



Pocket POD[®] *Express*



Advanced Guide

An in-depth guide to the features and functionality of the Pocket POD Express.

ElectroPhonic Limited Edition

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OVERVIEW

Welcome to the Pocket POD Express Advanced Guide, a supplement to the Pilot's Handbook. In the following pages we'll take a closer look at your POD's features and functionality.

The Pocket POD Express is simple to operate, so this guide will be brief. In this chapter, we'll include tips on using the Tuner, details on the Amp Models, Effects, Inputs and Outputs, and a few words about your power options. Let's start with the Tuner.

Tuner

To enter Tuner mode, press and hold **TAP** for a few seconds, then tune up as follows:

- Tune your low E string; both LEDs will flash rapidly at the same time when the E is in tune. If only the flat [**b**] LED flashes, tune your E string up a bit; if only the sharp [**#**] LED flashes, tune it down a bit. When both LEDs flash together, you're good.
- With your low E string in tune, tune the other 5 strings by ear, using the '5th fret method'. For example, fret your low E string at the 5th fret, then tune your open A string to that note. Now fret your A string at the 5th fret, and tune your open D string to that note. Tune your other strings in pairs the same way, with the exception of the open B string, which should tune to your G string fretted at the 4th fret, instead of the 5th.



- When the other 5 strings are in good tune with the low E, fine-tune each string by observing the red LEDs. If only the flat LED lights up, tune up a bit. If only the sharp LED lights up, tune down. They'll both light up solid when you're in tune.
- With all 6 strings in tune, exit Tuner mode by briefly pressing the **TAP** button.

Amp Models

Your Pocket POD Express features 5 Amp Models taken from the Pocket POD and the legendary POD 2.0, as listed below.

As with our Smart FX controls, there are actually several pre-programmed presets within each Amp Model's sweep range. These include subtle changes to Drive, Bass, Mid, Treble and Channel Volume.

In general terms, you can think of the Amp Model Select knob as a 'less to more' control. With the knob set at the lowest point of each Amp Model's sweep, you get less of that model's characteristic sound. At the top of the sweep, you get more of it.

For example, when you turn the knob clockwise to the maximum setting for the **Metal** model, you'll get maximum overdrive for that model. Turn the knob down a bit, and you'll get a little less overdrive.



Here's a list of the Amp Models included in your Pocket POD Express:

- **Clean:** based on a 1964 Fender® Twin Reverb® (Black Panel alternate model)
- **Twang:** based on a 1964 Fender® Deluxe Reverb® (Black Panel)
- **Crunch:** based on a Vox® AC 30 Top Boost (Brit Class A)
- **Rock:** based on a Marshall® JCM 800 (Brit Hi Gain)
- **Metal:** based on a 1994 Mesa Boogie® Dual Rectifier Tremoverb (Treadplate)

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Mod FX

There are 3 Mod FX onboard the Pocket POD Express. These feature our Smart FX settings. Similar to the Amp Models' sweep knob, as described on the previous page, when you turn the Mod FX sweep knob clockwise, the intensity of each effect will increase from less to more.

For example, listen to the **Chorus** effect thru your headphones. At the minimum setting, you'll hear a slow, smooth stereo chorus. As you turn the knob up towards the maximum setting, the chorus depth increases, and the speed of the oscillation gets faster and faster.

Likewise with the **Tremolo** effect. The more you turn the knob clockwise, the faster the speed of the tremolo.

Flange responds similar to **Chorus**. The more sweep the knob clockwise, the deeper and faster the flanging sounds, but still very musical at its maximum setting.



Here's a list of the Mod FX Models included in your Pocket POD Express:

- **Chorus:** based on Chorus 1 in POD 2.0, modulated by a square wave
- **Tremolo:** based on the classic Fender® tremolo effect
- **Flange:** based on Flanger 1 in POD 2.0, a light flange with no pre-delay

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Delay & Reverb

In the lower right of your Pocket POD Express you'll find 3 more Smart FX Models: a digital delay and 2 different flavors of reverb. For the **Delay** model, you can set the delay time using the TAP button. Simply press it twice to set the desired delay time.

As with the Mod FX, when you sweep the Selector knob clockwise, each effect increases in intensity from less to more.

Starting with the **Delay**, at its minimum setting the delay sound will be fairly quiet as compared to your dry guitar signal. If you're wearing headphones, you'll notice the delayed guitar sound is in wide stereo, with your dry guitar in the middle. As you turn up the sweep knob, the delayed guitar gets louder and louder, with the repeats increasing moderately.

