

# **TALKBOX SYNTH**

Studio-Quality Stompbox for Guitar Talkbox Effects and Vocal Tone Polishing

**User Manual** 







#### **Important Safety** Instructions



Terminals marked with this symbol carry electrical current of sufficient magnitude to constitute risk of electric shock. Use only high-guality professional speaker cables with 1/4" TS or twist-locking plugs pre-installed. All other installation or modification should be performed only by qualified personnel.



This symbol, wherever it appears, alerts you to the presence of uninsulated dangerous voltage inside the

enclosure - voltage that may be sufficient to constitute a risk of shock.



This symbol, wherever it appears, alerts you to important operating and maintenance instructions in the

accompanying literature. Please read the manual.



## Caution

To reduce the risk of electric shock, do not remove the top cover (or the rear section). No user serviceable parts inside. Refer servicing to qualified personnel.



### Caution

To reduce the risk of fire or electric shock. do not expose this appliance to rain and moisture. The apparatus shall not be exposed to dripping or splashing liquids and no objects filled with liquids,



### such as vases, shall be placed on the apparatus. Caution

These service instructions are for use by gualified service personnel only. To reduce the risk of electric shock do not perform any servicing other than that contained in the operation instructions. Repairs have to be performed by qualified service personnel.

- **1.** Read these instructions.
- Keep these instructions. 2.
- 3. Heed all warnings.
- Follow all instructions. 4.
- 5. Do not use this apparatus near water.
- Clean only with dry cloth. 6.

7. Do not block any ventilation openings. Install in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

Do not install near any heat sources such as 8. radiators, heat registers, stoves, or other apparatus (including amplifiers) that produce heat.

**9.** Do not defeat the safety purpose of the polarized or grounding-type plug. A polarized plug has two blades with one wider than the other. A grounding-type plug has two blades and a third grounding prong. The wide blade or the third prong are provided for your safety. If the provided plug does not fit into your outlet, consult an electrician for replacement of the obsolete outlet.

**10.** Protect the power cord from being walked on or pinched particularly at plugs, convenience receptacles, and the point where they exit from the apparatus.

**11.** Use only attachments/accessories specified by the manufacturer.



12. Use only with the cart, stand, tripod, bracket, or table specified by the manufacturer, or sold with the apparatus. When a cart is used, use caution when moving the cart/apparatus combination to avoid

iniury from tip-over.

**13.** Unplug this apparatus during lightning storms or when unused for long periods of time.

14. Refer all servicing to gualified service personnel. Servicing is required when the apparatus has been damaged in any way, such as power supply cord or plug is damaged, liquid has been spilled or objects have fallen into the apparatus, the apparatus has been exposed to rain or moisture, does not operate normally, or has been dropped.

15. The apparatus shall be connected to a MAINS socket outlet with a protective earthing connection.

**16.** Where the MAINS plug or an appliance coupler is used as the disconnect device, the disconnect device shall remain readily operable.



17. Correct disposal of this product: This symbol indicates that this product must not be disposed of with household waste, according to the WEEE Directive (2012/19/EU) and your national law. This product should be taken

to a collection center licensed for the recycling of waste electrical and electronic equipment (EEE). The mishandling of this type of waste could have a possible negative impact on the environment and human health due to potentially hazardous substances that are generally associated with EEE. At the same time, your cooperation in the correct disposal of this product will contribute to the efficient use of natural resources. For more information about where you can take your waste equipment for recycling, please contact your local city office, or your household waste collection service.

**18.** Do not install in a confined space, such as a book case or similar unit.

19. Do not place naked flame sources, such as lighted candles, on the apparatus.

**20.** Please keep the environmental aspects of battery disposal in mind. Batteries must be disposed-of at a battery collection point.

