

BARGE CONCEPTS

~ Tools for the Discerning Musician ~

Thank you for purchasing a Barge Concepts VFB-2 Variable Feedback and Blend Loop! We strive to build the best stompboxes possible - versatile, innovative tools, built from high quality components, all offered at an affordable price. This manual is intended to serve as a basic setup and usage guide for your VFB-2. If you have any additional questions or concerns, please let us know. We hope you enjoy your pedal and thank you for supporting Barge Concepts!

Visit us on the web at www.bargeconcepts.com.



VFB-2 Hardware and Controls:

JACKS:

INPUT- 1/4" Switchcraft Jack. Receives the signal from the output of your instrument or the output of any effects you are running before the VFB-2.

SEND - 1/4" Switchcraft Jack. Sends the input (and FEEDBACK, when active - See the FAQ) signal to the effect(s) in the loop.

RECEIVE - 1/4" Switchcraft jack. Input from the output of effect(s) used in the loop. (See the FAQ)

OUTPUT - 1/4" Switchcraft jack. Feeds the output of your VFB-2 to your amplifier or any effects you are running after the pedal.

POWER - 2.1mm DC power jack, negative center pin. Supply voltages with operating range of 9-18V are supported.

SWITCHES & LEDs:

BYPASS - Inserts or removes the VFB-2 and the contents of the effects loop from your signal path. When bypassed, the VFB-2 circuitry and the contents of the loop are completely removed from the signal path (true bypass). When the LED is green, the VFB-2 is in your signal path. When the LED is red, the VFB is true bypassed.

FEEDBACK - Activates the feedback loop of the VFB-2 (see FAQ). When the LED is Blue, the feedback loop is active. The Red LED color indicates that the feedback loop is inactive, and the VFB is operating as an effects loop.

ROTARY CONTROLS:

CLEAN BLEND - Determines the ratio the INPUT and RECEIVE signal that are then sent to the OUTPUT. Turn the Clean Blend control counter-clockwise to have more of your INPUT signal sent to the OUTPUT; turn the Clean Blend clockwise to have more of the RECEIVE signal sent to the OUTPUT.

FEEDBACK BLEND - Determines the amount of the RECEIVED signal that is fed back to the SEND when the Feedback loop is active. Turn the Feedback Blend clockwise to increase the amount of signal being fed back through the loop.

FAQs

Q. What's a feedback loop? What is the difference between a feedback loop and an effects loop?

A. A feedback loop is just what the name implies - loop that is created by feeding a signal back into itself. If you've ever stuck your guitar or microphone too close to your speaker cabinet and heard that squeal - you've made a feedback loop. In that example, the output of your speaker is feeding back into the input of your mic or instrument pickups. The feedback loop of the VFB-2 works on a similar principal - the output of the VFB's effects loop (the RECEIVE) is fed back into the input of the loop (SEND). Instead of the acoustic squeal of an instrument and an amp, the textures of feedback possible from the VFB are only limited to your imagination and the effects used in the loop. PLEASE NOTE - Feedback and oscillation can get VERY loud, depending on the effect(s) you are using and the settings on your effect(s) and the VFB. When first experimenting we recommend either placing a volume pedal after the VFB, or starting with the volume on your amp turn low.

Q. Where should the VFB go in my chain? A. There isn't a wrong answer to this question - place the VFB-2 in your signal path, paired with the effect(s) your choice, where it sounds and works best for you. The routing and blending options of the offers lots of choices of how to integrate it with your current rig. The VFB can be used to add true bypass switching to any stompbox or rack mount effect, or to add footswitch to an amp with a switchless effects loop. Use your favorite distortion or preamp in the loop to approximate a 'clean/dirty' amp setup when paired with the Clean Blend control. Set your digital delay for 100% wet, and use the Clean Blend to blend back your analog signal. Use the Feedback loop with your fuzz to get synth-y square waves, or pair it with your favorite delay or modulation to create new oscillating textures. These are only starting points - pair the VFB with your

favorite effects and let us know what sounds best to you!

Q. I love the VFB-2 but I need.... **A.** The VFB-2 has become a popular platform for custom modifications. We continue to offer reasonably priced custom versions of the VFB-2. Popular mods include the addition of Master Volume controls, variable impedance controls for the signal buffers, removal of the feedback loop, foot-switchable blend controls, multiple loops, etc. If you're interested in discussing a custom build, drop us a line at info@bargeconcepts.com

Q. Is there a warranty? What about a return policy? **A.** All Barge Concepts products come with a 7 day return policy and a lifetime, transferable warranty. If your Barge Concepts pedal isn't right for you, for any reason, let us know within 7 days - return it to us in its original condition and we'll refund your purchase price. Also, all of our products are backed by a lifetime transferable warranty. If, in the course of normal operating conditions, your Barge Concepts pedal fails, we will repair or replace the unit - even if you're not the original owner!

We hope you enjoy your Barge Concepts product. If you have any questions, please drop us an email at info@bargeconcepts.com. Also, be sure to sign up for our mailing list to be kept up-to-date on new product news and special offers - mailinglist@bargeconcepts.com. Thank you for supporting Barge Concepts!

~ The Barge Crew ~