

# **Pixel Drive**

Most excellent full range Marshall amp-style oomph



## Important notes

# If you're using any of our footswitch daughterboards, DOWNLOAD THE DAUGHTERBOARD DOCUMENT

- Download and read the appropriate build document for the daughterboard as well as this one BEFORE you start.
- DO NOT solder the supplied Current Limiting Resistor (CLR) to the main circuit board even if there is a place for it. This should be soldered to the footswitch daughterboard.

#### **POWER SUPPLY**

Unless otherwise stated in this document this circuit is designed to be powered with 9V DC.

### **COMPONENT SPECS**

Unless otherwise stated in this document:

- Resistors should be 0.25W. You can use those with higher ratings but check the physical size of them.
- Electrolytics caps should be at least 25V for 9V circuits, 35V for 18V circuits. Again, check physical size if using higher ratings.

### **LAYOUT CONVENTIONS**

Unless otherwise stated in this document, the following are used:

### • Electrolytic capacitors:

Long leg (anode) to square pad.

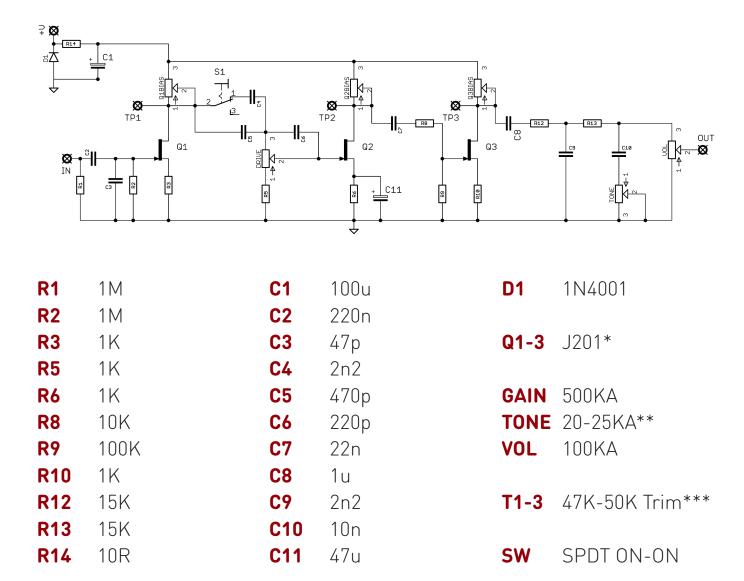
#### • Diodes/LEDs:

Striped leg (cathode) to square pad. Short leg to square pad for LEDs.

#### • ICs:

Square pad indicates pin 1.

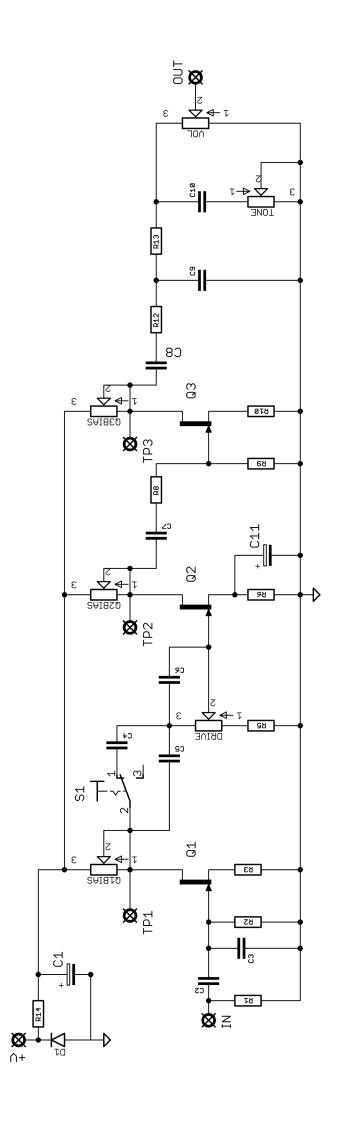
## Schematic + BOM

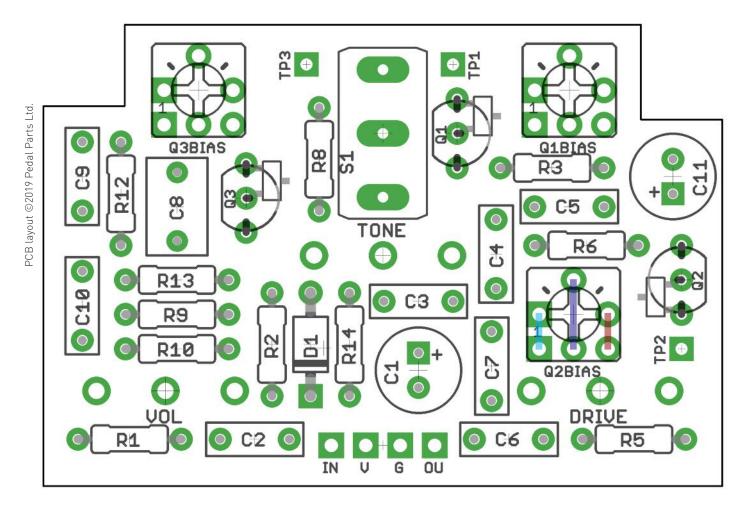


<sup>\*</sup> You could try other FETs with a similar spec, but the original uses J201. The PCB has been designed to take through hole or SMT. If you're going for SMT you're looking for MMBFJ201.

