Fuchs Overdrive Supreme

Plugin Manual

Developed by Brainworx in partnership with Fuchs Audio Technolgy and distributed by Plugin Alliance.

Plugin Alliance   FUCHS   BRAINWORX

Introduction

The Overdrive Supreme is the crown jewel of the Fuchs amplification product line, and has been heralded throughout the guitar world for achieving the coveted Dumble® sound while establishing its own unique, modern character. The Fuchs Overdrive Supreme plugin from Brainworx captures all the gorgeous, rich tone of the original, adding features like an onboard FX rack and 82 impulse responses using a vintage Neve console and a dizzying array of high end microphones and outboard gear to deliver "record ready" tones instantly. The Overdrive Supreme 50 plugin delivers all the tone and feel of the original amp. It's so precise, you'll swear you were playing through a physical amp.

Overview

The Overdrive Supreme® excels at everything it does. From crystal clear and detailed clean sounds to its harmonically complex and articulate overdrive, the amp holds its sonic integrity at any volume level. If you've ever heard Larry Carlton or Robben Ford live, that's the tone! "The Overdrive Supreme® nails the Dumble sound to a tee, and then some!" (20th Century Guitar).

Approaching its tenth year of production, the Overdrive Supreme® has received glowingreviews in BOTH domestic and foreign publications. The Overdrive Supreme received a very favorable review in Japan's "Guitar Magazine," as well as Guitar Player Magazine (February 2005).

The clean channel has brite and deep switches, as well as a rock/jazz switch, which changes the way the tone controls operate. Rock is a more aggressive and punchy bright tone, which jazz is lean and audiophile-like, being more balanced and smooth. There are passive high mid and low controls. The high control pulls for a mid boost, the mid control pulls for gain boost (which bypasses the tone controls). The clean channel acts as a preamp to the overdrive channel, and the tone controls and EQ switches are all active during overdrive use, including all boosts.

The overdrive channel features separate OD in and OD out controls. OD-in sets the level of saturation in overdrive, while the OD out control sets the final balance between clean and dirty channels. There is a global master volume and accent control, which adds presence and edge to the output stage.

The entire audio signal path is fully tube. The ODS® features a regulated high voltage DC supply for lowest noise, consistent tone despite line voltage variations, and also features regulated DC preamp tube heaters for additional noise reduction. These techniques are used in the finest audiophile and tube studio equipment, and are unique to guitar amps.

All tubes are chassis mounted, while the power and output transformers are mounted directly to the chassis. By using single point grounding, the amp is quiet and free of hum at all operating levels.

Fuchs Overdrive Supreme
Plugin Manual

The main applications for this plugin are

- Achieve exceptional-sounding electric guitar tracks at any volume level, without the need for great-sounding rooms or expensive guitar mics.
- Record electric guitars directly into the DAW, and then mix, edit and process without ever leaving the DAW environment.
- Re-amp less-than-perfect DI guitar tracks previously recorded in other guitar-amp situations.
- Faithfully emulate highly sought-after electric guitar tones made famous by rock's greatest guitar players.
- Get intense amounts of distortion without the need to maintain a high output volume.
- Have a piece of rock and roll history right in your DAW that feels and responds like a physical amp.
- Playing live via a real power amp and speaker setup.
- Playing LIVE, plugged straight into a live console and / or an in-ear system.

Fuchs Overdrive Supreme
Plugin Manual

Amp

Tone Stack

1 Gain

Continuous knob, 1 to 10. The gain control sets the input gain for the primary clean preamplifier. The clean channel acts as a preamplifier alone, during clean (non-overdrive) operation. When the amplifier is in overdrive mode, the clean channel functions as a preamp to the overdrive stage. All controls on the primary channel remain operational during overdrive, allowing the overdrive tone to be controlled.

2 Brite

On/off switch. The Brite switch operates on the gain control and is active over about half of the input gain control range. From '0' to about midway, it provides a boost to highs, and the effect of the switch decreases beyond the halfway point on the gain control's rotation.

