Male XLR Output - The XLR chassis plug provided will mate with any standard microphone cable wired for 'balanced' signals. The signal available is an un-balanced signal, but is equal in quality to that of a balanced line. It is identical to that appearing on the JACK output, tip connection - so there is no difference or benefit to using one output over the other, except that of convenience.

XLR Output Pin Connections - The signal appearing in PIN 2 is IN PHASE with the signal appearing on the TIP contact of the JACK output.

PIN 1 - Ground
PIN 2 - Hot/Signal
PIN 3 - Ground

Note to our American customers:
The JD10 you have just bought is an updated version of the JD10 formerly available under the MORLEY brand. The differences are: New distortion circuitry, a balanced volume level between Classic & Rock gain settings, silent FET switching, a male XLR output connector and new artwork to the facia.

Stewart Ward
AP10/GG10/JD10 Designer.

This manual applies only to: JD10 MK2.3 - PCB Issue: 07011H - 18/11/2004 or later.
Applications

Use In The Studio - The JD10 is a unique low noise pre-amp for playing guitar direct to tape, PA, Hi Fi, mixers and guitar amps. It is able to replicate the sounds of typical high quality tube amplifiers and produce sounds from the earliest Rock and Roll tones right up to modern day Grunge Metal... making it ideal for all demo and project recording work. JD10's highly accurate G12T Speaker Simulation means there is no need to spend hours mic'ing up. And in home studios, you can capture the sound of a fully cranked guitar amp...without waking up the neighbours! Further, with G12T selected and the preamp set up with a clean, neutral tone (flat EQ - see back page), you can even use it to record from the 'PreAmp Out' socket of your guitar amp. Or DI your amp into the bands PA system. But remember to keep the DRIVE control (CLASSIC mode) set very low.

Live Use On Stage - Give your amp the sound it should have had to begin with! Plug it into the input of your guitar amp and use it as an amp sound expander for live performances. Just hit the BYPASS footswitch when you want to go back to your regular amp tone. When in BYPASS mode, the JD10 does not corrupt your straight sound... but it does beef up the signal enabling it to drive guitar cabs and multiway snakes over 100 yards/meters long. So even when not active as an effect, JD10 can still improve your tone.

Humbucker Emulation - Don't build a mid booster into your valuable instrument. Use the JD10 between your single coil pickup and amp in the normal way, but be able to footswitch between the two tones. Set up a pleasing clean sound and then switch in the G12T Speaker Simulation which removes the thin edgy high tones and adds extra bite at around 3kHz. Simply use the BYPASS footswitch to alternate between the two tones. A little overdrive gives the humbucker sound 'growl'. Add deep overdrive for silky smooth mellow sustain and searing solos that cut through the band to make you really stand out.

About This Latest JD10 Version 2.3

Great at on-the-edge blues to full-on scooped metal, the JD10 2.3 pedal is a re-created version of the famous direct recording preamp/pedal first introduced in 1995, but has been specially enhanced for LIVE use into a typical guitar amplifier.

Named after Jerry Donahue of the Hellecasters, these pedals are truly pro sounding machines. 110% class in a small package!

The distortion character has grunt and is fizz free just like a low powered class A or AB1 boutique combo. The blues tone? Think Eric Clapton 'Me And Mr Johnson' or 'From The Cradle'!! But it's no slouch either. In high gain modes it can provide that classy big 4x12" tone too!

Just plug JD10 into the input of your guitar amp, like any ordinary stomp box. It works just like a high class preamp from many upmarket amps. All the controls operate exceptionally smoothly and have greater than average range, from jangly cut to full throated bass drive.

The footswitchable TruTone bypass circuit prevents tone losses when in by pass mode. It will even drive a cable up to 100 metres long without tone loss! It stops those cheap chorus, flanger and delay pedal from squashing your guitars tone when they are ALL set in their bypass mode. Thanks TruTone!

These fab pedals are British Made and have many never seen before features. The 'two-tone' black cases are made from special 'sand' grain and black powder coated 16swg steel, making them exceptionally rugged and able to withstand the hard life they might get on the road.

AC Adaptor Operation - JD10 runs on a regulated adaptor giving a POSITIVE output of 9 DC. JD10 is equipped with circuitry that senses the incoming voltages and AUTOMATICALLY adjusts itself internally to the correct polarity. NO HARM CAN BE DONE BY USE OF INCORRECT AC ADAPTORS, providing the above guidelines are adhered to.

Battery Operation - JD10 will run on a 9 volt Alkaline battery when an AC adaptor is not convenient. Remove the four outside screws holding the base to the top. The battery connectors will be found inside.

