



# HENRETTA

*engineering*

TRUSTED QUALITY SOUND

## H-BOMB DRIVE



### INTRODUCTION

The H-Bomb series of pedals feature different takes and useful combinations of the stock circuits found in the Henretta Engineering line of small no-knob set-and-forget pedals. Sporting a design that stays true to the simple utilitarian ideals that define the Henretta brand, the H-Bomb pedals come in a more standard pedal enclosure and format with (gasp) actual knobs on the outside. The H-Bomb Drive is a unique medium-gain distortion pedal that provides singing sustain, even at very low drive settings, by combining aspects from the Orange Whip compressor and Pinkman dirty boost circuits. The result is a musical overdrive effect that is smooth and sustaining at low drive settings and more biting and mean at higher drive settings. The tone control lets you match to any rig setup, and the volume provides a decent boost to push your amp into more saturation.

### OPERATION

The footswitch turns the effect on and off, and the orange LED lights up when the effect is active. The three controls, and an internal trimmer, are described below. The H-Bomb Drive is 100% true bypass.

**DRIVE** – When this is fully counter-clockwise, you’ll get a subtle “just on the edge of breakup” sound where the compression part of the effect dominates by providing smooth sustain and an enhanced feel. As you roll this control up, the distortion picks up in intensity and dynamics providing a singing lead tone while still maintaining pick attack and the true tone of your guitar.

**TONE** – Go from muted to bright. This control is designed to act similarly to a guitar’s tone knob.

**VOLUME** – There is plenty of boosting room on tap to push your amp into further saturation.

**BIAS** – This is the internal trimpot. It is necessary to correct for variations in the transistors that provide the compression effect, but it can also be very slightly tweaked to adjust the amount of compression. Remember the stock setting before experimenting with this control. Slight adjustments clockwise will add more squash and push the drive into more saturation. Slight movements counter-clockwise will do the opposite.

### TIPS FOR GETTING THE MOST FROM YOUR H-BOMB DRIVE

Because this circuit contains a compressor, it can react quite differently in different environments. For instance, the drive control, when turned all the way up can get very noisy and squealy with single coil pickups and/or through an amp that’s cranked up pretty well. On the other hand, very low output pickups running into a quiet clean amp may not push enough drive out of the pedal with the stock settings.

*Tame The Crazyiness* – If you want to have access to the wide-open sound of pegging the drive control but would prefer less of an out-of-control feel, try turning the internal trimpot very slightly counter-clockwise. It doesn’t take much to dramatically affect the amount of drive that’s being pushed by the compressor circuitry. Find the right spot and enjoy the fuzziness of the fully clockwise drive position.

*More Dirt, Please* - If you want more distortion at the lower drive settings, tweak the internal trimmer slightly clockwise. It doesn’t take much to dramatically affect the amount of drive that’s being pushed by the compressor circuitry. This will also increase the amount of compression at the lower settings, which may be helpful for lower output pickups.

### SPECIFICATIONS

**Configuration:** As you look down at the front of the pedal. The input jack is near the right edge of the top side, the output jack is near the left edge of the top side, and the power jack is in the middle of the top side.

**Power:** You can power this pedal with either an external power supply (9 VDC) with the commonly used center-negative barrel connector or an internal battery. The maximum current draw is 55mA.