3 Deep

On/off switch. The Deep switch shifts the overall tonality of the amplifier, slightly increasing the low frequencies. This is often useful for single-coil guitars, which sometimes need a low-frequency boost.

4 Tone

Discrete 2 steps: "Rock" and "Jazz." The Rock/Jazz switch alters the operation of the tone controls. The Rock position gives the highest gain, as well as a more aggressive rock-type equalization. In the Jazz setting, tone is a more neutral/smoother tone. All tone controls work in both modes, however their range and depth of operation is changed.

Fuchs Overdrive Supreme
Plugin Manual

1 High

Continuous knob, 1 to 10. The High control serves two functions:

• Knob In position and LED OFF: Adjust high frequency spectrum.

• Knob Out Position and LED ON: Engage the mid-boost. This shifts the range of the high control downward, to include more midrange. All tone controls still operate, however the tone will be fatter.

• Note: You can double click the knob or click on the LED

? Mid Boost

On/off switch. Engage mid boost.

3 Mid

Continuous knob, 1 to 10. The Mid control serves two functions:

• Knob IN position and LED OFF: Adjusts mid frequencies.

• Knob OUT position and LED ON: Engages the gain boost. This effectively bypasses all tone controls and allows greater overdrive and gain, on both clean and overdrive modes. This can also fatten sound for single coil pickups.

• Note: You can double click the knob or click on the LED

? Gain Boost

On/off switch. Engage gain boost

5 Low

Continuous knob, 1 to 10. This control adjusts the low frequency spectrum.

Fuchs Overdrive Supreme
Plugin Manual

Master

1 Input

Continuous knob, 1 to 10. The overdrive stage, as mentioned above, is fed from the clean preamplifier. Two controls affect overdrive: The Overdrive Input (Front panel) sets the amount of distortion content, by adjusting the drive between the two overdrive stages. Overdrive Output acts to balance the volume of the Overdrive channel with the clean channel. There are no "correct" Overdrive settings; finding the desired tone setting depends on the guitars/pickups used, as well as your own personal tastes.

2 Output

Continuous knob, 1 to 10. This control adjusts the volume for the overdrive section.

3 Overdrive Module (Pull-OD)

On/off switch. Engages overdrive mode.

4 Master

Continuous knob, 1 to 10. The Master Volume adjusts the overall volume of the amp and works in conjunction with the GAIN, INPUT & OUTPUT controls for overall volume of the amplifier.

5 Accent

Continuous knob, 1 to 10. The accent control works within the power amp section, reducing negative feedback at higher frequencies. It adds an edge to the overall amplifier tone. It's excellent for cutting through in a band or a recording mix. It can also allow greater ability to selectively make notes feedback and "sing."

Fuchs Overdrive Supreme
Plugin Manual

FX Rack

Noise Gate

1 Closed

When lit this LED indicates that the Noise Gate is CLOSED. This means the THRESHOLD setting is higher than the incoming signal and the noise gate dims the output signal of the amplifier by the amount adjusted with the RANGE control (e.g. 30dB in the picture above).

2 Noise Gate on/off

On/off switch. Enable or disable the Noise Gate completely. Switch up ('on') means the Noise Gate is activated.

3 Threshold

Continuous knob, -120db to 0db. The Noise Gate will dim the output signal of the amplifier as soon as the input signal (your guitar signal) falls below a certain level. This level is called Threshold. Adjust the Threshold so the noise of the overdriven amp will be reduced, but make sure you don´t cut fading notes or chords.

4 Range

Continuous knob, 0db to 100db. The output level of your amplifier will be reduced or muted when the input signal is lower than the Threshold setting. You may dim the output level only by a few decibels (dB), or completely mute the output in pauses by setting the RANGE to its maximum.

Amp Filters

1 Tight Filter

Discrete 3 steps: "PRE", "POST", and "OFF". With the TIGHT filter you can cut LOW frequencies of either the DI guitar signal (PRE) or the processed amp output (POST).

- **PRE:** If your pickups produce an unintentional rumbling bass sound you can filter the low end before the DI sound even hits the amplifier.
- **POST:** If you want to cut some of the low end of your amplifier setting (maybe even only temporary) you can use this studio quality high pass filter to reduce the bass.
- **OFF:** When set to OFF the TIGHT filter is in bypass mode.

