

TC Helicon PLAY ELECTRIC

TC HELICON PLAY ELECTRIC Vocal Multi-FX & Looper Instruction Manual

Model: PLAY ELECTRIC (996363005)

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1. INTRODUCTION

The TC HELICON PLAY ELECTRIC is a versatile vocal multi-effects and looper pedal designed for musicians. It combines professional-quality vocal effects and tone processing with guitar effects, allowing for integrated performance. This manual provides essential information for setting up, operating, and maintaining your device.

Key features include:

- Professional quality vocal effects and tone processing with excellent operability.
- Generates natural vocal harmonies guided by guitar input.
- Equipped with guitar effect styles ported from TC Electronic's popular TonePrint pedal series.
- Features realistic amp simulation inherited from VoiceLive 3.
- Adaptive Tone function for intelligent, automatic adjustment of compression, EQ, de-esser, and gate settings to enhance vocal presence and impact.

2. SETUP

2.1 Unpacking and Initial Inspection

Carefully unpack your TC HELICON PLAY ELECTRIC unit. Inspect the device for any signs of damage that may have occurred during shipping. Retain all packaging materials for future transport or if the unit needs to be returned.

2.2 Connecting the Device

Refer to the diagram below for proper connection of your microphone, guitar, and output to an amplifier or PA system.



Figure 2.2.1: Front panel overview of the TC Helicon Play Electric, showing microphone input, guitar input/output, and main display.



Figure 2.2.2: Rear panel connections of the TC Helicon Play Electric, including power input, pedal input, XLR outputs (Left/Right), AUX input, Guitar In/Thru/Out, and Mic In.

- **Power:** Connect the included 12V DC, 400mA power adapter to the **POWER** input.
- **Microphone:** Connect your microphone to the **MIC IN** XLR input.
- **Guitar:** Connect your guitar to the **GUITAR IN** 1/4" jack. If you wish to send the unprocessed guitar signal to another device, use the **GUITAR THRU** output. Connect the processed guitar signal from **GUITAR OUT** to your guitar amplifier or mixer.
- **Outputs:** Connect the **OUTPUTS LEFT** and **RIGHT** XLR jacks to your PA system or mixer.
- **Auxiliary Input:** Use the **AUX** 1/8" stereo input for connecting an external audio player.
- **Pedal:** Connect an optional external footswitch to the **PEDAL** input for additional control.
- **USB:** The USB port is for firmware updates and connection to VoiceSupport software.

2.3 Mic Gain Adjustment

The Mic Gain knob is located on the side of the unit. Adjust this knob to ensure optimal input level from your microphone

without clipping.

