



# TRIPLE DECKER

# INFORMATIONS

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**TRIPLE DECKER** is an overdrive, evolution of the famous Double Decker. Our goal is to offer the best sounds in a compact format and size. The great experience and knowledge of Guglielmo (The Guru) decide to create not a simple "re-edition" of that fantastic "Overdrive" but an improved and more complete evolution.

Today **TRIPLE DECKER** maintains the same principles of Double Decker while offering even greater performance. It is inspired to the Plexi overdriven sounds and offers: Three Channels + Boost and Mute in a compact pedal size. It's fully analog sound and is "easy to use" thanks to the internal "midi relay switcher" which allows you to recall and store some important functions. You can store on your favourite presets: 3 Channel, 3 Boost (one for each Channel) and the Mute.

**TRIPLE DECKER** can be used as a Pedal by connecting it to the amp-head input, or as "Preamp" connecting it to the final power amplifiers. You can also use it without amplifier, simply connecting the "Rec/Out" output to mixer or external recording devices.

DESIGNED AND HAND-BUILT IN ITALY

# DETAILS

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1. 3 Channels + solo in **pedal** or **preamp** mode; 3 Channels + solo in "Rec. out" mode.
2. Extreme Audio Quality: great linearity of the signal designed with a a new valve preamplifier combined with a professional hi-Z IC. The sound has excellent benefits.
3. It's equipped with midi switcher controller and may be possible to store: Ch1, Ch1+Solo; Ch2, Ch2+Solo, Ch3, Ch3+Solo; Mute.
4. **TRIPLE DECKER** has increased the gain stages on Channel 2 in order to offer distortion typical of the best tube amplifiers with surprising dynamics. The choice to use a higher number of stages was chosen not to have greater gain but to get a greater wall of sound and better headroom.

**CICOGNANI ENGINEERING** reserves the right to modify the technical characteristics and layout of the products at any time and without notice. This product is built to the rule of art and observes the technical requirements of the Directives Europee 89/366EEC.

# MIDI FUNCTIONS AND FEATURES

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There are seven midi functions that can be recalled and stored: Ch1 (or bypass), Ch2, Ch3, Solo for every channels and Mute. The functions are storable to infinite presets. The midi RX is "omimode" modality in order to simplify interfacing with other external control devices. If requested by the external device, the RX channel can be assigned the Ch1 or Ch16.

**The selection and storage procedure** is really easy: select the preset from the midi pedalboard (external device) example "Preset1" > select the Channel, Channel+Boost or mute from TRIPLE DECKER > Press Store. You can repeat the memorization on your desired presets. Any preset already stored can be re-stored simply by repeating the same procedure.

**About Midi Processor:** the midi processor is our made design and is protected in order to not receive disturbances and interference. This guarantees great reliability and eliminates the possibility of accidental preset changes. We have successfully tested DIN5p standard cables with length up to 20Mt (65ft) with excellent results.

**The button logic** was designed for demanding guitarists and follows this mode: Press the foot switch once to select the desired channel; pressing it again for activate and turn off the "Solo". This is possible on all three channels. For the Mute, in order not to activate it accidentally, a time of two seconds has been necessary (continuously pushed) and it can be activated with all three foot switch.

If TRIPLE DECKER is connected to a midi pedalboard with stored presets, it's possible to select other functions changes from TRIPLE DECKER unit, while keeping the presets in the same previously stored order.

# PEDAL OR PREAMPLIFIER

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**PEDAL:** If you choose the "PEDAL" mode, your setting is designed to use **TRIPLE DECKER** at the input of an amplifier head where the "Clean" channel must be played by the amp. In this way the Ch1 becomes Bypass. The Ch1 Volume control will be at 0db when the knob indicator indicates 12 o'clock. The Ch1/Ch2 tone control is excluded with the knob indices 12 o'clock.

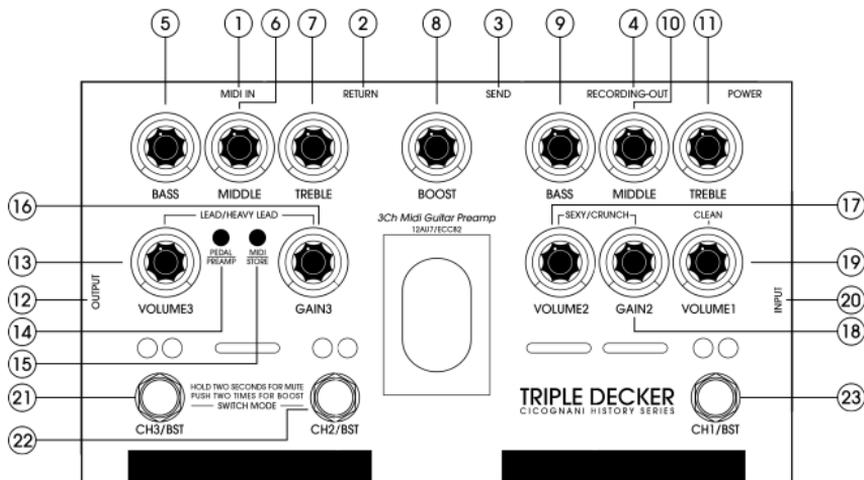
In Pedal mode, the Recording Out will automatically create the "Clean" channel in order to ensure complete and correct sounds to be sent to a recording unit, mixer or external device. Like all overdrive pedals designed to be connected to the input of an amplifier head, the output level is moderate.