2 Tight Frequency

Continuous knob, 30Hz to 3kHz.

Set the frequency below which low frequencies will be cut.

3 Smooth Filter

Discrete 3 steps: "PRE", "POST", and "OFF". With the SMOOTH filter you can cut HIGH frequencies of either the DI guitar signal (PRE) or the processed amp output (POST).

- **PRE:** If your pickups catch a lot of hiss or noise you can filter the high end before the DI sound even hits the amplifier.
- **POST:** If you want to cut some of the high end of your amplifier setting (maybe even only temporary) you can use this studio quality low pass filter.
- **OFF:** When set to OFF the SMOOTH filter is in bypass mode.

4 Smooth Frequency

Continuous knob, 3kHz to 35kHz.

Set the frequency above which high frequencies will be cut.

* Note: Custom control, not automatable

Fuchs Overdrive Supreme
Plugin Manual

Delay

1 Delay On/Off

On/off switch. Use this parameter to switch the delay unit on and off.

2 Tap*

Discrete button. Use this parameter with your mouse to click with the groove of the song and the delay will adjust to your tapping automatically. This is a nice and easy way to set delays to musically pleasing times, especially if there is no fixed tempo in the song.

3 Delay Time

Continuous knob, 15ms to 1000ms. Use this parameter to adjust the delay time.

4 x2*

Use this button to double the current Delay time.

5 /2*

Use this button to half the current Delay time.

6 Tempo Bar Dubdivision*

Bar subdivision at showed bpm.

7 Delay Mix

Continuous knob, 0% to 100%. Use this parameter to set the level balance between the dry signal and the delay.

8 Delay Feedback

Continuous knob, 0% to 100%. Use this parameter to set the feedback of the delay.

9 Delay Lo-Fi

Continuous knob, 0% to 100%. Use this parameter to add creative destruction to your delay signal.

Rec Chains

Simply select a speaker and a complete studio setup by browsing through the REC CHAINS pull-down menu!

In the past two decades Brainworx owner Dirk Ulrich has produced and recorded with members of DREAM THEATER, TOTO, MICHAEL JACKSON, and with many more famous and infamous acts. The Brainworx Studio in Germany (www.brainworx- studio.de) is equipped with one of only nine NEVE VXS 72 consoles ever made, and it also hosts some of the finest outboard EQs and mic pre-amps available.

Using this impressive setup Dirk has produced a huge variety of custo-mized 'Recording Chains' for the Fuchs amplifier, which you can apply to your plugin amp settings. Imagine a selection of 26 perfectly mic'd and EQ'd cabinets that you can select and use instantly with a single mouse click!

Many amp simulations give you some captured impulses of a selection of cabinets and microphones, then they leave it up to you to EQ and further process these incomplete setups by mixing different microphone setups, adjusting phase and EQ, and so on. But this really is not an easy job; it takes years of experience to get it right.

Now all you have to do is select the Recording Chain that sounds best for your amp channel and setting, adjust the Tone Stack and Gain and you´re good to go! Recallable, reliable, flexible and fast.

And if for any reason you should not like any of the Recording Chains the Plugin offers, you may use the RC Off feature. Use then your own mic'd cabinet or external IR software. This setting will also give you the sound of a tube amp wired straight into a console, which also may be a nice effects sound.

Fuchs Overdrive Supreme
Plugin Manual

1 RC Info

The RC Info feature showing you exactly what kind of setup was used to produce the Recording Chain you selected.

2 RC Off

This button lets you bypass the entire Recording Chain section. Use then your own mic´d cabinet or external IR loader.

3 + / - Switches (Plus / Minus)

Browse through the REC CHAINS by either using the pull-down menu of the REC CHAIN text box (see above) or just click through the settings using the + and - symbols.

4 Auto & Bar selection

If you are trying to find the best sounding REC CHAIN for your actual song it can be tiring having to play a few chords, then grabbing the mouse to select the next REC CHAIN, playing a few notes again, grabbing the mouse again, etc.