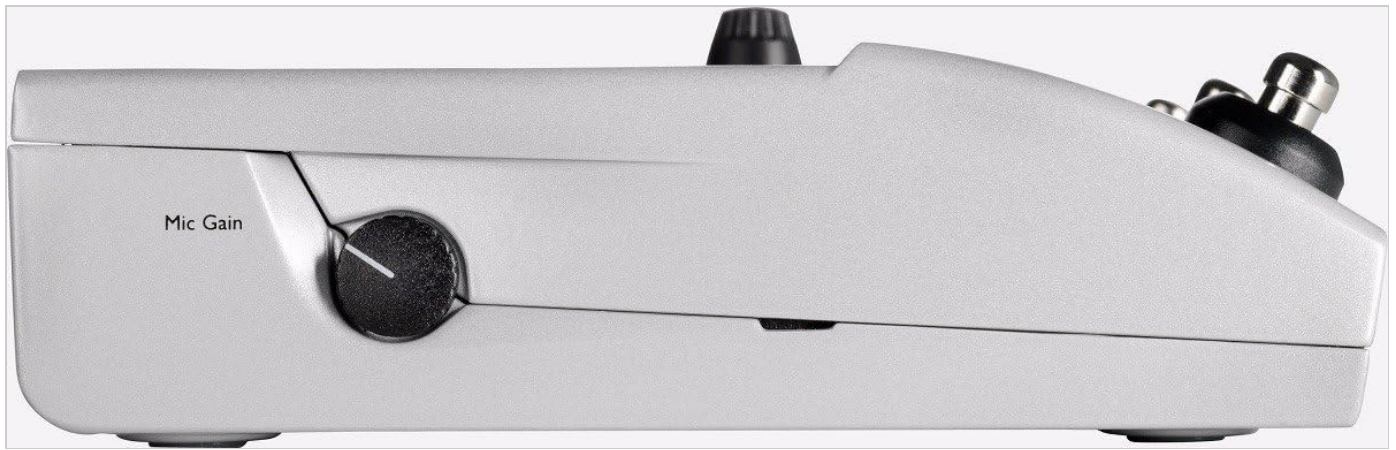


Figure 2.3.1: Side view of the TC Helicon Play Electric, highlighting the Mic Gain adjustment knob.

3. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

3.1 Powering On and Off

Connect the power adapter. The unit will power on automatically. To power off, disconnect the power adapter.

3.2 Navigating Presets

Use the central rotary encoder and the **UP/DOWN** buttons to browse through the available vocal and guitar presets. The main display will show the current preset name and number.



Figure 3.2.1: Close-up of the TC Helicon Play Electric's user interface, showing the display, navigation buttons, and rotary encoder.

3.3 Activating Effects

The footswitches on the unit allow for quick activation and deactivation of effects. The **HIT** button can be held for talk mode or to engage specific effect layers.

3.4 Customizing Effects

Press the **VOCAL FX** or **GUITAR FX** buttons to enter the respective effect editing menus. Use the rotary encoder and navigation buttons to adjust parameters. Press **STORE** to save your customized presets.

3.5 Looping Functionality

The PLAY ELECTRIC includes a looper. Refer to the on-screen prompts and dedicated looper controls (if available, or assigned to footswitches) for recording, overdubbing, and playback.

4. MAINTENANCE

4.1 Cleaning

Wipe the unit with a soft, dry cloth. Do not use abrasive cleaners or solvents, as these can damage the finish and internal components.

4.2 Firmware Updates

Periodically check the TC Helicon website for firmware updates. Connect the unit to your computer via USB and use the VoiceSupport software to perform updates. Ensure a stable power supply during the update process.

5. TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
No sound output.	Incorrect cable connections, low volume settings, power issue.	Check all audio cables (Mic In, Guitar In, Outputs). Ensure volume levels on the PLAY ELECTRIC and connected devices are adequate. Verify power adapter is securely connected.
Distorted vocal/guitar sound.	Input gain too high, incorrect effect settings.	Adjust the Mic Gain knob (Figure 2.3.1) to prevent clipping. Check individual effect parameters for excessive drive or gain settings.
Harmonies are out of key.	Guitar input not detected or incorrect key setting.	Ensure your guitar is properly connected and playing. The unit uses guitar input to guide harmonies. Check harmony settings for manual key selection if applicable.
Unit freezes or behaves erratically.	Software glitch, power instability.	Disconnect and reconnect power to restart the unit. If the problem persists, consider performing a firmware update via USB.

6. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Brand	TC Helicon
Model Number	996363005
Item Weight	0.94 kg
Product Dimensions	27.9 x 15.2 x 7.6 cm

Feature	Detail
Voltage	12V
Current	0.4 mA
Audio Output Effects	Delay, Looper
Hardware Interface	USB
Signal Format	Analog
UPC	750408410344
GTIN	05706622019806

7. WARRANTY & SUPPORT

7.1 Warranty Information

The product comes with a 1-year warranty from the date of delivery. A delivery receipt is required. The warranty is valid for use within Japan. By registering the product online within 90 days of purchase, the warranty period can be extended to 3 years.

7.2 Customer Support

For technical support, troubleshooting assistance, or warranty claims, please visit the official TC Helicon website or contact their authorized service centers. Keep your purchase receipt and product serial number handy when contacting support.

Official TC Helicon Website: www.tchelicon.com

