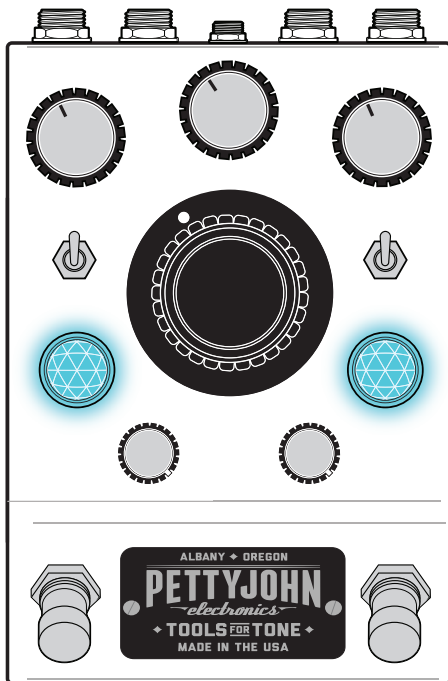


# PREDRIVE

PREAMP ♦ PRESHAPE ♦ PREBOOST



USER MANUAL

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*There are no user serviceable parts inside the PreDrive. Opening the pedal could cause accident damage that Pettyjohn Electronics is not liable for.*

*Disclaimer: Your PreDrive is hand painted in an authentic Patina finish. The exposed metal is lightly flash oxidized before clear coating. We have taken every possible step to ensure a long lasting finish but over time this active rust could continue to grow, which will add even more authentic vibe to your pedal.*

*In the interest of always bettering our products and service Pettyjohn Electronics reserves the right to alter any features or written material without notice.*



## GETTING STARTED

Congratulations on becoming the owner of an Pettyjohn PreDrive! We sincerely hope this pedal inspires you to play your guitar more and gives you years of solid performance. The PreDrive is the FIRST pedal to utilize ultra high-quality discrete opamps and is built with the highest quality studio-grade components throughout making it a truly professional tool for tone shaping. The PreDrive has many features and we highly recommend taking the time to go through this manual thoroughly when you first plug it in.

The PreDrive is designed to be the first pedal in your chain. We recommend starting with the PreDrive set up in this location to get most value out of the high quality circuitry and features designed specifically for this usage. The PreDrive is our flagship preamp pedal and serves as an un-paralleled studio grade input buffer, preamp, clean boost, unique tone filters, signal splitter, direct/re-amp box, and even an incredibly open and responsive low gain overdrive! The tonal qualities of the PreDrive range from pristinely clean to full-on mojo as you push the premium analog circuitry to its limits. We have compelled 4 basic presets that will greatly assist you in understanding what this pedal can do and serve as a starting place for getting inspiring tone!

# KNOB & SWITCH IDENTIFICATION

## INPUT VOLUME:

This knob adjusts the preamp gain structure. At minimum this stage is a buffer as you increase the gain the tonal characteristics will change as well. Most people hear greater articulation, note separation, harmonic detail and at higher settings even a smooth, natural compression effect.

## DRIVE MIX KNOB:

Active in drive mode, this knob mixes in clean signal with the overdriven tone. With this knob at max the PreDrive is a full on low gain overdrive pedal. Mix cleans back in a a dynamic, harmonically rich tone.

## OUTPUT VOLUME:

This knob backs off the output volume as needed.

## HARMONIC DRIVE ON/OFF:

The up position is clean mode, switching down engages drive mode.

## BOOST GAIN:

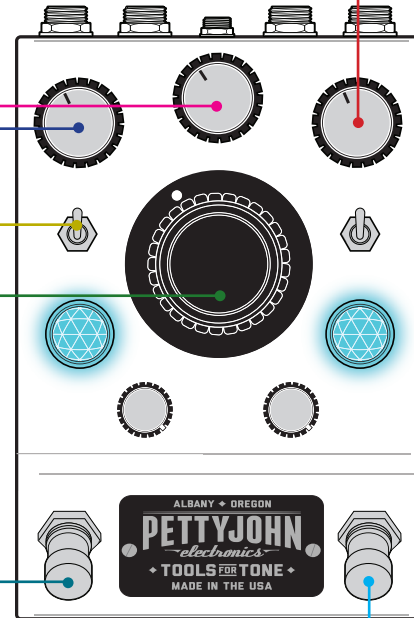
This stage has a gain of 1 to 11dB and also exhibits some sweet mojo at high settings.

