

FOXROX ELECTRONICS

Octron is an analog octave effect that produces a note one octave above, and a note one octave below the note you play. The output is made up of a variable mix of Octave UP, Clean, and Octave DOWN. Three internal trimmers and an internal switch allow you to fine-tune the sound of Octave UP and Octave DOWN signals.

Analog octave processing relies on articulate playing to produce the best results. The Octave UP section can produce overtones from single note lines or chords, while the Octave DOWN section is capable of processing just one note at a time. Multiple notes and chords can result in "octave skipping". With some practice it's easy to get consistent upper and lower octave sounds anywhere on the neck.

Technical Information:

Dimensions: Width = 3.85" Depth = 5.15" Height = 2.85"

Weight: 1.4 lbs. (with 9V battery)

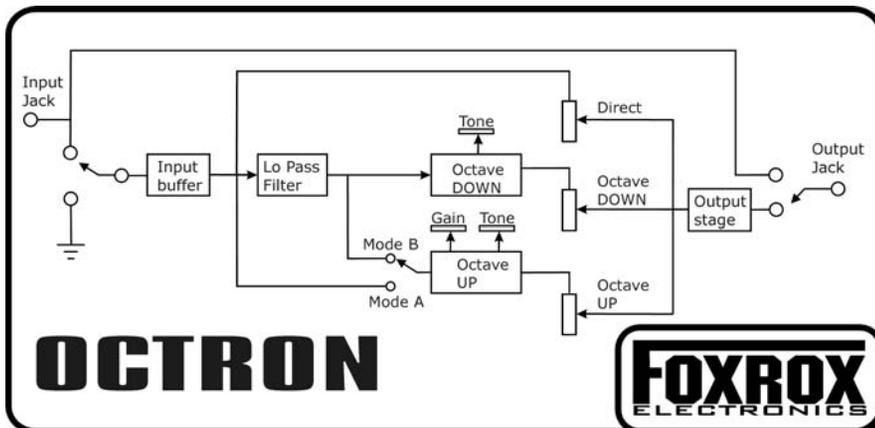
Voltage: 9 Volts DC (via 9V battery or external power)

Current draw: 12mA

Power connection: 2.1mm, Center = NEG (FX standard)

Signal switching: True bypass with LED.

OCTRON



Features

Octave UP level - Controls the level of the Octave UP signal. Level is also affected by internal settings for Tone, Drive, and Mode.

Direct level - Controls the level of the straight signal. At max there is a slight boost; unity gain is around 3:00.

Octave DOWN level - Controls the level of the Octave DOWN section. Level is also affected by the internal tone trimmer. The perceived level of the lower octave is highly dependent on your amp's ability to reproduce low frequencies. For example; a small combo amp with a single 10" speaker will seem to have very little lower octave, while a cabinet loaded with 4 X 12" speakers will shake the floor.

Input Jack - ¼" stereo jack. Disconnect Input to conserve battery life.

Output Jack - ¼" stereo jack. Stereo jack is used to maintain the same tension and feel as the Input jack.

Bypass Switch w/LED - Yellow LED is on when effect is engaged. Switching is true-bypass, using 3PDT switch.

Internal Settings

Octave UP MODE

There are two modes, Mode 1 and Mode 2. The mode is selected by the black switch - move it to the position you desire. Mode 2 is the default setting.

Mode 1 - This is great for the type of sounds associated with many vintage Octave-up units (Octavia). In this mode you can get many strange distorted overtones, similar to a ring modulator as well as a sweet upper octave overtone.

Mode 2 - By rolling off high frequencies before the octave doubler, Mode 2 delivers a bold, pure analog upper octave. No need to roll your GTR tone back for better octave sounds.

Octave DOWN tone - This trimmer lets you dial between two different resonant tones.

Full clockwise - The bottom end is emphasized producing a full, fat octave down tone. Great for clean tones, mixed with clean guitar for the bass/guitar sound.

Full counter clockwise - Midrange is boosted. Better for adding a lower octave note without rattling the speakers. Also great for feeding a distortion or overdrive pedal.