For this reason the Fuchs ODS plugin offers you AUTO mode:

Just select a pattern 1, 2, 3, 4 or 8 Bars and the plugin will activate the available REC CHAINS automation, following the actual tempo setting of your DAW. You can now play uninterrupted and simply listen to the sound of the various REC CHAINS as the plugin switches through all of them every single bar, every two bars or every four bars, depending on your setting.

As soon as you hear the speaker setup you like best just stop AUTO mode by clicking the AUTO button again and manually select the desired REC CHAIN. Afterwards, just finetweak the TONE STACK and GAIN and there you are.

Fuchs Overdrive Supreme
Plugin Manual

In/Out Controls

1 Input Gain

Continuous knob, 1 to 10. If you want to drive the input of the Fuchs preamp harder or softer you may adjust the input gain to your liking. Some single coil pickups from older or vintage guitars may deliver low level output that can be compensated with the INPUT GAIN.

The opposite goes for a lot of heavy metal style humbuckers. If you have recorded the DI signal too hot or if you are using other plugins before entering the Fuchs amp plugin you may want to dim the input signal.

With most standard amps you can and should leave the INPUT GAIN at 0 (zero) though.

2 Bypass Pre Amp

On/off switch. Bypass the preamp section.

3 Bypass Power Amp

On/off switch. Bypass the power amp section.

4 Power Soak

Continuous knob, -40dB to 0dB. In the real world, power soaks are being used to reduce the volume of a power amp. This way you can crank up a (tube) power amp to drive it until it starts clipping, and still record at a volume which will protect your hearing and keep the neighbors friendly.

A clipping tube power amp adds distortion and harmonics to the signal. A fully cranked up tube amp tamed in volume with a power soak will sound different than the same amp with the master volume turned down.
We have modeled the behavior of the Fuchs power amp, so you may experiment with different settings of the Master Volume of the amp and the internal POWER SOAK. We recommend a setting of roughly -10dB for most scenarios.

Fuchs Overdrive Supreme
Plugin Manual

Cabinets we used for the Recording Chains

Fuchs

The Vintage cabinet is perhaps Buzz's finest and most well-known design. It features a diagonal staggered mounting of two 12" drivers, with a unique mounting arrangement that places one driver in front of the baffle and one behind the baffle. This provides a much larger perceived sound from an otherwise extremely small cabinet, a very manageable weight, and a full sound that is dynamic, clean, quick, and punchy like a 412.

It's an excellent highly portable cabinet for blues, jazz, and records particularly well. The cabinets are shipped for horizontal use, but may be used in either direction or ordered for vertical use.

Orange

The 120W Orange Amplifiers PPC212-C guitar speaker cabinet is crafted using 13-ply high-density 18mm birch plywood throughout like every Power Projection Cabinet (PPC). Orange speaker enclosures, like Orange amplifiers, are built to last with manufacturing techniques that assure extremely rugged construction. Orange's unique 'skid' design feet help to acoustically couple these cabinets to the stage to provide a tighter bass response and full range definition. All Orange Amplifiers' speaker enclosures are equipped with Celestion Vintage 30 speakers and are equipped with comfortable flush cabinet handles. The Celestion Vintage 30 Speaker recreates the sound of the original Celestion Blue with new cone and coil assembly. Improved performance: rated at 60W capability, handles extra heat generated by higher power equipment. The Vintage 30 handles massive overdrive tones with ease. It's a classic 2x12 loudspeaker.

Fuchs Overdrive Supreme
Plugin Manual

Friedman

The Friedman Dirty Shirley 1×12 Cabinet is a 1×12", open-back extension cabinet. It utilizes tongue and groove Baltic Birch construction to deliver the bass, mid response and great sound you would expect from a Friedman cab. At the heart of the cab is a Celestion G12M-65 Creamback 16 Ohm speaker. The G12M Greenback is the definitive vintage Celestion ceramic magnet guitar speaker. When the G12M was developed in the mid-sixties, players like Hendrix, Clapton, Beck and Page, who typified the louder and more aggressive blues rock-playing styles that came to characterize that era, quickly adopted it. The G12M-65 Creamback used in the Dirty Shirley cab produces the familiar woody G12M tone, but handles greater power. This makes it ideally suited for yesterday and today's amps, when a vintage and modern tone is desired. The increased power handling brings with it low end grunt complementing the warm and vocal mid range, crunchy upper-mids and sweet, refined highs. As with all Friedman cabinets, over-sized 12-gauge speaker wire is soldered between the speaker and terminal, assuring you capture every ounce of valuable tone. The Dirty Shirley 1x12EXT is handcrafted with pride in the USA and designed to withstand the rigors of the road.