**PREAMPLIFIER:** If you choose this configuration it's because you want to connect **TRIPLE DECKER** as a real preamp and so you can connect it directly to power amplifiers or on the "return" of amp heads. The Ch1 will become your Clean channel and the channel volumes will be able to drive even big final amplifiers because over 2Vpp of signal can be reached on the output.

In Preamp mode, the Recording Out will use your "Clean" channel setting in order to guarantee your custom sounds.

**ATTENTION!** If we connect the **TRIPLE DECKER** with pedal mode and press the "Preamp" button it will be normal to have a large increase in the output signal. This will certainly involve using the three channels and not 2Ch + bypass but...pay attention to the volume level of your amp.

# CONTROLS



1. **Midi In:** Midi In
2. **Return:** Return In
3. **Send:** Send out (Preamp-out)
4. **Recording Out:** Rec.Out speaker simulator
5. **Bass:** Bass tone control Ch3
6. **Middle:** Middle tone control Ch3
7. **Treble:** Treble tone control Ch3
8. **Boost:** Boost volume
9. **Bass:** Bass tone control Ch1 / Ch2
10. **Middle:** Middle tone control Ch1 / Ch2
11. **Treble:** Treble tone control Ch1 / Ch2
12. **Output:** Standard 1/4" TS jack output
13. **Volume3:** Volume Control Ch3
14. **Pedal/Preamp:** Switch modality
15. **Midi/Store:** Switch preset store
16. **Gain3:** Gain control Ch3
17. **Volume2:** Volume control Ch2
18. **Gain2:** Gain control Ch2
19. **Volume1:** Volume Control Ch1
20. **Input:** Standard 1/4" TS jack input
21. **CH3/BST:** Ch3 multifunctions switch
22. **CH2/BST:** Ch2 multifunctions switch
23. **CH1/BST:** Ch1 multifunctions switch

## ATTENTION! In PEDAL mode:

Your setting is designed to use **TRIPLE DECKER** at the input of an amplifier head where the "Clean" channel must be played by the amp. In this way the Ch1 becomes Bypass. The Ch1 Volume control will be at 0db (same input to output level) when the knob indicator indicates 12 o'clock.

# SPECIFICATIONS

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Power In	9 to 12VDC (Negative Tip)
Consumption	From 500 to Max 700mA
S/N Ratio	58db
Max Gain	99db
Boost	0 to +6db
Input Impedance	<1M Ohm
Output Impedance	<100K Ohm
Send Impedance	<100K Ohm
Return Impedance	<100K Ohm
Rec Out Impedance	<47K Ohm
Serial Loop FX	0db
Send Level	-4db
Max Return Signal	1Vpp
Max Rec Out Signal	0.6Vpp
Estimated Tube Life	Up to 3000 hours
Weight	0.7kg (1.5 lbs)
Dimensions	220 x 130 x 50mm (8.6" x 5.1" x 1.96")
Connection:	Main Power (DC 2.1mm) Input Guitar (Jack mono 6.3mm) Output to amp (Jack mono 6.3mm) Send-Return-Rec Out (Jack mono 6.3mm)
Bypass Function:	To CH1 (PEDAL mode)
Level:	0db at 12 o'clock Volume
Controls CH2:	Max Gain (70db) Volume (+10db)
Tone Stack CH1/CH2:	Treble (6500Hz +/- 10db) Middle (820Hz +/- 8db) Bass (110Hz +/- 8db)
Controls CH3: 1/2 12AU7B	Max Gain CH3 (100db) Volume (+10db)
Tone Stack CH3:	Treble (6500Hz +/- 10db) Middle (820Hz +/- 8db) Bass (110Hz +/- 8db)
Controls Boost:	Level (0/+6db) Linearity (Full Range - post FX)
Rec Out Emulator	SM57 - 4X12" V30 SPK

**CAUTION!** Make sure to check the power supply connection as per technical specifications. This pedal cannot be powered by a battery.