## BOOST ON/BYPASS SWITCH:

Engages or bypasses the boost mode, controlled by the big boost knob.

## PREAMP ON/BYPASS:

Engage the preamp stage or utilize the true hard-wired bypass.



# JACK IDENTIFICATION

## TUNER OUT:

This is a buffered output taken after the preamp stage perfect for connecting a parallel tuner. It also serves as a way to access just the preamp stage of the pedal and provides a proper buffered signal split for numerous creative routing options when interfacing with other gear.

*Note: The tuner output is taken after the preamp stage and preamp must be engaged to send signal.*

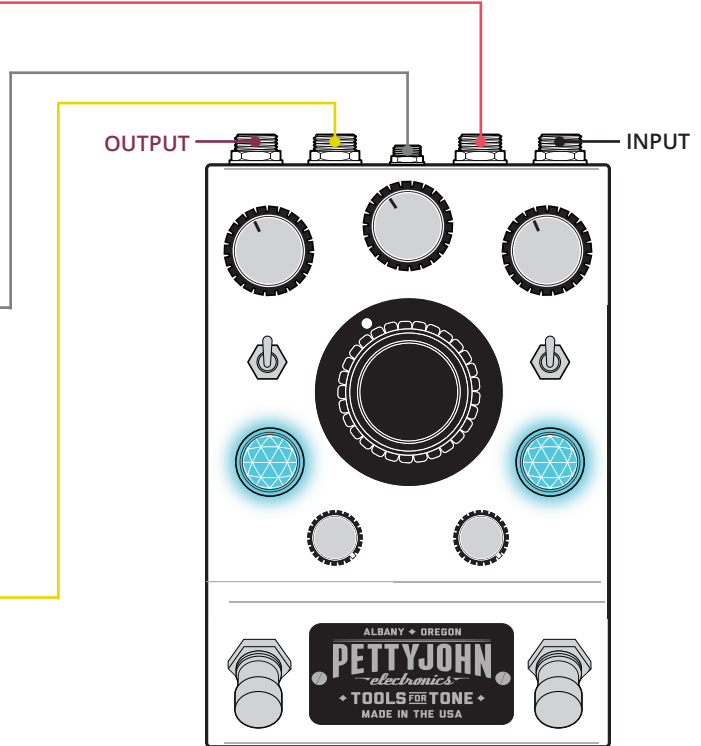
## POWER:

The PreDrive's discrete opamps require a minimum of 18V DC standard pedal power to operate, however, the PreDrive can run on any DC pedal power supply between 18 and 32 volts with a CENTER TIP NEGATIVE. The PreDrive is protected internally from reverse wired power supplies and simply will not turn on if one is used while remaining un-harmed.

## DIRECT OUT:

This is a balanced output on a TRS 1/4 connection via a transparent Edcor Transformer. The signal is taken after the Preamp section and sends a very pure signal ideal for recording, reamping in the studio or as a simple but very clean direct box. The direct signal is effected only by the Input gain knob, the Low Cut knob and the Vari-Z switch.

*Note: that the Preamp section must be on for this transformer to send signal.*



## TONE SHAPING: EQ SECTION

### Vari-Z:

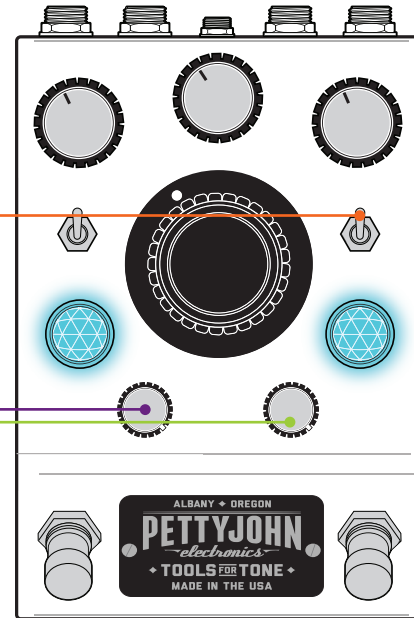
Possibly the most subtle tone shaping function on the PreDrive, the Vari-Z switch adjusts the input impedance of the preamp. In the up position, the pedal is set to 1M ohm, which is the standard input impedance of an amplifier. In the downward position, the input is dropped by half and replicates many classic stomp box overdrive pedals. In general, this will mostly effect the extreme highs of the tone. Each pickup will respond differently to changing this switch but in general, humbuckers like the higher impedance and single coils like the lower impedance setting, which can help tame some of the “zip” and “harshness” that some single coils have when played hard.

