

WAHZOO®

Owner's Manual

Version 2.0

Please visit our web site at:

www.voodoo lab.com

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INTRODUCTION

Combining the finest classic wah tones, a funk-approved Autowah, and our unique programmable Stepwah, Wahzoo isn't just another wah pedal.

Features:

Vintage

- Classic Clyde McCoy vocal tone
- Adjustable treadle toe position

Autowah

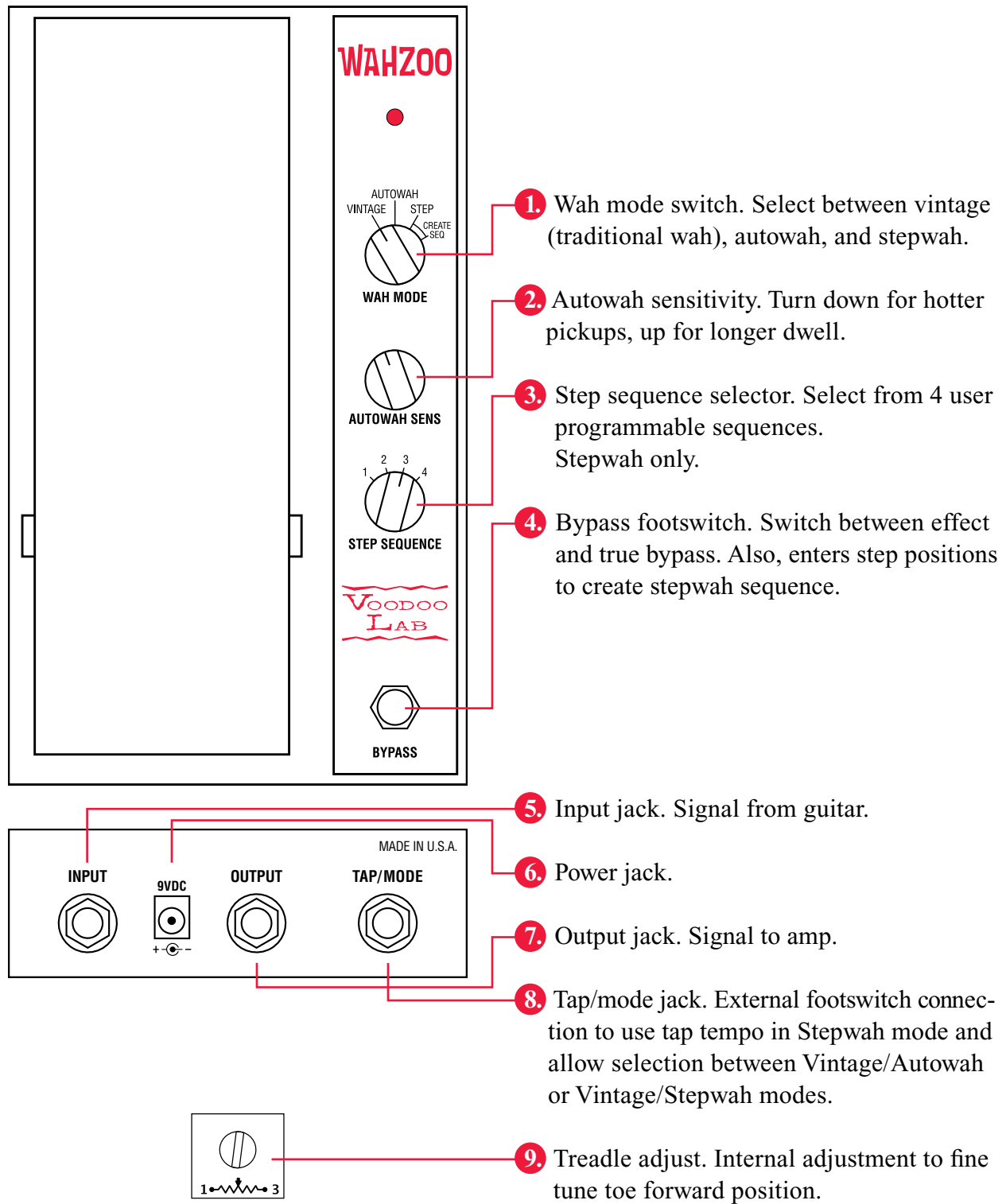
- Voiced like a traditional wah
- Normal and reverse envelope
- Fast, responsive tracking

Stepwah™

- Steps through patterns of up to 28 wah positions
- Stores 4 user programmable sequences
- Treadle sets a wide range of tempos
- External tap tempo, plus treadle sets quarter, eighth or triplets
- True bypass switching via gold relay sealed in nitrogen
- 1,000,000 cycle rated switch (that's 40X longer than a Carling switch!)
- Designed and manufactured by really cool guys that are fun to hang with
- TIG welded steel chassis
- Handcrafted in California

Throughout this manual, you'll see TIP sections that explain some cool ways to get the most out of Wahzoo. Go to www.voodoolab.com to see instructional video demos, plus much more!

