

- Manuals.plus /
- › SONICAKE /
- › SONICAKE Sonic Ambience Delay/Reverb Pedal Instruction Manual

SONICAKE QSS-16

SONICAKE Sonic Ambience Delay/Reverb Pedal

Model: QSS-16

1. INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

The SONICAKE Sonic Ambience is a compact and versatile effects pedal designed for guitar and bass, combining both delay and reverb effects into a single unit. It offers multiple modes for each effect, providing a wide range of sonic textures from subtle ambience to expansive soundscapes. This manual provides essential information for setting up, operating, and maintaining your pedal to ensure optimal performance.



Image: Front view of the SONICAKE Sonic Ambience pedal, showcasing its compact design and control knobs.

2. KEY FEATURES

- **Dual-Effect Design:** Integrates 4 distinct delay modes and 4 distinct reverb modes within one pedal.
- **Extended Delay Time:** Offers a maximum delay time of 2000ms, suitable for various musical styles.
- **Tap Tempo Functionality:** Allows for real-time adjustment of delay rate via the footswitch, enhancing rhythmic precision.
- **Buffer Bypass Circuit:** Features a specially designed buffer bypass circuit to maintain signal integrity and prevent tone loss when the effect is disengaged.
- **Standard Power Requirement:** Operates with a common 9V DC center-negative power supply (not included), ensuring compatibility with most pedalboard power setups.
- **Durable Construction:** Housed in a robust zinc-alloy die-cast casing, built to withstand regular use and transport.

- **Compact and Portable:** Its tiny size and light weight make it easy to integrate into any pedalboard or carry for gigs.

3. CONTROLS AND FUNCTIONS

Familiarize yourself with the pedal's controls to effectively shape your sound:



Image: The Sonic Ambience pedal highlighting its dual-effect capability with 4 modes for delay and 4 for reverb.

- **REVERB Knobs (H, C, P):** These three knobs control the parameters of the selected reverb mode. Specific functions vary by mode.
- **DELAY Knobs (D, T, R):** These three knobs control the parameters of the selected delay mode. Specific functions vary by mode.
- **MIX Knob:** Adjusts the balance between the dry (unaffected) signal and the wet (effected) signal.
- **REPEAT Knob:** Controls the number of delay repeats.
- **BLEND Knob:** Adjusts the blend of the reverb effect.

- **Footswitch:** Engages/disengages the effect. Hold the footswitch to activate the Tap Tempo function for real-time delay rate adjustment.
- **DC 9V Input:** Power input for a 9V DC center-negative power supply.
- **Input/Output Jacks:** Standard 1/4-inch mono jacks for connecting your instrument and amplifier.

4. SETUP

Follow these steps to set up your Sonic Ambience pedal:

1. **Power Connection:** Connect a standard 9V DC center-negative power supply (not included) to the DC 9V input jack on the top of the pedal. Ensure the power supply meets the specified voltage and polarity requirements.
2. **Instrument Connection:** Connect your guitar or bass to the INPUT jack on the right side of the pedal using a standard 1/4-inch instrument cable.
3. **Amplifier Connection:** Connect the OUTPUT jack on the left side of the pedal to your amplifier's input using another standard 1/4-inch instrument cable.
4. **Initial Settings:** Before powering on your amplifier, set the MIX, REPEAT, and BLEND knobs to their minimum positions to avoid sudden loud sounds.
5. **Power On:** Turn on your amplifier, then engage the pedal by pressing the footswitch.



Image: The Sonic Ambience pedal connected within a larger pedalboard, demonstrating typical setup.

5. OPERATING THE PEDAL

The Sonic Ambience pedal offers intuitive controls for shaping your delay and reverb effects:

- **Engaging/Disengaging Effects:** Press the footswitch once to toggle the effect on or off. The LED indicator will illuminate when the effect is active.
- **Adjusting Delay:** Use the DELAY knobs (D, T, R) to control the specific parameters of the chosen delay mode. Experiment with these to find your desired delay sound.
- **Adjusting Reverb:** Use the REVERB knobs (H, C, P) to control the specific parameters of the chosen reverb mode. These knobs allow for fine-tuning of the reverb's character.
- **Mixing Effects:** The MIX knob controls the overall wet/dry balance. Turn it clockwise to increase the amount of effect in your signal.
- **Delay Repeats:** The REPEAT knob adjusts how many times the delay echoes before fading out.

- **Reverb Blend:** The BLEND knob specifically controls the intensity or presence of the reverb effect.
- **Tap Tempo:** To use the Tap Tempo function, hold down the footswitch for approximately 2 seconds until the LED flashes. Then, tap the footswitch two or more times at your desired tempo. The delay time will synchronize with your taps.



Image: The Sonic Ambience pedal illustrating the Tap Tempo function, which allows for real-time delay rate control.

6. MAINTENANCE

Proper maintenance ensures the longevity and reliable performance of your pedal:

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to clean the pedal's exterior. Avoid using abrasive cleaners, solvents, or waxes, as these can damage the finish or internal components.
- **Storage:** Store the pedal in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight, extreme temperatures, and high humidity. If storing for extended periods, disconnect the power supply.
- **Connections:** Periodically check all cable connections for wear and tear. Ensure jacks are free of dust and debris.

- **Power Supply:** Always use a regulated 9V DC center-negative power supply. Using an incorrect power supply can damage the pedal and void the warranty.

Solid and Sturdy

Zinc-alloy die cast casing to withstand wear and tear



Image: Close-up of the Sonic Ambience pedal, emphasizing its solid zinc-alloy die-cast casing designed for durability.

7. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your Sonic Ambience pedal, try the following solutions:

- **No Sound:**
 - Ensure all cables are securely connected to the correct input/output jacks.
 - Verify that the power supply is properly connected and providing the correct voltage (9V DC, center-negative).
 - Check if your instrument and amplifier are working correctly by bypassing the pedal.
 - Ensure the pedal is engaged (LED illuminated).
- **Unwanted Noise/Hum:**

- Use a high-quality, regulated power supply. Daisy-chaining with other noisy pedals can sometimes introduce hum.
 - Check for faulty instrument cables. Try swapping cables to isolate the issue.
 - Ensure proper grounding in your electrical setup.
- **Effect Not Working Correctly:**
- Adjust the MIX, REPEAT, and BLEND knobs to ensure they are not set to minimum or maximum positions that might obscure the effect.
 - Refer to the 'Controls and Functions' section to ensure you are adjusting the correct knobs for the desired effect.

If these steps do not resolve the issue, please contact SONICAKE customer support for further assistance.

8. SPECIFICATIONS

Specification	Value
Model Number	QSS-16
Item Weight	7.4 ounces (0.21 Kilograms)
Product Dimensions	2.56 x 4.13 x 2.44 inches (6.5 x 10.5 x 6.2 cm)
Power Source	Corded Electric
Voltage	9 Volts DC (Center Negative)
Signal Format	Analog

9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For information regarding the product warranty, please refer to the documentation included with your purchase or visit the official SONICAKE website. Warranty terms and conditions may vary by region and retailer.

If you require technical support or have questions not covered in this manual, please contact SONICAKE customer service through their official channels. Provide your product model (QSS-16) and any relevant purchase details when seeking support.

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