The **Spring** model is similar to a guitar amp's mono spring reverb, while the **Hall** model is in wide stereo. As you turn the sweep knob clockwise, the wet reverb level will increase.

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Here's a list of the 3 Delay and Reverb Models included with your Pocket POD Express:

- **Delay:** a stereo Digital Delay model from POD 2.0
- **Spring:** based on a Fender® style Spring Reverb model from POD 2.0
- **Hall:** a POD 2.0 Hall Reverb model in stereo

Inputs & Outputs

As illustrated in the Pilot's Handbook, the Pocket POD Express has 2 Inputs and 2 Outputs, plus of course the power jack for plugging in the optional DC-1 Power Supply.

In addition to your 1/4-inch guitar input, you have a CD/MP3 1/8-inch input. This enables you to play back a CD, for example, and jam along with it on your guitar. The CD/MP3 will play 'straight thru', meaning it will not be processed by the Amp Models or FX.

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Your outputs include a 1/4-inch mono output to your guitar amplifier, and a 1/8-inch stereo headphone output for headphone jamming. Both outputs are controlled by the POD's Volume knob. Headphones are recommended for full stereo sound, but the Pocket POD Express sounds great feeding the input of a guitar amplifier as well.

You can also use the headphones output to send your Pocket POD Express stereo audio to a computer or dedicated recording device for recording.

Power Options

You can use 4 AAA batteries or an optional Line 6 DC-1 Power Supply to power your Pocket POD Express. When batteries are low, the red LEDs will flash on and off. Consult your Pilot's Guide for an illustration of battery position (+ and -) when you install them.

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- Always unplug your guitar when not in use; when the 1/4" guitar cable is plugged in, it will drain the batteries, even if the Pocket POD Express is turned off.
- You can expect approximately 6 hours of playing time when using batteries.

APPENDIX : FAQ

The following are a few questions and answers about Pocket POD Express that you might find useful:

Amp Bypass

Q: The Amp Models sound great for electric guitar, but sometimes I like to plug my acoustic/electric into the Pocket POD Express and use the Chorus and Reverb. The problem is, even if I use the Clean Amp Model, when I turn it up to get some good level it overdrives my acoustic sound a bit too much. How can I get a cleaner sound?

A: If you turn the Amp Model Select knob to OFF, it will essentially set your sound to Amp Bypass, which is a clean, direct signal. You can then turn up the main Volume knob to get a good level, and use the Chorus and Reverb at the same time.

Tuner LEDs Flashing / Not Flashing

Q: I noticed that when I'm tuning my guitar the LEDs flash on and off quickly when I tune some strings, but on others they stay on and don't flash at all. Do they indicate I'm on the wrong string or out of tune?

A: The LEDs will flash on and off in Tuner mode when you're tuning your E string only. This is intentional, to indicate the E string is a 'special case', in the sense that the Tuner is programmed to be much more sensitive to the E string. That's why we recommend you tune your E string first, and tune your other strings in reference to it.

Amp Models Not Lining Up Properly With Silkscreen

Q: On my Pocket POD Express, when I'm using the Twang model and I sweep the Amp knob, before I get to the Twang's maximum setting the Crunch model kicks in. I'm worried that I'm missing some of the Twang model's sounds. Is my unit broken?

A: No. What's happening is the Amp Model Select knob is slightly out of alignment with the silkscreen on your unit. This is due to a small amount of variation inherent in the knobs, but it's a minor alignment problem and nothing to worry about. You still get all of the sounds we created for Pocket POD Express.

Amp Model Quality For Recording

Q: I heard the Pocket POD Express is based on the POD 2.0, which I know was used on quite a few professional recordings over the years. Can my inexpensive Pocket POD Express give me the same quality of sound as the POD 2.0 or POD X3 for recording?

A: In general terms, yes. The Pocket POD Express Amp Models and FX are derived directly from the POD 2.0 and Pocket POD Amp Models. They should sound very similar. Of course when you move up to the POD X3, for example, you have more expensive hardware built in so you will get higher quality when recording. However, the sound of the Amp Models, when set to a good input level at your recording device, should give you excellent results.

Getting A Good Volume Balance With My MP3 Player

Q: I have a small MP3 player and when I set my guitar volume to a comfortable level on headphones, my MP3 player isn't loud enough. When I turn down my Amp Model volume to get in balance, it gets too clean. What am I doing wrong?

A: The best way to jam along with your MP3 player is to control its volume from the device itself. For example, set your guitar volume the way it sounds good to you, then play back a track on your MP3 player. If it's too quiet, turn up the volume using the MP3 player's volume control. It should have enough volume on tap to get in balance with your guitar.