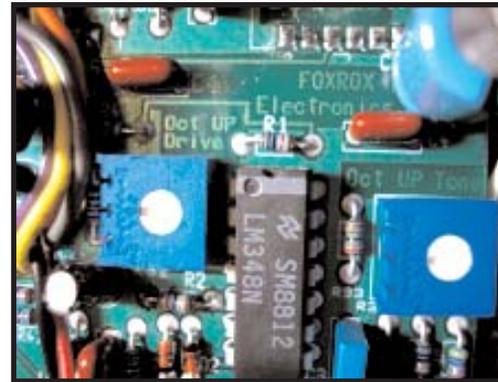
Octave UP Drive - At Minimum there's very little sustain and gain. Around 1/3 to center is the normal setting. At Maximum you get the most sustain. Note about Octave UP - Analog upper octave is a product of distortion, there is no way to get a "clean" tone as one might expect from a digital pitch shifter.

Octave UP tone - Controls how bright the Octave UP tone is. At max, you may experience feedback and whistling under high gain settings (back it off). Normal setting is around center. It's a smooth treble roll-off that lets you dial in an upper octave sound that's not shrill, like many other octave-up effects.

Tips for Octave Down Tracking

Like other Analog Octave dividers, Octron's lower octave will get confused by chords, open strings, harmonics, weak pickups and sloppy playing. Clean, articulate playing is rewarded with near-perfect tracking. Here are some general tips for getting the best tracking results not only with Octron, but with any octave divider, and even many guitar synthesizers that work on the same principles:

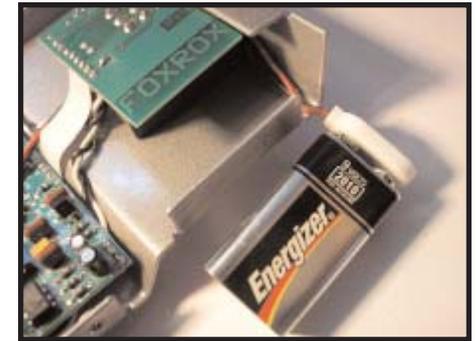
- **Use the NECK pickup.** A guitar's neck pickup has the roundest and purest tone. As you move away from the neck, with middle, bridge, or any combination of pickups, you add more harmonics and less of the fundamental frequency. Lower octave tracking will become less accurate resulting in skipping and dropping out. Also, make sure your guitar is set up right. Dead spots and buzzing frets will cause poor tracking.
- **Let only one note sound.** The octave down circuit will warble, skip and drop out if you play multiple notes at once or let open strings sound. Palm muting will help you control your dynamics and will produce the best tracking. The more articulate your single note playing is, the better the tracking will be. You can even use the tracking as a way to improve your playing.
- **Letting notes decay.** As a note decays, there comes a point where the Octave down circuit can no longer determine the note you're playing. At this point it will sputter a little and drop out. The way to prevent this is to know at what point this happens, and modify your playing to prevent it. Learn just how long you can let a note hang - and cut it off before the Octave down circuit gets confused. Note - with single-coil pickups the natural hum can get pretty loud. When especially bad, this can cause Octron's lower octave to skip.
- **Play the chromatic scale on every string,** up and down the neck. It seems that every guitar has one or two notes that just won't track well.



Patching

Before Octron. You can increase sustain and possibly improve tracking by patching a compressor, overdrive, or other gain device before Octron. Modulation, delay and wah will cause poor tracking in most cases. Octron works best at the beginning of your chain, right after your guitar, but it's always good to experiment.

After Octron. This is where it gets fun. Whatever effects you like on your guitar, try them after Octron and you'll like the results. Heavy distortion sounds huge; chorus or envelope filter will sound like a synth.



Battery

Clip it on and press it into place. The rubber pad will keep it from moving.

When not using a 9V battery, push the clip into the rubber pad to keep it from bouncing around.

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Octron2 is a special version of the original Foxrox Octron pedal. For standard features, refer to the original Octron Owner's Manual.

What makes Octron2 different from the original Octron?

Octron2 is identical to the original Octron, with the addition of the following features:

- Individual foot switches to activate each of the three signals, Octave Up, Direct, and Octave Down.
- Individual LED for each of the three foot switches
- Master true-bypass foot switch w/LED mounted on upper level.
- Effects loop located after the effect, but before the foot switch.

