



Thank you for trusting the Highpoint as your new source of optical compression and dynamics control. Your notes will bloom, and chords will breathe from the Highpoint's beautifully responsive analog format that feels as good as it sounds. You'll find expansive sustain, articulate transient response, and an exceptionally smooth attack and release curve. From subtle dynamic refinement to expressive sustain, the Highpoint responds with the depth, warmth, and dimensionality expected from high-end studio hardware.

Only use a 9V DC, Center Negative, 500mA power supply to power the pedal.
The use of an isolated power supply is recommended for powering all Walrus Audio pedals.
Daisy chain power supplies are not recommended.



Got questions or need a repair?
Email help@walrusaudio.com to talk with a real human about your Walrus gear!

This product comes with a limited lifetime warranty.
[Click Here](#) for more info.

CONTROLS

THRESHOLD: Controls the level at which compression will begin to activate. Lower knob positions will create a more "squashed" compression with more sustain. Rotate clockwise for subtle leveling that keeps your natural dynamics intact.

Technical range: Off to -32dB.

RATIO: Controls the maximum amount of gain reduction the compressor can apply. Unlike traditional compressors, this does not set a fixed ratio (like 4:1 or 10:1). Instead, it determines how strongly the signal is compressed overall. Turn it up for heavier compression and a more "squashed" feel, or turn it down for a lighter touch. At minimum, no compression is applied.

Technical range: From 0dB up to -20dB gain reduction.



CONTROLS

ATTACK: Controls the time in milliseconds (ms) at which the reduction will be applied after the input signal has crossed above the threshold. Lower knob levels will tame sharp transients and smooth things out. Higher knob levels provide a slower attack allowing your pick attack to be more present before the compression kicks in.

Technical range: 8ms to 30ms.

RELEASE: Controls the time in milliseconds (ms) at which the reduction will be removed after the input signal has crossed below the threshold. Lower knob settings will give the compression a lively, percussive feel. Higher knob settings create a longer release resulting in more sustain and a “glued together” sound.

Technical range: 50ms to 4s.

OUTPUT: Controls the overall output level of the device. This will set the gain staging for other effects downstream from the Highpoint. At minimum knob settings, the pedal will be silent. At maximum knob settings, the pedal will have a +6dB boost.

Technical range: -inf to +6dB. (Depending on mix and make up setting, max dB can go above 6dB)

BLEND: Controls the blend between the dry input signal and the effect signal. Minimum knob settings will have a fully dry signal. Maximum knob settings will have a fully compressed signal. This means you can blend amounts of just enough compression to add sustain and control while keeping your natural pick attack and dynamics, or turn it up for full-on squash and consistency.

Technical range: Full dry (Input Signal) to full wet (Compressed Signal).



MAKEUP: Controls makeup gain applied to the affected signal to compensate for signal reduction due to compression. Turning the knob clockwise will restore volume lost to compression and push your signal forward in the mix. This can also be used as a clean boost once your dynamics are dialed in.

Technical range: +6dB to +34dB



CONTROLS

SC (SIDECHAIN) BUTTON: Press the Sidechain button to enable a High Pass Filter to preserve specific low-end frequencies from engaging the compressor as much as higher frequencies. This filter is finely tuned and will be most noticeable when playing instruments with greater lower frequency content like bass guitar, baritone, or low-tuned guitars.

VU METER: The Highpoint features a VU meter with three different monitoring modes. Press the VU button to cycle through the following modes:

- **Input level (Green)**
 - Use this to check if the input signal is healthy.
- **Output Level (Yellow)**
 - Use to monitor output signal and adjust to match input signal level.
- **Gain Reduction (Red)**
 - Offers responsive feedback on how the Highpoint is compressing your signal.

Input and Output Meter Scale:

-32, -26, -22, -18, -15, -12, -9, -6, -3, 0 (dB)

Note: The 0dB point that the meter references can be adjusted with a boot up gesture described in the Boot Up Options section below.

Gain Reduction Meter Scale:

20, 18, 16, 14, 12, 10, 8, 6, 4, 2 (dB)

BOOT UP OPTIONS

The VU meter can be tuned to be responsive across a wide variety of input signals, from passive guitars, active guitars, synths, to line level signals.

To enter the boot up menu:

1. Press and hold the Stomp Switch while powering the unit to enter the menu.
2. Cycle through the reference levels by pressing the VU button.
 - Instrument: -4dBu (Green)
 - Line: +4dBu (Yellow)
 - Full Scale: +20dBu (Red)
3. Confirm the selection by pressing and holding the Stomp Switch. The Meter LEDs will flash blue and the unit will boot up into normal operation.

START HERE

Not sure where to start? Try these settings as a starting point and adjust to taste!

BASS PUNCH

For bass guitar & baritone. Great for adding punch and extra transient detail to bass while still keeping the overall sound natural.



THRESHOLD



RATIO



ATTACK



RELEASE



OUTPUT



D • BLEND • W



MAKEUP

SIDECHAIN ON

EVENING OUT

Great for smoothing out your playing and keeping louder and softer notes more balanced.



THRESHOLD



RATIO



ATTACK



RELEASE



OUTPUT



D • BLEND • W



MAKEUP

SIDECHAIN ON

MAX SUSTAIN

Great for long held notes, extra sustain, and a more compressed lead feel. Great for driving into dirt pedals.



THRESHOLD



RATIO



ATTACK



RELEASE



OUTPUT



D • BLEND • W



MAKEUP

SIDECHAIN OFF

CHICKEN PICKIN'

Great for sharp, snappy picking with lots of attack and percussive response.



THRESHOLD



RATIO



ATTACK



RELEASE



OUTPUT



D • BLEND • W



MAKEUP

SIDECHAIN OFF

SLIDE PUMP

Extra sustain and squeeze to make notes sing out when playing slide.



THRESHOLD



RATIO



ATTACK



RELEASE



OUTPUT



D • BLEND • W



MAKEUP

SIDECHAIN OFF

GOOSE

Goose the front end of your chain to even out highs and lows (dynamics) a bit and give a touch of snap.



THRESHOLD



RATIO



ATTACK



RELEASE



OUTPUT



D • BLEND • W



MAKEUP

SIDECHAIN OFF

TECHNICAL INFO

- Power Requirements: 9 V DC, 500 mA, Center-Negative, 2.1 mm. Power supply not included.
- Bypass: True Bypass
- Input Impedance: 1 M Ω
- Output Impedance: 300 Ω
- Frequency Response: 20 Hz - 20 kHz
- The use of an isolated power supply is recommended for powering all Walrus Audio pedals. Daisy chain power supplies are not recommended.
- Exact size of the die-cast enclosure (with knobs):
Length: 4.78 in (121.6 mm) x Width: 3.62 in (92 mm) x Height: 2.23 in (56.7 mm)

