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MXR M222 Talk Box Effects Pedal Instruction Manual

Brand: MXR

Model: M222

1. INTRODUCTION

The MXR M222 Talk Box is a unique effects pedal designed to allow musicians to shape the sound of their instrument (guitar, keyboard, etc.) using their mouth, creating vocal-like effects. This self-contained unit includes its own amplifier and speaker driver, eliminating the need for additional external equipment. It offers Volume, Tone, and Gain controls to fine-tune the effect to your preference.



Figure 1: Top view of the MXR M222 Talk Box Effects Pedal, showing the control knobs and voice tube input.

2. PRODUCT FEATURES

- **Self-Contained Unit:** Features a built-in amplifier and speaker driver, removing the need for an external amplifier.
- **Versatile Controls:** Equipped with Volume, Tone, and Gain knobs for precise sound shaping.
- **Broad Compatibility:** Suitable for use with guitars, keyboards, and other instruments.

- **Compact Design:** Durable and compact housing for both practice and live performance settings.

3. CONTROLS AND CONNECTIONS

Familiarize yourself with the various controls and connection points on your MXR M222 Talk Box.

3.1 Front Panel Controls

- **VOLUME Knob:** Controls the overall output level of the effect.
- **TONE Knob:** Adjusts the tonal character of the distorted signal, from darker to brighter.
- **GAIN Knob:** Controls the amount of distortion applied to the signal.
- **VOICE TUBE Input:** Connects the included voice tube.
- **FOOTSWITCH:** Toggles the effect on/bypass. A blue LED indicates when the effect is active.



Figure 2: Front view of the MXR M222 Talk Box, highlighting the footswitch.

3.2 Rear Panel Connections

- **INPUT Jack:** Connect your instrument (guitar, keyboard) here.
- **18V DC Power Input:** Connect the 18V 1000mA Dunlop ECB009 power supply here.
- **OUTPUT Jack:** Connect this to your amplifier or audio interface.



Figure 3: Rear view of the MXR M222 Talk Box, showing the input, power, and output connections.

4. SETUP

Follow these steps to set up your MXR M222 Talk Box:

- 1. Power Connection:** Connect the 18V 1000mA Dunlop ECB009 power supply to the 18V DC input jack on the rear of the pedal.
- 2. Instrument Connection:** Run a cable from your instrument (guitar, keyboard, etc.) to the Talk Box's INPUT jack.
- 3. Amplifier Connection:** Run another cable from the Talk Box's OUTPUT jack to your amplifier or audio interface.
- 4. Voice Tube Placement:** Attach one end of the clear voice tube to the VOICE TUBE Input on the pedal. Secure the other end of the tube to your microphone stand using the included clip, ensuring the end of the tube is close to your mouth for optimal vocal shaping.



Figure 4: The MXR M222 Talk Box with the voice tube attached and ready for use.

5. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Once set up, you can begin using your Talk Box to create expressive vocal effects:

- 1. Initial Settings:** Start with the VOLUME and TONE knobs fully counter-clockwise and the GAIN knob at 12 o'clock.
- 2. Engage Effect:** Turn the effect on by depressing the footswitch. The blue LED will illuminate.
- 3. Adjust Volume:** Slowly rotate the VOLUME knob clockwise until the desired volume is achieved.
- 4. Adjust Tone:** Rotate the TONE knob clockwise for a brighter sound and counter-clockwise for a darker sound.
- 5. Adjust Gain:** Rotate the GAIN knob clockwise to increase the amount of distortion and counter-clockwise to decrease it.
- 6. Shaping Sound:** After setting up your microphone and tube, place the open end of the tube in the corner of your mouth between your back teeth. Without making any sound with your voice, practice mouthing vowel sounds (A, E, I, O, U) while simultaneously playing your instrument. Exaggerate the shape of your mouth for best results.
- 7. Advanced Vocalization:** To create more complex sounds, practice mouthing words with consonants such as B, D, G, J, K, P, Q, or T. It takes practice to distinguish them from V, G, B, and D. Exaggerating with consonants is just as important with vowels.
- 8. Phase Adjustment:** Try placing a Phase 90 or other effect in front of the MXR Talk Box for interesting results.

Video 1: An overview of the MXR M222 Talk Box Pedal, demonstrating its features and basic operation. This video is provided by a

6. MAINTENANCE

Proper maintenance ensures the longevity and optimal performance of your Talk Box.

- **Cleaning:** Wipe the pedal's exterior with a soft, dry cloth. Avoid abrasive cleaners or solvents.
- **Voice Tube Care:** The voice tube should be cleaned regularly for hygiene. It can be washed with mild soap and water. Ensure it is completely dry before re-attaching.
- **Storage:** Store the pedal in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures when not in use.

7. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your MXR M222 Talk Box, refer to the following common problems and solutions:

- **No Sound/Weak Effect:**
 - Ensure the power supply is correctly connected and functioning.
 - Check all instrument and amplifier cables for secure connections.
 - Verify the footswitch LED is illuminated, indicating the effect is active.
 - Adjust the VOLUME, TONE, and GAIN knobs to appropriate levels.
 - Confirm the voice tube is properly inserted into the pedal and positioned correctly in your mouth.
- **Unwanted Noise/Hum:**
 - Ensure you are using the correct 18V 1000mA power supply.
 - Check for faulty cables or connections.
 - Try moving the pedal away from other electronic devices that might cause interference.
- **Pedal Not Sitting Flat:**
 - Some units may exhibit slight unevenness on the bottom surface. The included rubber feet can be applied to the corners to provide stability on flat surfaces. For pedalboard mounting, consider using a mounting solution that accommodates slight variations in the pedal's base.

8. SPECIFICATIONS

Specification	Value
Item Weight	2.77 Kilograms (6.1 pounds)
Package Dimensions	10.35 x 9.57 x 5 inches
Item Model Number	M222-TBB-3
Hardware Interface	1/4-inch Audio

Signal Format	Analog
Power Source	Corded Electric
Voltage	18 Volts
Color	Silver
First Available	July 19, 2023

9. SAFETY INFORMATION

Please observe the following safety guidelines:

- Use only the specified 18V 1000mA power supply to prevent damage to the unit and voiding the warranty.
- Do not expose the pedal to water or excessive moisture.
- Avoid operating the pedal in extremely high or low temperatures.
- Do not attempt to open or service the unit yourself. Refer all servicing to qualified personnel.
- Keep the voice tube clean and replace it if it becomes damaged or discolored.

10. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For warranty information, technical support, or service inquiries, please contact the manufacturer or your authorized dealer. Keep your purchase receipt as proof of purchase for warranty claims.