**21.** Use this apparatus in tropical and/or moderate climates.

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#### LIMITED WARRANTY

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## 1. Controls



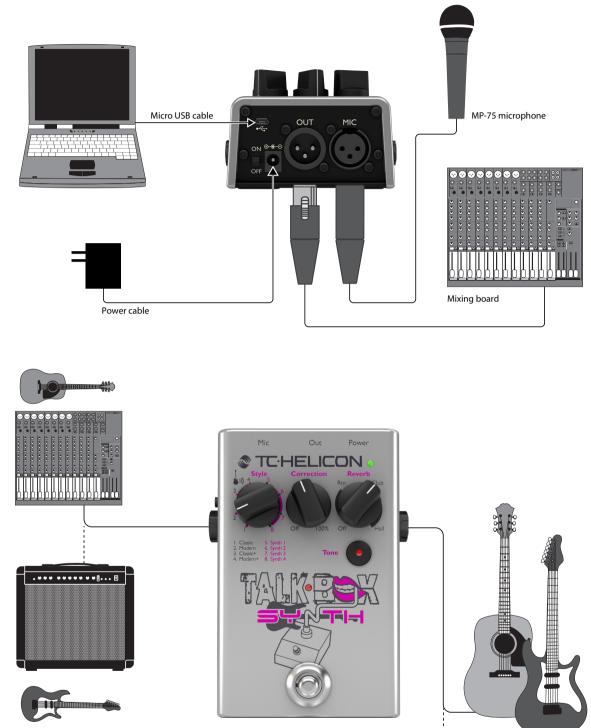


- **STYLE** knob selects from the range of Talkbox and Synth sounds. See Chapter 2: Using the Style Knob for details.
- CORRECTION knob adjusts the amount of pitch correction. With the knob at the center 12:00 position, the effect will provide subtle pitch support without noticeable or unnatural artifacts. Turn the knob all the way up for a more aggressive effect, or fully counterclockwise to turn the effect off. Correction is inactive while Talkbox or Synth effects are engaged.
- **REVERB** knob selects the type and amount of reverb effect on your voice. The 3 types of reverb appear in order from the smallest space (Room) to the largest (Hall). Adjusting the knob within your preferred reverb space determines how pronounced the effect will be. Turning the knob fully counterclockwise turns the reverb off. Reverb is active regardless of the on/off status of the Talkbox Synth effect.
- BATTERY LED indicates the battery level, with green showing full life, yellow being partial life, and red to alert that the batteries should be changed.
- **TONE** button engages a preset combination of adaptive EQ, compression, de-essing, and noise gate. "Normal" and "Less Bright" settings can be toggled by holding the Tone button and pressing the footswitch.

- **ON/OFF LED** lights when the effect is engaged.
- FOOTSWITCH bypasses the Talkbox or Synth effect, but does not affect the reverb or Tone status.
- USB input accepts a micro USB cable for connection to a computer. Use the VoiceSupport application to install firmware updates, and for other features depending on your product. Download VoiceSupport from www.tc-helicon.com/products/voicesupport/
- ON/OFF switch powers the pedal on and off. To prevent audible thumps, ensure PA level is down before powering off unit.
- 10 **POWER** input accepts a 9V power cable (not included).
- **OUT** jack accepts a balanced XLR cable for connection to a mixer or active speaker at approximately mic output level.
- 12 MIC input jack accepts a balanced XLR cable to connect your microphone.
- **GUITAR IN** jack accepts a <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" TS cable to connect your guitar.
- **GUITAR THRU** jack sends your guitar signal out via <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" TS cable.

# EN 2. Operation

#### Connection



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- Connect a microphone to the MIC jack
- Connect the OUT jack to a mixer, interface or active speaker
- Connect a guitar to the Guitar Input jack on the right side of the pedal
- Connect the left Guitar Output jack to an amplifier or mixing console

#### **Optional:**

- Connect a micro USB cable to a computer
- Connect power cable

#### **Using the Pedal**

Vocalize into the mic while playing guitar to hear the effect. Don't worry about singing in tune; the pitch of the effect comes from your guitar.

Over-enunciate your vowels to get more interesting and expressive effects.

You can play guitar chords with Styles 1-4 but only monophonically (one note at a time) using Styles 5-8. A light picking touch helps with tracking.

Classic, Modern and all Synth styles mute the guitar output to INST THRU. The guitar is unmuted only on the Classic+ and Modern+ styles.

#### Using the Style Knob

Turn the knob to select which effect you want. There are two sets of styles: Talkbox (1-4) and Synth (5-8). See the table below for descriptions.