### Low Cut Knob:

Turn the Low Cut knob counter-clockwise to tighten the bass response of the signal.

### High Cut Knob:

Turn counterclockwise to reduce the highs in the tone and reduce harsh tones.

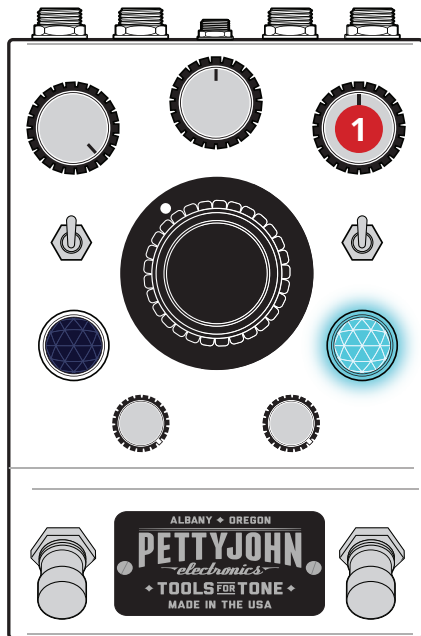


## PRESET MODE 1: PREAMP AND CLEAN BOOST

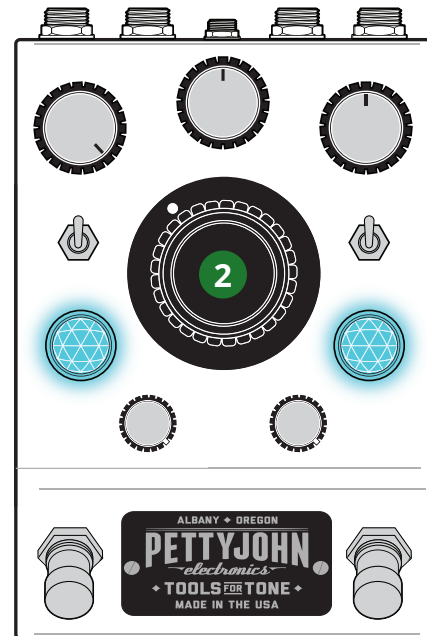
**Mode:** Clean, Harmonic Drive Switch Up

**Function:** Dual Pedal (Single Pedal: Leave boost switch engaged and use bypass switch if desired)

1. Preamp Mode: **INPUT VOLUME** at 50%



2. Clean Boost: Range of Boost determined by the **BOOST GAIN** top hat knob



## PRESET MODE 2: CLEAN PREAMP OR BOOST WITH SMOOTH SATURATION

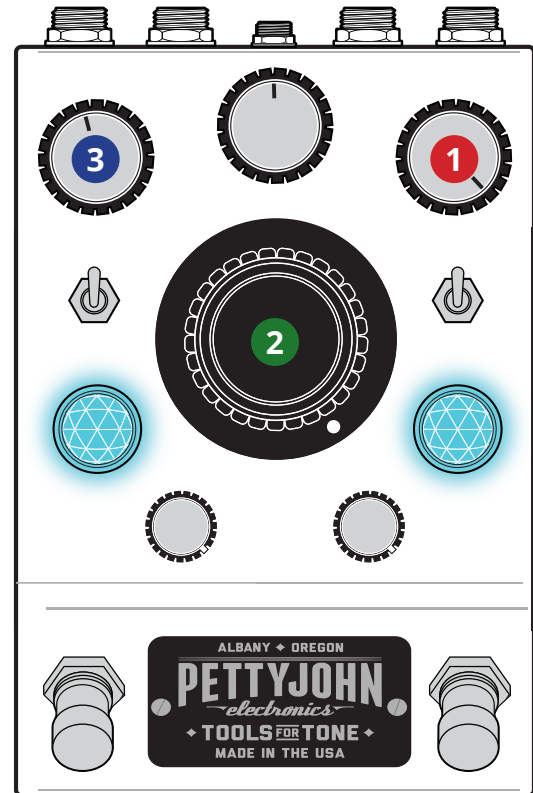
**Mode:** Clean, Harmonic Drive Switch Up

**Function:** Single Pedal (Dual Pedal: leave preamp/  
bypass switch engaged and use the boost switch)

Great for a single preamp using both gain stages for  
extra boost gain always on for a smoothly saturat-  
ed, always on sound.

