Electro-Harmonix V256

Electro-Harmonix V256 Vocoder Pedal Instruction Manual

Model: V256

INTRODUCTION

The Electro-Harmonix V256 Vocoder Pedal is a versatile vocal effects processor designed to transform your voice and instrument signals. It offers a wide range of vocal effects, from classic robotic vocoder sounds to advanced pitch correction and gender bending. This manual provides comprehensive instructions for setting up, operating, and maintaining your V256 Vocoder Pedal.

Key Features

- **9 Programmable Memory Locations:** Store and recall your favorite settings for quick access during performance.

- **Vocoder Band Adjustment (8-256 bands):** Customize the vocoder's sonic character, from vintage 8-band sounds to modern, highly articulate 256-band effects.

- **Gender Bender for Male or Female Emphasis:** Adjust vocal characteristics to sound more masculine or feminine.

- **Reflex Tune for Articulate Vocal Pitch Correction:** Achieve precise pitch correction, ideal for modern vocal effects.

- **XLR Microphone Connector with Phantom Power:** Directly connect condenser microphones without external power.

Setup and Connections

Before operating your V256 Vocoder Pedal, ensure all connections are made correctly. The pedal requires a 9V DC power supply (not included).

Power Connection

Connect a 9V DC power adapter to the 9V jack on the pedal. Use a power supply with a center-negative plug.

Audio Connections

1. **Microphone Input:** Connect your microphone to the **MIC INPUT** XLR jack. The V256 provides phantom power for condenser microphones.

2. **Instrument Input:** Connect your instrument (e.g., guitar, keyboard) to the **INST INPUT** 1/4" jack. This signal acts as the carrier for the vocoder effect.

3. **Outputs:** Connect the **OUTPUTS EFFECT** 1/4" jack to your amplifier or mixer for the processed signal. The **INST OUTPUTS** 1/4" jack provides a dry output of your instrument signal.

Operating Instructions

The V256 Vocoder Pedal features intuitive controls for shaping your sound. Familiarize yourself with each knob and mode for optimal performance.

Controls Overview

- **BLEND:** Adjusts the mix between the dry instrument signal and the vocoded effect.

- **BANDS:** Controls the number of vocoder bands, from 8 (classic, lo-fi) to 256 (modern, articulate).

- **TONE:** Shapes the tonal character of the vocoded sound.

- **GENDER BENDER:** Shifts the perceived gender of the vocal sound. Turn left for more masculine, right for more feminine.

- **PITCH:** Adjusts the pitch of the vocoded signal, especially relevant in Reflex Tune mode.

- **MIC GAIN (LO/HI Switch):** Selects the input gain for the microphone. Use HI for low-output microphones or quiet vocals, LO for high-output microphones or loud vocals.

- **MODE (Push Preset Knob):** Selects the vocoder mode. Push to cycle through modes or load presets.
- **MIC BYPASS Footswitch:** Toggles the microphone signal on/off, allowing for dry vocal passages.
- **PRESET Footswitch:** Engages or disengages the selected preset.

Vocoder Modes

The V256 offers several distinct vocoder modes, each with unique characteristics:

- **VOX-ROBO 1, 2, 3:** Different variations of classic robotic vocal effects.
- **SINGLE DRONE:** Creates a single sustained vocal note.
- **MAJOR DRONE / MINOR DRONE:** Generates sustained vocal chords based on major or minor scales.
- **TRANSPOSITION:** Shifts the pitch of the vocoded signal up or down.
- **INSTRUMENT CTRL:** Allows the instrument to control the pitch of the vocoded vocal.
- **REFLEX-TUNE:** Provides automatic pitch correction for vocals.

Using Reflex Tune

The Reflex Tune mode offers advanced vocal pitch correction. In this mode, the PITCH knob selects the key for pitch correction. The BANDS knob controls the speed of pitch correction, from hard tuning (fast) to more natural correction (slow).

Your browser does not support the video tag.

Video 1: Official Electro-Harmonix V256 Vocoder Pedal Demo. This video demonstrates the Reflex Tune feature, showcasing its automatic pitch correction capabilities with musical examples.

Your browser does not support the video tag.

Video 2: Electro-Harmonix V256 Vocoder with Reflex-Tune. This video provides a detailed look at the Reflex Tune and other vocoder functions, including demonstrations of various settings and their effects on vocals.

SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Item Weight	1.54 pounds (0.7 Kilograms)
Model Number	V256
Color	Orange
Hardware Interface	USB (for MIDI, not audio)
Signal Format	Analog
Power Source	Corded Electric
Voltage	9 Volts
First Available Date	April 13, 2004

MAINTENANCE

To ensure the longevity and optimal performance of your V256 Vocoder Pedal, follow these maintenance guidelines:

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to clean the pedal's surface. Avoid abrasive cleaners or solvents.
- **Storage:** Store the pedal in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures.
- **Handling:** Handle the pedal with care to prevent damage to knobs, switches, and jacks.
- **Power Supply:** Always use the correct 9V DC center-negative power supply.

TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your V256 Vocoder Pedal, refer to the following common problems and solutions:

- **No Sound:**

  - Check all cable connections (power, instrument, microphone, output).
  - Ensure the power supply is correctly connected and functioning.
  - Verify that the MIC BYPASS footswitch is not engaged (red LED off for effect).
  - Adjust the MIC GAIN switch (LO/HI) to match your microphone's output.
  - Ensure the BLEND knob is not set entirely to dry.

- **Distorted Sound:**

  - Reduce the MIC GAIN if the input signal is too hot.
  - Check the input levels from your instrument and microphone.

- **Pitch Correction Issues (Reflex Tune):**

  - Ensure the PITCH knob is set to the correct key for your performance.
  - Adjust the BANDS knob to control the intensity/speed of pitch correction.

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For detailed warranty information and technical support, please refer to the official user manual provided with your purchase or visit the Electro-Harmonix website.
A digital version of the user manual can be found here: Electro-Harmonix V256 User Manual (PDF)