



Flats Distortion Quick Start Guide

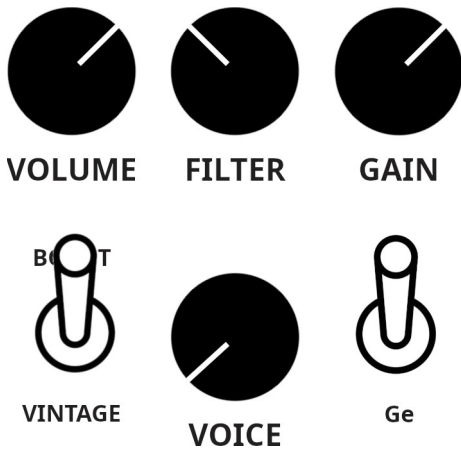
So you got yourself a Flats Distortion. Congrats! But the Flats can be a little confusing. What do all these knobs and switches do, anyway? Read on.

Some Favorite Settings

Start here and don't worry about the nerdy details for now. Just copy the controls in these pics to your pedal to check out just a few tones the Flats can deliver.

Rodent Grind

When you need to bring out your inner rat ...

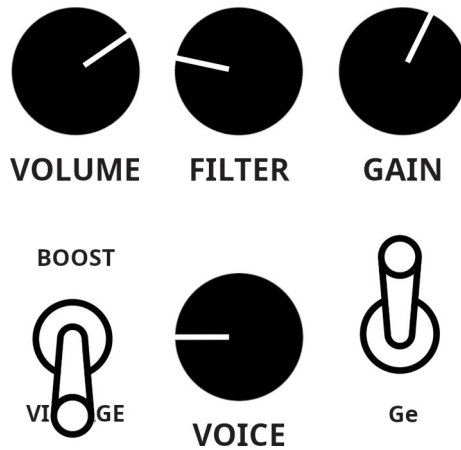


VOLUME at about 1:30 on a clock face.
FILTER at about 10:30.
GAIN at about 1:30.
VOICE at about 8:00 (not all the way down).
BOOST mode, Si mode.

Adjust all controls to taste with your guitar, amp, etc.

70s Dirt

A sweet combo of mud and honey ...

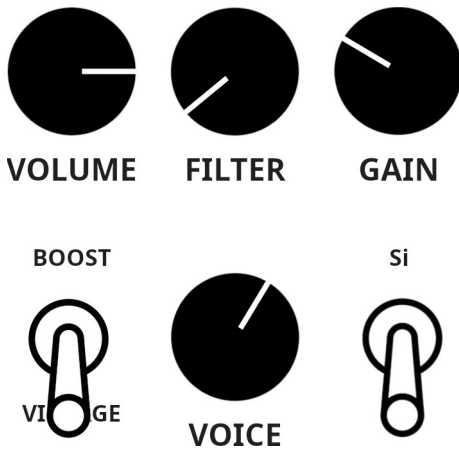


VOLUME at about 2:00 on a clock face.
FILTER at about 9:30.
GAIN at about 1:00.
VOICE at about 9:00.
VINTAGE mode, Si mode.

Adjust all controls to taste with your guitar, amp, etc.

Warm 'n Round

Big jazzy tones or for super bright guitars ...



VOLUME at about 3:00 on a clock face.
FILTER at about 8:00..
GAIN at about 10:00.
VOICE at about 1:00.
VINTAGE mode, **Ge** mode.

Adjust all controls to taste with your guitar,
amp, etc.

These are just starting points.

They've been tested on lots of rigs.



But *your* rig isn't one of them. **Experiment!**
Don't be afraid to turn the controls to
extremes; it's a great way to learn the Flats.

Nerdy Bits

Here's what all these knobs are doing under the hood, and how some of them interact with one another. The Flats can be confusing for the uninitiated. That's just because it's powerful as crap, yo.

- **VOLUME** - Turn it clockwise to make it louder. Unity gain is around 2:00 o'clock, but that varies depending on the **GAIN** and **Si / Ge** settings.
- **FILTER** - Filters out treble content as you turn it clockwise. Think of it as a "cut" control. If the tone is too bright or shrill, increase the **FILTER** to taste.
- **GAIN** - Turn it up for more distortion. The trick is that in **BOOST** mode, there is a butt load more available gain than in **VINTAGE** mode. However, on lower **GAIN** control settings, there's not a big difference between **VINTAGE** and **BOOST**. That's because the **BOOST / VINTAGE** switch *doesn't add gain*, rather, it *extends the range* of the **GAIN** control.
- **VOICE** - This is where the magic happens. Turning this knob clockwise allows more bass content, and reshapes the mid-range and treble frequencies going into the

distortion stage of the circuit. This thickens the tone and has the effect of changing the intensity and character of the distortion. To completely remove the **VOICE** control from the circuit (and bring out your inner rat), leave it fully counter-clockwise. Turning up the **VOICE** control just a hair (about 8:00-9:00) is a popular setting.

NOTE: The **VOICE** control also reduces some high frequencies from the pedal's output. As you turn up the **VOICE** control, you will likely want to compensate by turning down the **FILTER** control. It might feel at first like they do the same thing and are competing with each other (and they are similar in some ways), but the more you explore the Flats, the better you'll understand the differences.

- **BOOST / VINTAGE** - Extends the range of the **GAIN** control in **BOOST** mode. It bears repeating: the lower the **GAIN** control setting, the less difference there will be between **BOOST** and **VINTAGE**. This is normal operation. Inserting a dorky graph here would be obnoxious. Just trust us.
- **Si / Ge** - In **Si** mode, two silicon clipping diodes are engaged. In **Ge** mode, one of the silicon diodes is replaced with a NOS germanium diode. In **Ge** mode, there is less overall volume, less treble, and more of what some people call "sponginess" or "squishiness". So, with certain guitar/pickup/amp combos, if you crank the **VOICE** control (which darkens and thickens the tone) while in **Ge** mode, there might not be much treble left in the circuit even with the **FILTER** control all the way down. Some players dig that (looking at you Jazzheads).

Have fun and be safe!