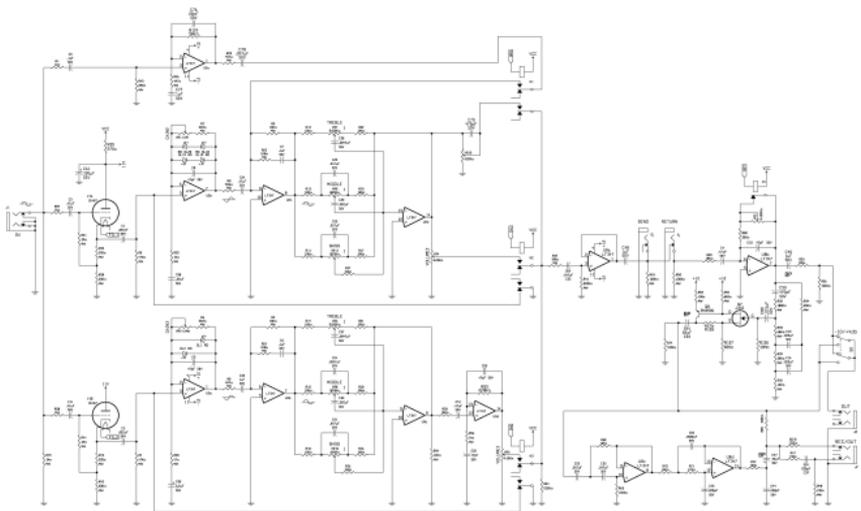
# PREAMP SCHEMATIC

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The schematic is the complete operating preamp system. As you can see, the tube is used separately in both Channel 2 and 3. In this way the signal filters are optimized on "overdrive" to the maximum performance required.

High quality integrated operational circuits (LF series) offers more headroom and incredible sound overdrive quality. The internal circuit is equipped with a double supply voltage generator in order to offer a wider signal dynamics.

The relais switching system is controlled from midi processor for not contaminate the purity sound.



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# TUBE LINEARITY

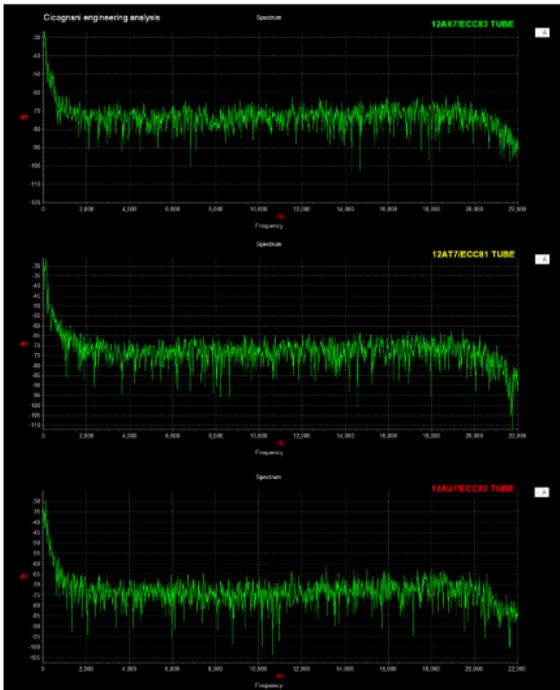
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The factory equipped tube is a 12AU7. It is however possible to replace it with double triodes of the type: 12AX7 / ECC83, 7025, 12AT7 / ECC82, 12AU7 / ECC82, 5814.

In our tests we chose 12AU7 for some reasons:

1. It offers better signal linearity.
2. Color the sound slightly allowing better work on the filters.
3. Easy availability in the world.

The 12AX7 better satisfies the sound but puts it in a very Rock direction, reducing the possibility of getting those sounds with "Little-Gain" (Edge).



# GURU ADVISES

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1. Connect the main power to 12Vdc (min 500mA). Make sure the power supply is negative tip.
2. Connect the "Output" to the amplifier "Input".
3. Connect the "Input" to the instrument.
4. Select PEDAL or PREAMPLIFIER mode.
5. As soon as you turn on the pedal you will find the green bypass or Ch1 LED active.
6. The foot buttons are of the momentary type and select: Ch1 (Bypass), Ch2, Ch3. Push two time for Boost or Hold two second for Mute.
7. The effects loop mixer "Serial" is buffered in the output and input. It's possible to use the single "Send out" as preamp out at -4db of signal.
8. The Rec. Out output integrates a line simul-balanced buffer to guarantee a purity of the signal also in combination with connection cables longer than 10Mt (32Ft).
9. One of the main features of **TRIPLE DECKER** is the "live" use without amply. You can connect the Rec.out and miraculously the pedal turns into three channels with a very clean amp channel.
10. The pedal functions can be controlled from external midi devices. See the midi guide to setting the best performance.

# WARRANTY TERMS

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The guarantee of the products is two years from the purchase data. Switches, buttons, relays are one year. The thermionic valves, indicator lights, wiring cables are guaranteed for three months.

Responsibility of **CICOGNANI ENGINEERING** is limited to repair or replacement of the product at our discretion.

**CICOGNANI ENGINEERING** not be liable for damages resulting from loss of use of the product, lost time operation interrupted by non-use, loss of business or any other damages or incidental, consequential or otherwise; damage in transit or damage caused by inadequate packaging.

**How to receive assistance:** Send an email to [sales@cicognani.eu](mailto:sales@cicognani.eu) in order to make agreements on how and where to send the product. The product must be sent together with a copy of the receipt/sales receipt. Shipping and packing costs are the responsibility of the purchaser.

**THE WARRANTY IS NOT VALID WITHOUT A COPY OF YOUR RECEIPT OF SALE CERTIFYING THE DATE OF PURCHASE.**





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