<sup>\*\*25</sup>KA can be hard to get hold of. 20KA will give you most of the useable sweep of the tone control.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> You'll likely only need 22K trims, but better to use bigger than necessary in case your J201 is way off the biasing mark.





The power and signal pads on the PCB conform to the FuzzDog Direct Connection format, so can be paired with the appropriate daughterboard for quick and easy offboard wiring. Check the separate daughterboard document for details.

Be very careful when soldering the transistors and diodes. They're very sensitive to heat. Keep exposure to heat to a minimum (under 2 seconds) and leave a few seconds between soldering each leg.

Snap the small metal tag off the pots so they can be mounted flush in the box.

You should solder all other board-mounted components before you solder the pots. Once they're in place you'll have no access to much of the board. Make sure your pots all line up nicely.

The best way to do that is to solder a single pin of each pot in place then melt and adjust if necessary before soldering in the other two pins. Same for the toggle switch. If your pots don't have protective plastic jackets ensure you leave a decent gap between the pot body and the PCB otherwise you risk shorting out the circuit.

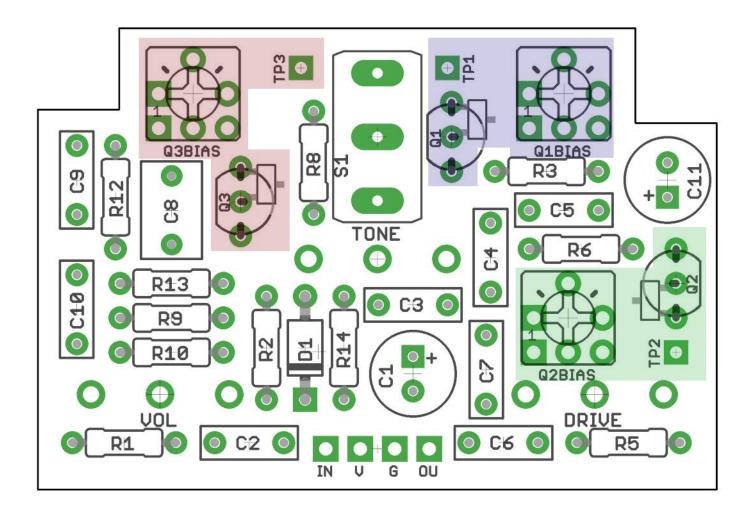
There are extra pads on trimmers to allow different package formats to be used. Pads are connected via PCB traces as shown above, so just fit your trimmer into whichever holes it fits naturally into. As long as you have one pin each in the left, centre and right sections. No jumpers are required.



### **BIASING**

Once built, wire it up as per the test wiring on the next page, then adjust the trimmers to bias the FETs. T1 adjusts Q1, T2 adjusts Q2. Guess what T3 adjusts?...

Set your multimeter (you do have one, right?) to DC Voltage, small range around 20V. Black lead attaches to any GND point, red lead on the Test Point (TP1, 2 and 3) of each FET. Adjust the appropriate trimmer until you get a reading of around 4.5V.



## Test the board!

# Check the relevant daughterboard document for more info before you undertake this stage.

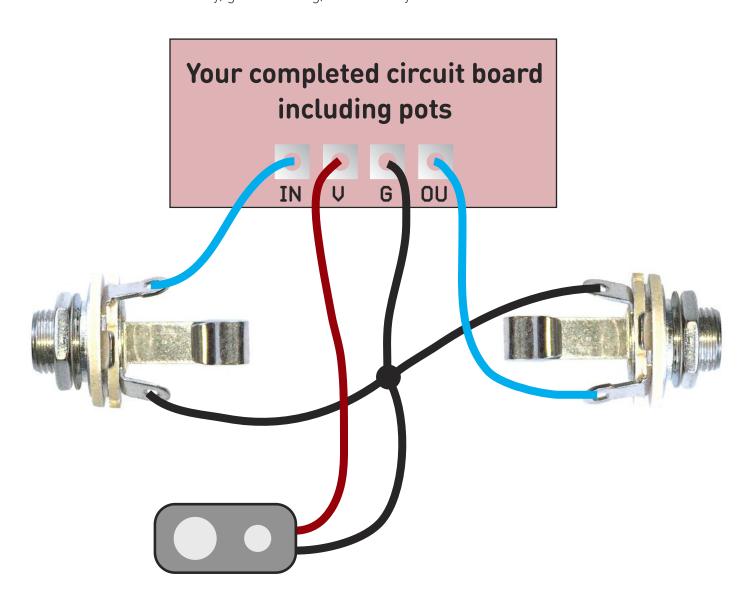
# UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES will troubleshooting help be offered if you have skipped this stage. No exceptions.