1. Max **INPUT VOLUME**
2. Max **BOOST GAIN**
3. Back down the **OUTPUT VOLUME** to taste

This gives a warmer, smoother clean tone with a  
cranked tube amp-like saturation.





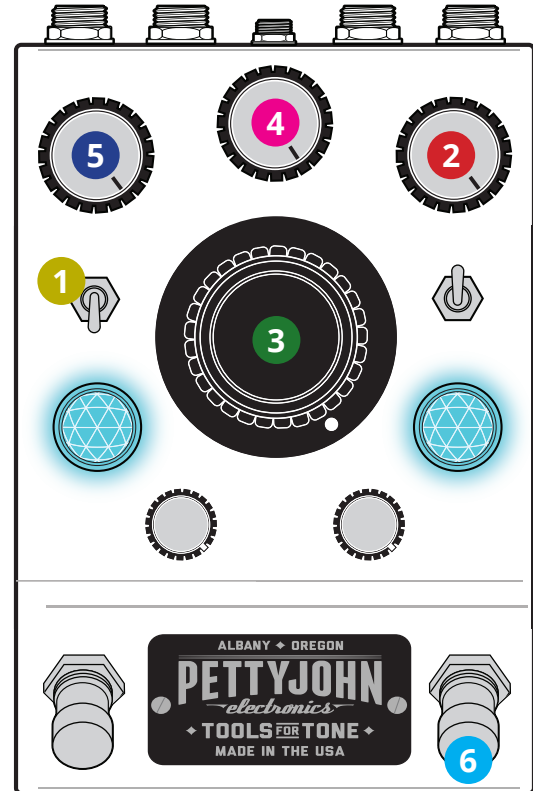
## PRESET MODE 3: TOUCH SENSITIVE OVERDRIVE

Gives a touch responsive, huge amp-like overdrive that stays true to your guitars tone and cleans up nicely with playing dynamics.

**Mode:** Drive, Harmonic Drive Switch Down

**Function:** Single Pedal: Boost Switch stays on, use the bypass switch to engage and bypass the overdrive pedal.

1. Put the pedal into drive mode via the **HARMONIC DRIVE ON/OFF** mini toggle
2. Max out the **INPUT VOLUME**
3. Max out the **BOOST GAIN**
4. Max out the **DRIVE MIX KNOB**
5. Dial back **OUTPUT VOLUME** as needed
6. Use the **BYPASS SWITCH** to bypass or activate the overdrive pedal while leaving the Boost on



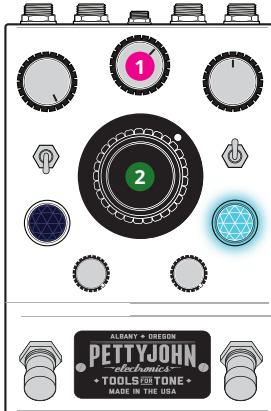
## PRESET MODE 4: HARMONIC DRIVE PREAMP AND BOOST

This mode uses the Drive Mix knob to mix in the clean tone with the overdrive circuit creating a warm, harmonically rich preamp with the boost adding overdrive and volume boost while retaining all of the dynamics and nuances of your tone.

**Mode:** Drive

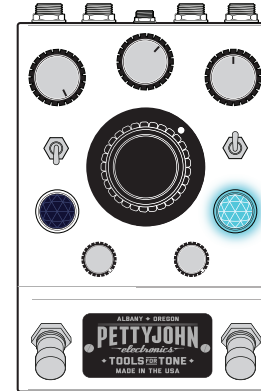
**Function:** Dual pedal

1. Use the **DRIVE MIX KNOB** to dial back in some clean tone
2. Back off the **BOOST GAIN** 25%

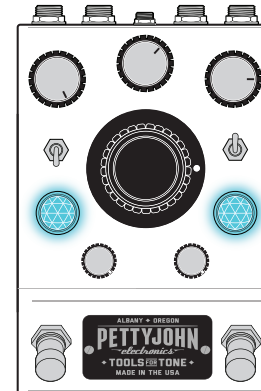


3. Then toggle between warm preamp and harmonically rich boost

### Warm Preamp



### Harmonically Rich Boost



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