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Electro-Harmonix PICO SWELLO

Electro-Harmonix Pico Swello Attack Filter User Manual

Model: PICO SWELLO | Brand: Electro-Harmonix

1. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The Electro-Harmonix Pico Swello is a compact attack filter pedal designed to provide polyphonic attack envelope effects, similar to those found in the EHX POG2, combined with a modulated low-pass filter. This pedal allows musicians to create smooth, natural swells and expressive filter sweeps, enhancing their instrument's tone with unique dynamic characteristics. Its small footprint makes it ideal for any pedalboard.





Figure 1: Front view of the Electro-Harmonix Pico Swello Attack Filter pedal.

2. SETUP AND CONNECTIONS

To set up your Pico Swello pedal, follow these steps:

1. **Power Connection:** Connect the included 9V DC power adapter to the 9V power jack on the rear of the pedal. Ensure the power supply meets the pedal's requirements (9V DC, center-negative).
2. **Input Connection:** Connect your instrument (guitar, bass, etc.) to the INPUT jack on the right side of the pedal using a standard 1/4-inch instrument cable.
3. **Output Connection:** Connect the OUTPUT jack on the left side of the pedal to your amplifier or the next effect pedal in your signal chain using a standard 1/4-inch instrument cable.



Figure 2: Rear view of the Pico Swello pedal, highlighting the power input.

3. CONTROLS AND OPERATION

The Pico Swello features a simple 4-knob control layout and a FILTER button for intuitive sound shaping.

- **VOL (Volume):** This knob controls the overall output volume of the pedal. Adjust it to balance the effect's level with your dry signal or other pedals.
- **ATTACK:** This knob adjusts the attack time of the polyphonic envelope. Turning it clockwise increases the attack time, creating slower, longer swells. Counter-clockwise settings result in quicker, more gentle attacks.
- **FILTER Button:** This button engages the Low-Pass Filter (LPF) and selects between two resonance settings: low and high. The LED next to the button indicates the filter's state: off (no LED), low resonance (orange LED), or high resonance (red LED).
- **FREQ (Frequency):** This control adjusts the cutoff frequency of the Low-Pass Filter. Use it to define the upper frequency limit of the filtered sound.
- **MOD (Modulation):** This knob controls the depth and direction of the LPF envelope modulation. Turning it clockwise provides an upward filter sweep, while counter-clockwise settings result in a downward sweep. The modulation timing is synchronized with the ATTACK knob setting.

Attack Envelope effect of the *EHX POG2*



Figure 3: The Pico Swello in action, showcasing its attack envelope capabilities.

Achieving Different Effects:

- **Smooth Swells:** Increase the ATTACK knob to its desired length. This will soften the initial transient of each note, creating a violin-like or bowed instrument effect.
- **Filter Sweeps:** Engage the FILTER button to either low or high resonance. Adjust the FREQ knob to set the filter's range and the MOD knob to control the sweep direction and depth. Experiment with the ATTACK knob to synchronize the filter sweep with the note's attack.
- **Polyphonic Tracking:** The pedal's polyphonic design ensures that each note in a chord receives its own independent attack envelope, maintaining clarity and musicality even with complex voicings.

Polyphonic attack envelope applies swell to each individual note played



Figure 4: Visual representation of the polyphonic attack envelope applying swell to individual notes.



Figure 5: The filter modulation feature creating dynamic envelope filter-style effects.

Official Product Video Demonstration:

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Video 1: Official demonstration of the Electro-Harmonix Pico Swello Attack Filter Guitar Pedal, showcasing its various features and sounds.

4. MAINTENANCE

The Pico Swello is designed for durability and reliable performance. To ensure its longevity:

- Keep the pedal clean and free from dust and debris. Use a soft, dry cloth for cleaning.
- Avoid exposing the pedal to extreme temperatures, humidity, or direct sunlight.
- Always use the correct 9V DC center-negative power adapter to prevent damage.
- When not in use for extended periods, disconnect the power supply.

5. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter any issues with your Pico Swello, refer to the following common problems and solutions:

- **No Sound:**

- Check all cable connections (instrument, amplifier, power).
- Ensure the power adapter is correctly connected and providing power. The LED on the pedal should illuminate.
- Verify that your instrument and amplifier are functioning correctly.

- **Weak or Distorted Sound:**

- Adjust the VOL knob on the pedal.
- Check the input level from your instrument and the input sensitivity of your amplifier.
- Ensure all cables are in good condition.

- **Effect Not Engaging/Disengaging:**

- Press the footswitch firmly.
- If the FILTER button LED is not responding, ensure the pedal is powered.

- **Unexpected Filter Behavior:**

- Adjust the FREQ and MOD knobs.
- Cycle through the FILTER button settings (disabled, low resonance, high resonance) to ensure it's in the desired mode.

If these steps do not resolve the issue, please contact Electro-Harmonix customer support.

6. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Specification
Model	PICO SWELLO
Brand	Electro-Harmonix
Item Weight	1.18 pounds (0.54 kg)
Product Dimensions	3.65"L x 2"W x 2"H (9.27 x 5.08 x 5.08 cm)
Body Material	Plastic
Connector Type	9V DC power jack
Hardware Interface	1/4-inch Audio
Signal Format	Digital
Power Source	Corded Electric
Voltage	9 Volts

7. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Electro-Harmonix products are known for their quality and reliability. For detailed warranty information and customer support, please refer to the official Electro-Harmonix website or contact their customer service department directly. Keep your purchase receipt as proof of purchase for any warranty claims.

Online Support: Visit the [Electro-Harmonix Store on Amazon](#) for additional product information and resources.