- 1. Classic This most closely imitates the sound of a saturated (distorted) horn driver piping your guitar sound into your mouth.
- 2. Modern This style is clean and clear to mimic a vocoder effect.
- 3. Classic + This produces the same sound as Classic but unmutes the dry guitar sound from the Guitar output for a duo effect.
- 4. Modern + This produces the same sound as Modern but also unmutes the guitar sound.
- 5. Synth 1 Two synthesizer voices triggered by your guitar are slightly detuned for a chorused mono synth sound.
- Synth 2 A single fat, square wave synth voice produces a rich sound almost like a totally saturated distorted guitar tone.
- 7. Synth 3 A pair of detuned, octave down synth voices make a bassy, chorused effect.
- 8. Synth 4 A unison voice with a fifth above make a classic synthy sound.

#### **Adjusting Style levels**

You are able to raise or lower individual style levels to suit different guitars and sound requirements. Load the style you want to adjust then hold the Tone button while turning the Correction knob. The middle detent on the Correction knob represents the factory level adjustment; to the left (counterclockwise) is quieter and to the right (clockwise) is louder. Releasing the Tone button stores your new level until the next time you require a change.

After setting, re-adjust the Correction knob to where you want it when singing without the Talkbox or Synth effects.

#### **Guitar Connection Tip:**

Guitar – Placing Talkbox Synth as the first device in your pedal chain will give it the cleanest signal with which to drive the synth sounds. If you prefer to have other pedals before, optimum synth tracking is derived when their effects are off.

#### **Momentary Mode**

The standard function of the footswitch is a latching style, meaning that each press of the footswitch turns the effect on and off. Alternatively, the pedal can operate in momentary mode, meaning that the effect is only active while the footswitch is held down. As soon as you release the footswitch, the effect is bypassed.

To switch the unit to momentary mode, hold the Tone button down while powering the unit on. Repeat the process to return to latching mode.

#### **Changing the Batteries**

Talkbox Synth can operate on 4 AA batteries. Remove the single screw on the bottom of the pedal to open the battery door. Make sure to observe correct polarity when inserting the batteries.

#### Auto Gain

Talkbox Synth will automatically adjust the gain setting for your microphone, eliminating the need for manual adjustments and ensuring that a good signal is passed to the mixer without any unwanted distortion.

#### 24 V Phantom Power

Phantom power is always active on the Talkbox Synth. This will power condenser microphones, but will not affect dynamic mics either.

#### **Mic Control**

Mic Control allows you to control the effect's on/off status via an MP-75 microphone. Press and hold the footswitch while powering up the unit to toggle Mic Control.

Note that when using a condenser microphone, Mic Control should be disabled to prevent unwanted on/off switching.



## 3. Specifications

#### Input

Mic Input Impedance:	Balanced: 2.68 kOhm
Mic Input Level @ 0 dBFS:	-42 dBu to +1 dBu
EIN @ Max Mic Gain Rg = 150 Ohm:	-126 dBu
Mic input SNR:	>104 dB
Guitar Input impedance:	1 M0hm
Guitar Input Level @ 0 dBFS:	-7 dBU to 17 dBu
Guitar Input SNR:	>115 dB

#### Output

Output Impedance, Bal./Unbal.:	200/100 Ohm
Output Full Scale:	+1 dBu
Dynamic Range:	>104 dB, 20 Hz to 20 kHz
Frequency Response:	+0/-0.3 dB, 20 Hz to 20 kHz

#### Power

Power Supply (Optional):	9 V / 670 mA	
Power Consumption:	6 W	

Requirements	
Operating Temperature:	32° F to 122° F (0° C to 50° C)
Storage Temperature:	-22° F to 167° F (-30° C to 70° C)
Humidity Max.:	90% non-condensing

#### Size & Weight

Dimensions:	5.4" x 3.5" x 2.3" (140 x 90 x 60 mm)
Weight:	0.92 lb. (420 g)

#### Warranty

For the applicable warranty terms and conditions and additional information regarding MUSIC Group's Limited Warranty, please see complete details online at music-group.com/warranty.

Due to continuous development, these specifications are subject to change without notice

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