Controls and Connections



POWER

Wahzoo is powered by a standard 9V battery. Since power is on when you are plugged into the input jack, remember to remove the plug when not in use to conserve battery life. To replace the battery, remove the bottom cover by unscrewing the 4 rubber feet. We do not recommend using carbon batteries.

Wahzoo can also be powered from an external power supply. Using a high quality, isolated power supply is preferred and will provide the best performance and most consistent tone. Wahzoo requires 9VDC regulated and will draw less than 30mA. The power jack is a standard 5.5x2.1mm barrel with center negative polarity.

VINTAGE

With the Wah Mode knob set to Vintage, Wahzoo delivers all the clarity and expressiveness of the classic, highly sought after Clyde McCoy signature wah. You'll immediately notice the throw, taper, and feel to be inherently vocal and musical.

***NOTE:** In Vintage mode, the Autowah Sens and Step Sequence knobs have no effect on the wah.*

Treadle Adjust

Wahzoo is calibrated at the factory to give you the same treadle range as a great vintage wah. However, you can adjust to your personal taste how high the treble (toe forward) position is. Remove the bottom cover of Wahzoo, and you will find an internal trimpot. Place the treadle fully toe forward, and then adjust to your liking with a small flat blade screwdriver. Move the trimpot clockwise for a brighter, edgier tone, and counter-clockwise for a warmer tone. Normal setting is exactly in the middle.

***NOTE:** The internal trimpot adjusts the bright (toe forward) position only.*

AUTOWAH

When you select Autowah from the Wah Mode switch, you get the classic envelope-based effect. But, rather than using a generic bandpass filter, it utilizes the vintage Clyde McCoy voicing. Unlike typical autowah pedals, Wahzoo literally turns into an automatic, dynamically controlled vintage wah!

Autowah Sensitivity

Since the filter is triggered by how hard or soft you hit the strings, and the general output of your guitar's pickups, it's important to find the "sweet spot" on the Autowah Sens knob. If you use single-coil pickups, you can move the control clockwise until you find a spot that delivers the "quack" you're looking for. As you move the knob counter-clockwise, you can play harder and/or use higher-output humbucker pickups before triggering the filter.

Normal and Reverse Envelope

With the treadle in the "heel back" position, the autowah filter is normally closed. The amount the filter opens, and the time before it closes is dependent on how hard you hit the strings. In this setting, it's possible to re-create classic wah sounds like "Voodoo Child (slight return)" all based on your dynamics!

In the "toe forward" position, the autowah filter is now in "reverse" and normally open. Now, you start with a full-up wah sound, and the filter closes by playing harder. You can also experiment with changing the envelope on the treadle as you play.

***TIP:** Try doing your chord rhythms in the "heel back" position and your single-note lines in "toe forward" position. You can also achieve an almost rhythmic envelope effect by rocking the treadle back and forth in tempo.*

STEPWAH™

When you select Stepwah, Wahzoo will automatically jump through different wah treadle positions as a rhythmic pattern. You can store up to 4 custom sequences of your own creation. Just like Vintage and Autowah, Stepwah also utilizes the classic Clyde McCoy wah sound.

Wahzoo includes 4 preset patterns for Stepwah. Use the Step Sequence knob to select the sequence you want. Once you get a feel for it, replace the presets with your own patterns. Experiment and enjoy, this is really fun! Don't worry, you can always restore the original presets if you want.

Creating/Storing Sequences

Select which of the 4 presets you'd like to create with the Step Sequence knob. Then turn the Wah Mode knob to Create Seq. Now you can move the treadle to each position you want and hit the Bypass footswitch to save it. By repeating this process, you can make a sequence of any length up to 28 steps. Once you're done creating your sequence, just move the Wah Mode knob back to Step and it's automatically saved.