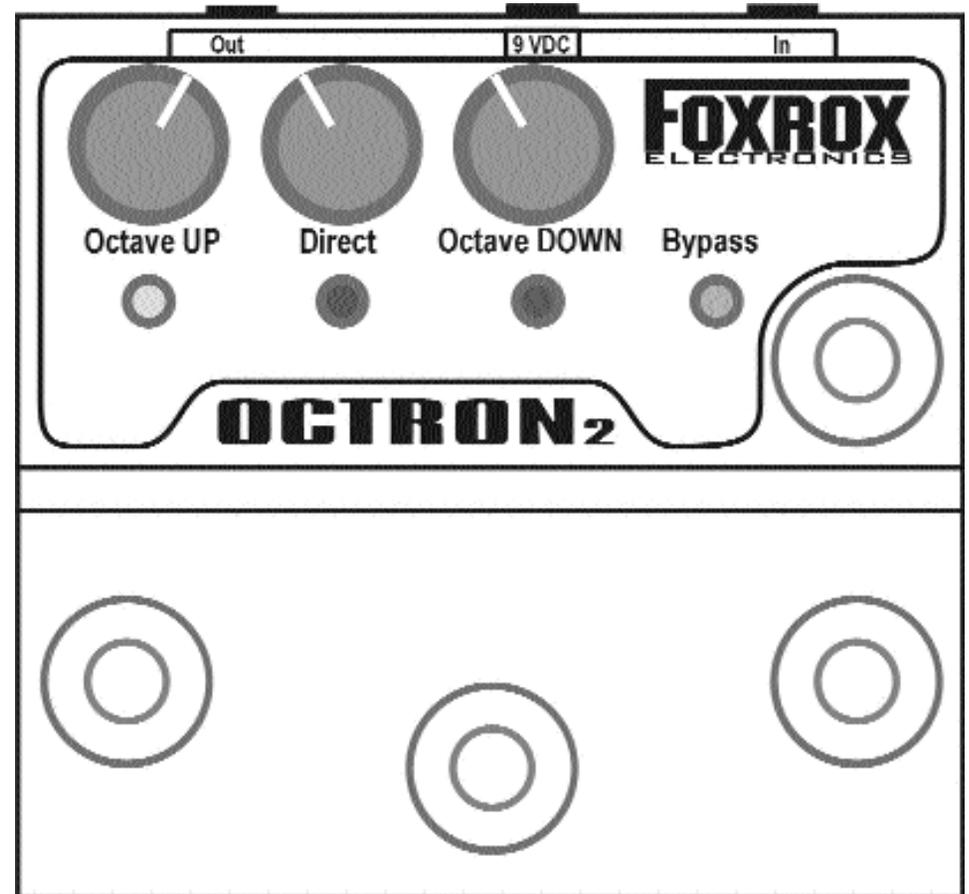
How do you use Octron2?

There are a couple of different ways to use Octron2. Here are some suggestions:

- While bypassed, choose the mix you want. You can activate any combination of the three signals (Oct Up, Direct, Oct Down). When it's time for your solo, hit the bypass switch and you get the mix you wanted. Make sure you have at least one of the signals activated when you take the unit out of Bypass.. if you don't you'll be left with no signal!
- Activate the unit via the Bypass switch, and select only the Direct signal and leave it on. When you want to add Octave Up, Down or both, just step on their associated switches.
- Use Octron2 as a Loop Switcher (see below).

Effects loop explained

The Send and Return jacks are located after Octron2's output, but before the True Bypass Foot switch. This allows you to patch, for example, a distortion pedal or Envelope filter into Octron2. This way, when you activate Octron2 you will also have the effects that are in Octron2's loop. And when you turn Octron2 off, those effects are removed as well. This makes it easy to get crazy-sounding solos without having to do a tap-dance with effects just to back to your original sound. When you consider that Octron2 allows you to set any combination of the three signals (Oct UP, Direct, Oct Down), just think about the possibilities you have with the Effects loop. You can put your lead pedals in the loop and still use Octron2 to activate them for leads even when you don't want octave sounds. Just select Direct and leave the Oct UP and Oct Down signals off.



Technical Information:

Dimensions: Width = 5.5" Depth = 5" Height = 2.85"

Weight: 2.5 lbs. (with 9V battery)

Voltage: 9 Volts DC (via 9V battery or external power)

Note: You can run the unit at higher voltage for increased headroom. 12V, 18V, you can go as high as around 33 volts DC. Increased voltage is good when using Octron with hot signals such as active bass guitar.

Current draw: 16mA

Power connection: 2.1mm, Center = NEG (FX standard)

Audio switching: True bypass with Blue LED.