Front Panel Facilities

1. DRIVE DEPTH - sets amount of distortion.
2. CLASSIC/ROCK - overdrive voicing selector.
3. G12T SPEAKER SIMULATION - to activate speaker simulation.
4. TREBLE - to boost frequencies above 1kHz.
5. MIDDLE - to boost frequencies centred at 250kHz.
6. BASS - to boost frequencies below 100kHz.
7. OUTPUT LEVEL - to set output volume or match signal to amp.
8. BYPASS - footswitch for use during live performance to access your amp's original sounds.

Rear Panel Facilities

1. OUTPUT-Lo-Z to drive long cables without tone/volume loss.
2. POWER CONNECTOR - To connect an AC Adaptor.
3. XLR OUTPUT - to connect to desk/board via a mic cable.
4. TUNER OUTPUT - Full time, buffered signal to drive a tuner.
5. INPUT - Mega-Z circuitry to eliminate pickup loading.

Unique Features

FlexiDrive™ Distortion - With the 'CLASSIC' distortion option selected, FlexiDrive™ eliminates sudden changes between clean and overdrive. It's kind of touch sensitive and stretches out the transition, ideal for blues, country rock and 'grungy' rhythm styles. Heavier rock through to mega overdrive, Metal Thrash styles are easily achieved by selecting the 'ROCK' distortion voicing option.

G12T™ Speaker Simulation - We have invested a great deal in developing the G12T Speaker Simulation circuit. It imitates the characteristic tone of a guitar speaker, thereby, allowing extremely accurate 'real guitar amp' sounds to be recorded or played through a PA system, without the need to mic' up an amp in the usual way.

Some of the more obvious benefits of going direct include: recording in the early hours of the morning without disturbing the family or neighbours, no TV's in the background, no spill from other instruments, no feedback, consistently repeatable results, practising through the Hi Fi, less cost than a mic'.

Super-7™ Classic EQ - At the heart of just about all vintage 'tweed' tube guitar amps is a three band EQ circuit known as a 'bridged tee network'. You know, the Bass, Middle and Treble controls. That circuit is still at the heart of most modern amps too...clearly because it works well and sounds right! We've used this circuit inside the JD10 as well, but slightly modified to give much more MID boost... and importantly, without affecting the tone quality of this classic circuitry which gives guitars the tone we all instantly recognize.
Setting The EQ Controls To Match By-Pass Tone

It is not possible to set the EQ controls for a perfectly flat tone response. So below, we have given you a setting which most closely matches the tone of the BY-PASS signal when the pedal is set up for a clean tone in the ACTIVE setting. However, it is normal for the tone to appear to lose treble as distortion is progressively introduced. This is true of ANY distortion pedal or amplifier and is due to high frequency harmonics in the signal being lost in the distortion process. However, you can adjust the EQ controls to compensate for this.

The setting above is only a guide to start from, so do experiment with tones. But remember the golden rule... There are NO correct settings - if it sounds good to you, then that's all that matters. However, the settings will vary wildly from one instrument to another, due to the many types of pickups around these days. So we can't sensibly be asked to give you that much guidance as to settings for particular sounds.

Choosing An AC Adaptor For Best performance

This latest version of JD10 requires that it is run from a REGULATED AC Adaptor with a current rating of 100mA or higher, or a 9 volt battery.

You should use a REGULATED 9 volt adaptor giving a POSITIVE or NEGATIVE output voltage. The built in AUTosenS™ circuitry ensures that no harm can be done to JD10. Higher voltages up to 16 volts can be safely used too. Although JD10 will still continue to work well, it will lose its unique 'flat-topped' style of valve-like distortion sound, so a 9 volt regulated adapter is strongly recommended.

Why? JD10 MK2.3 has new distortion circuitry which relies partially on power supply 'limiting' to create its unique distortion sounds. This is just how a valve creates its distortion too, so you can imagine this is an important step in the function of the unit.

What is a ‘regulated’ power supply? REGULATED means that the output voltage of the AC Adaptor is held at a constant 9 volts regardless of the current being drawn from it by the pedal. A REGULATED supply not only ensures the best distortion sounds (in the case of JD10 2.2 onward), but also removes the chance of any 100/120 Hz hum from being heard in with the output signal going to your amplifier.

At First Switching On JD10

It will take about forty seconds for JD10 to settle down after first powering up. This is because the biasing of the circuitry needs to 'charge up' and some small pops could be heard when you operate the footswitch. This will soon disappear, but then JD10 2.3 has unique electronic circuitry unlike any other pedal... as you will hear for yourself. Anyway, you wouldn't worry if it was a valve amp would you?