***TIP:** You don't have to change the treadle position to input another step in the sequence. By repeating positions a few times while entering your sequence, the resulting sound can give you certain phrases that hold the filter and then start cycling again creating rhythmic patterns!*

Controlling Step Tempo

As you move the treadle in Step mode, it controls the tempo of your step sequence from slow (heel back), to ultra-fast (toe forward). This setup is great for creating fast-moving, random textures. If you need to sync to a specific tempo live or in the studio, we suggest using tap tempo.

Tap Tempo

When you plug a standard momentary footswitch into the Tap/Mode jack, Wahzoo automatically switches to tap tempo control. Now you have the ability to input specific tempos on the fly via the external footswitch. In this mode, the treadle now acts as a multiplier allowing you to double, or triple the tempo you enter. Leaving the treadle in "heel back" position will result in the exact tempo you tap in. Wahzoo's LED will flash the tempo as a visual reference, and the tempo is automatically saved upon bypassing. A separate tempo is saved for each of the 4 sequences.

***TIP:** Like most time-based effects, Wahzoo can determine a tempo with 2 footswitch hits. However, if you continue to tap, Wahzoo will average your hits and more accurately lock to your tempo. Tapping 8 or more hits gives you the best accuracy.*

***NOTE:** If you plug in a tap tempo footswitch while Wahzoo is already running in Stepwah, you need to go to bypass once before tap tempo is in effect.*

Tempo Realign

With Wahzoo in tap tempo mode, you also have the ability to "realign" the current tempo by hitting the tap tempo footswitch one time. When you hit the footswitch, Stepwah shifts the time to be on the beat. This is great if you already have the tempo you need, but want to sync it back up to a new starting point. While it's almost impossible to get a perfect lock to a live drummer, or a loose drum loop, this feature makes it easier to re-lock to a groove without having to input a new tempo.

Restoring the Factory Step Sequence Presets

- 1 - Switch Wah Mode knob to Create Seq
- 2 - Turn the power off by unplugging the cable from the input jack.
- 3 - Power up the unit while holding down the Bypass footswitch.
- 4 - Keep holding down Bypass until the LED starts flashing.
- 5 - Remove power from the unit again.

Now the factory presets are restored.

EXTERNAL FOOTSWITCH

On the rear panel of Wahzoo, you'll find a jack labeled Tap/Mode. Connecting a footswitch will allow you to access the tap tempo and mode switching features in Wahzoo.

Controlling Tap Tempo

To access the tap tempo feature in Wahzoo, you can use any momentary, normally open, non-latching footswitch with a mono cable, such as the Boss FS-5U. Note that some common keyboard sustain pedals are normally closed (reverse polarity) and will not work without modification.

Mode Switching

Using an external, latching footswitch connected to the "ring" of a TRS plug, you can switch modes without having to reach down to the Wah Mode knob. With either Autowah or Stepwah modes selected, hitting this footswitch will toggle between the selected mode and Vintage (traditional wah).

NOTE: *If the Wah Mode knob is already set to Vintage, then this function is disabled.*

TIP: *If you are only using mode switching, connect "tip" to "sleeve" (ground) to disable tap tempo.*

Footswitch Selection

To access both tap tempo and mode switching features, you'll need a TRS cable, and a dual footswitch capable of both momentary and latch type switching. The Boss FS-6 Dual Footswitch is one example. Use "tip" for tap tempo and "ring" for mode. Of course you can construct your own, or contact Voodoo Lab for the latest available options.

FAQ

Is Wahzoo “true bypass”?

Yes. The switching is done via a gold relay sealed in nitrogen.

Is Wahzoo analog?

Yes. The entire audio path is completely analog.

What are the dimensions?

L 9.5" (241mm) x W 5.0" (127mm)

What kind of external power jack does it have?

Wahzoo needs 9VDC regulated to a center negative 5.5 x 2.1mm barrel connector.

Warranty

Voodoo Lab warrants this product against any defects that are due to faulty material or workmanship for a period of five years from the date of original retail purchase. This warranty does not include damage to the product resulting from accident or misuse. This warranty is given to the original purchaser only and it is not assignable to any other person.

If the product should become defective within the warranty period, Voodoo Lab will repair it or replace it free of charge, provided it is returned freight prepaid to Voodoo Lab with a valid RMA (return material authorization) number. Return shipping will be paid by Voodoo Lab within the U.S. only.

This warranty shall not apply to any goods that have been repaired or altered by anyone other than the manufacturer. There are no warranties which extend beyond the terms described herein.

Should you experience any difficulty with this Voodoo Lab product, contact us as described below. If it is determined that the product must be returned to the factory for repair, you will be issued an RMA and given shipping and packaging instructions.

How to Reach Us

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