowing for precise volume swells and control.
- **Expression Pedal Function:** Includes an Expression output jack for use with expression-compatible amplifiers, effects units, and synthesizers.
- **Tuner Output:** A dedicated tuner-output jack allows for silent tuning without affecting the main signal path.
- **Adjustable Pedal Feel (Torque):** The pedal's resistance can be adjusted to suit individual preferences.
- **Minimum Volume Knob:** Allows setting a minimum volume level, preventing the signal from cutting out completely when the pedal is fully closed.

FV-500H OR FV-500L

FINDING THE RIGHT VOLUME PEDAL FOR YOU

FV-500H
HIGH-IMPEDANCE

This refers to electronic audio devices with an input or output impedance of more than 600 ohms.

Perfect for
**Electric Guitars
& Bass.**

FV-500L
LOW-IMPEDANCE

Referring to electronic audio devices with an input or output impedance of less than 600 ohms.

Ideal for
**Stompboxes, Keyboards
& Other Digital Instruments.**

***Selecting the wrong pedal could result in your sound being significantly altered.**

Image: A visual comparison between the FV-500H (High-Impedance) and FV-500L (Low-Impedance) models, detailing their intended uses.



Image: Top view of the BOSS FV-500L pedal, illustrating its design and robust foot surface.

3. SETUP

Proper connection of the FV-500L is crucial for optimal performance. Ensure all connections are secure before powering on any connected equipment.

3.1 Connecting as a Volume Pedal

1. **Input Connection:** Connect your instrument (e.g., keyboard, synthesizer, effect pedal output) to the FV-500L's INPUT 1 or INPUT 2 jack using a standard 1/4-inch instrument cable. For stereo signals, use both INPUT 1 and INPUT 2.
2. **Output Connection:** Connect the FV-500L's OUTPUT 1 or OUTPUT 2 jack to the input of your amplifier, mixer, or next effect pedal using a standard 1/4-inch instrument cable. For stereo signals, use both OUTPUT 1 and OUTPUT 2.
3. **Tuner Output:** The TUNER OUT jack provides a buffered signal that is always present, regardless of the pedal's volume position. Connect your tuner to this jack using a 1/4-inch instrument cable for silent tuning.

3.2 Connecting as an Expression Pedal

The FV-500L can control parameters on compatible devices that accept an expression pedal input.

1. **Expression Output:** Connect the FV-500L's EXP (Expression) jack to the expression pedal input of your compatible device (e.g., multi-effects processor, synthesizer) using a stereo 1/4-inch TRS cable.
2. **Configuration:** Refer to your device's instruction manual for specific settings and calibration procedures for

an external expression pedal.



Image: Rear panel of the BOSS FV-500L, showing the INPUT, OUTPUT, TUNER OUT, and EXP jacks. A close-up highlights the EXP jack for expression pedal functionality.

4. OPERATION

4.1 Volume Control

When used as a volume pedal, press the pedal forward to increase volume and pull it back to decrease volume. The smooth action allows for gradual swells or quick cuts.

- **Minimum Volume Knob:** Located on the side of the pedal, this knob allows you to set the minimum volume level when the pedal is fully returned (heel down). Turn clockwise to increase the minimum volume, or counter-clockwise to decrease it. This is useful for preventing complete silence or for setting a rhythm volume while using the pedal for lead boosts.

4.2 Expression Control

When connected to a compatible device via the EXP jack, the pedal controls the assigned parameter (e.g., wah, delay time, modulation depth) on that device. The range of control is determined by the settings on the connected device.

4.3 Adjusting Pedal Feel (Torque)

The resistance of the pedal can be adjusted using a screw located on the pivot point. Use a suitable screwdriver to tighten or loosen this screw to achieve your desired pedal feel. Adjusting the torque can prevent the pedal from moving unintentionally or make it easier to operate.

5. MAINTENANCE

The BOSS FV-500L is built for durability, but proper care will ensure its longevity and reliable performance.

- **Cleaning:** Wipe the pedal regularly with a soft, dry cloth to remove dust and debris. Avoid using abrasive cleaners or solvents.
- **Storage:** Store the pedal in a clean, dry environment away from extreme temperatures and humidity.
- **Connections:** Periodically check all cable connections for tightness and wear. Loose connections can lead to signal loss or noise.
- **Potentiometer Longevity:** Over extended periods of use, the internal potentiometer may develop a "scratchy" sound. This is a common characteristic of analog volume pedals. If this occurs, specialized contact cleaner designed for electronics may be used, but consult a qualified technician if unsure.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

- **No Sound or Low Volume:**
 - Check all cable connections. Ensure they are fully inserted and not damaged.
 - Verify the Minimum Volume knob is not set too low or fully counter-clockwise if you expect full volume.
 - Ensure the pedal is fully pressed forward for maximum volume.
 - Test with different cables and instruments to isolate the issue.
- **Scratchy or Noisy Sound During Pedal Movement:**
 - This can indicate wear on the internal potentiometer. While common over time, if severe, professional servicing may be required.
- **Pedal Feels Too Loose or Too Stiff:**
 - Adjust the pedal torque screw as described in Section 4.3.
- **Expression Pedal Not Working:**
 - Ensure you are using a stereo (TRS) 1/4-inch cable for the EXP connection.
 - Check the settings on the connected device to ensure it is configured to receive expression pedal input and the parameter is assigned correctly.
 - Verify the connected device is compatible with the FV-500L's expression output specifications.

7. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Specification
Model	FV-500L
Impedance Type	Low-Impedance (for devices < 600 ohms)
Body Material	Aluminum Die-Casting
Dimensions (L x W x H)	12.25 x 5 x 3.5 inches (approx. 311 x 127 x 89 mm)
Weight	3.3 pounds (approx. 1.5 kg)
Inputs	2 x 1/4-inch phone type (INPUT 1, INPUT 2)
Outputs	2 x 1/4-inch phone type (OUTPUT 1, OUTPUT 2)

Feature	Specification
Control Outputs	1 x 1/4-inch TRS phone type (EXP), 1 x 1/4-inch phone type (TUNER OUT)
Signal Format	Analog
Color	Silver

Note: Specifications are subject to change without notice.

8. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

BOSS products are manufactured to high-quality standards and come with a manufacturer's warranty. For detailed warranty information, product support, or service inquiries, please refer to the official BOSS website or contact your local BOSS distributor.

Official BOSS Website: www.boss.info