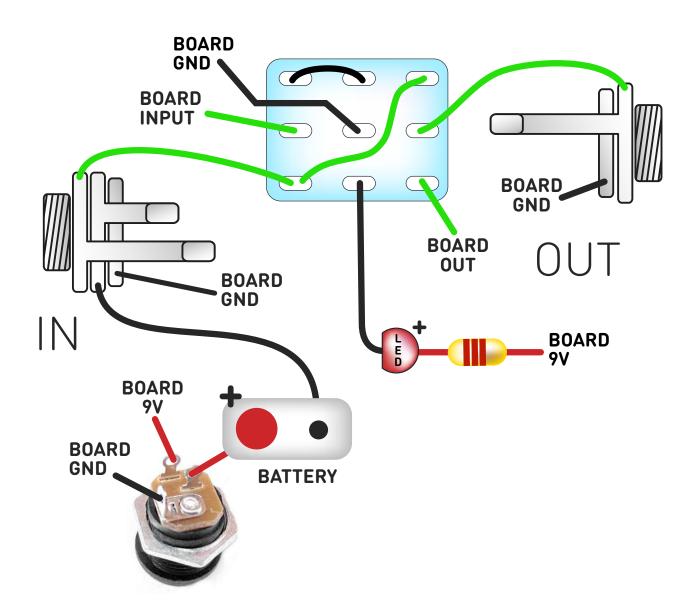
Once you've finished the circuit it makes sense to test is before starting on the switch and LED wiring. It'll cut down troubleshooting time in the long run. If the circuit works at this stage, but it doesn't once you wire up the switch - guess what? You've probably made a mistake with the switch.

Solder some nice, long lengths of wire to the board connections for 9V, GND, IN and OUT. Connect IN and OUT to the jacks as shown. Connect all the GNDs together (twist them up and add a small amount of solder to tack it). Connect the battery + lead to the 9V wire, same method. Plug in. Go!

If you're using a ribbon cable you can tack the wires to the ends of that. It's a lot easier to take them off there than it is do desolder wires from the PCB pads.

If it works, carry on and do your switch wiring. If not... aw man. At least you know the problem is with the circuit. Find out why, get it working, THEN worry about the switch etc.





Wiring shown above will disconnect the battery when you remove the jack plug from the input, and also when a DC plug is inserted.

The Board GND connections don't all have to directly attach to the board. You can run a couple of wires from the DC connector, one to the board, another to the IN jack, then daisy chain that over to the OUT jack.

It doesn't matter how they all connect, as long as they do.

This circuit is standard, Negative GND. Your power supply should be Tip Negative / Sleeve Positive. That's the same as your standard pedals (Boss etc), and you can safely daisy-chain your supply to this pedal.

## **Drilling template**

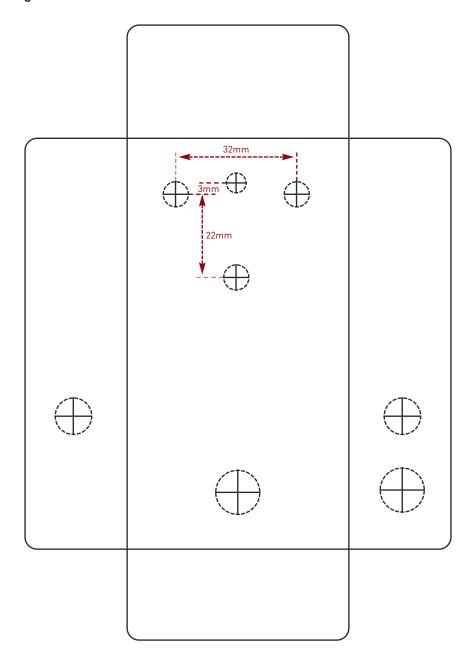
Hammond 1590B

60 x 111 x 31mm

Recommended drill sizes:

Pots 7mm
Jacks 10mm
Footswitch 12mm
DC Socket 12mm
Toggle switches 6mm

It's a good idea to drill the pot and toggle switch holes 1mm bigger if you're board-mounting them.
Wiggle room = good!



This template is a rough guide only. You should ensure correct marking of your enclosure before drilling. You use this template at your own risk.

Pedal Parts Ltd can accept no responsibility for incorrect drilling of enclosures.

FuzzDog.co.uk