

MINIBAR USER MANUAL

Congratulations on buying the Minibar Liquid Analyser! It's a unique kind of personalised overdrive pedal, where the amount of drive - and to some degree the quality of the drive - and also the tone are decided by what kind of liquid or liquids you pick to experiment with in the container.

This pedal is an experiment that we're inviting you to take part in...

We ourselves are finding out about how it behaves, and what sort of liquids sound good to us - *but it's up to you to find out what works best for you!*

CONTROLS

***LIQUID CONTAINER:** the electrical conductivity of the liquid decides the amount of gain - high conductivity gives low gain, low conductivity gives high gain. As to whether a liquid has high or low gain, well - that's for you to find out!

Also the opacity - how well light passes through the liquid - controls the amount of treble and bass in the signal. The colour may also have some effect... Liquids behave oddly in these ways and are hard to predict. For possible starting points see 'LIQUID NOTES' later on.

***Volume:** this adjusts the pedal's volume.

***ON/OFF FOOTSWITCH:** this turns the Minibar on or bypasses it (with true bypass). Status shown by bright container LEDs coming on.

***Green 'analysing' LED:** this is the signal present LED.

NOTE

*The pedal makes no noise at all until there is moisture in the container.

*To clean out the current liquid, wipe it dry with a paper towel or absorbent cloth.

*The Minibar's tone is a bandpass filter, ie it's not possible to get a lot of treble AND bass at the same time. Liquid opacity decides the filters' cut-off frequencies.

*It's not necessary to fill the container to the brim; once the electrical contacts (the two screws) are generously covered, adding more liquid does nothing.

*Don't worry if you spill any liquids; the pedal is sealed - and works with an electrical supply that's not dangerous with moisture. (continued over)

*Don't over-tighten the lid to the container (may damage the thread and therefore the container's seal), as some liquids over time may tend to get sticky and make the lid hard to open.

*Use common sense when deciding what to try out in the pedal's container. Don't use any corrosive or hazardous substances including but not limited to the following: acids, ammonia, chlorine or substances that cause damage to metals or plastics.

*Except for any legal responsibility that we cannot exclude (such as death or personal injury caused by our negligence) and our legal responsibility under applicable laws relating to the protection of your personal information, we are not legally responsible for any losses that

- (a) were not foreseeable to you and us when the contract was formed, or
- (b) that were not caused by any breach on our part, or
- (c) that are business losses, or
- (d) that are losses to non-consumers.

*Do not use any bodily fluids in the Minibar. This voids the warranty! (1 year)

*The pedal is best used in its upright position. If it topples over the liquid could lose contact with the circuit and the sound may change.

*Power supply unit should be centre earth (standard 9v pedal PSU)

LIQUID NOTES (what we've found so far...)

*De-ionised water (from a hardware store) sounds great - a chunky distortion - but because it's clear you might like to add something darker to bring out the bass (black coffee? Jagermeister? Marmite? Red wine?...

*Sodas sound OK - but generally have a low gain, and of course the darker they are, the more bass there is.

*The darker the beer (medium drive) the darker the tone!

*Olive oil makes no sound at all (a perfect insulator?)

*Spirits generally produce higher gain.

*Suggestions to try; lighter fluid? White spirit? Tomato ketchup? Pink champagne? Red Bull? Maple syrup? Vinegar? Soap?....

But you will probably find way better things to try! Once again, this is an experiment, so go and find things for yourself that get your sound...

Please email david@raingerfx.com to register your pedal, and let us know what instrument you play, what sort of music, and any questions or comments.