English

The 1960TV is loaded with Celestion® G12M-25 Greenback speakers, which are more forgiving than the 75 Watt Celestions used in the 1960A™; the 25 Watt Greenbacks have a warmer, more saturated sound. This 100 Watt mono cabinet is 65mm taller than a 1960A and 1960B™, which results in a lower mid-range resonant response.

To re-create the classic looks and tones of yesteryear, Marshall offers the 1960TV cabinet. The 1960TV houses four Marshall/Celestion designed re-issue 25-watt Greenback speakers and is finished with the mid- to late-'60s style EC fret cloth and the smoother levant covering. The Marshall 1960TV stands an impressive 4 inches taller than a standard 4 x 12" – hence the 'TV' in its name which is an acronym for 'Tall, Vintage.'

Fuchs Overdrive Supreme

Plugin Manual

Top Toolbar

1 Undo / Redo

You can undo and redo changes you made to the controls of the Fuchs Overdrive Supreme plugin at any time. The UNDO / REDO will work for as many as 32 steps. This makes experimenting and tweaking knobs easy. If you don´t like what you did... just undo it.

2 Settings (A/B/C/D)

The Fuchs amp plugin offers four internal settings (A/B/C/D) that will be stored with every preset. So, one preset can contain up to 4 amp and effects settings. The settings can be automated (!) in most DAW hosts. This way it´s possible to switch from a clean picked sound to a grungy slapped sound, for example.

3 Copy / Paste

To set up variations of similar sounds you don´t have to dial in all the parameters several times. Let´s say you like your setting A and want to use the same sound, just without delay, as setting B.

- Simply press COPY while you are in setting A.
- Switch to setting B by pressing 'B' in the settings section.
- Press PASTE, now setting B is identical to setting A.
- Reduce the Tube Gain. Done.

Now you can switch between A & B and play the same sound with or without delay.

4 FX Rack

Toggle between FX Rack and Standard view.

5 About

Information about the development of the plugin.

Fuchs Overdrive Supreme
Plugin Manual

Bottom Toolbar

1 PA Logo

Clicking the Plugin Alliance logo takes you to the Plugin Alliance website via your web browser, that´s if your computer is online.

2 License Type

The toolbar displays information about the type of license you're running: Trial licenses will be displayed along with the number of days until expiration; there is no note for full licenses as these are unlimited.

3 $ (Icon)

If you are using a demo / trial version of our products, you can always click this icon to open a browser that redirects you to the respective product page in the Plugin Alliance store. This is where you can easily purchase a product without having to look it up on our website.

4 Key (Icon)

Clicking on the key icon brings up the activation dialog, allowing you to manually reauthorize a device in the event of a license upgrade or addition. You can also use this feature to activate additional computers or USB ash drives.

5 ? (Icon)

Clicking the ? icon opens up a context menu that links to the product manual PDF, as well as other helpful links, e.g. to check for product updates online. You must have a PDF reader installed on your computer to be able to read the manual.

System Requirements & FAQ (Links)

For latest System Requirements & Supported Platforms
https://www.plugin-alliance.com/en/systemrequirements.html

Particular details for your product
https://www.plugin-alliance.com/en/products.html

Installation, Activation, Authorisation and FAQ´s
https://www.plugin-alliance.com/en/support.html

Factory Presets

These presets are only intended to give you an easy start and to demo some of the tones you can get out of the Fuchs amp plugin.

Creating your own Sounds & Presets

When you start to create your own sounds the most important elements to adjust are the DRIVE, TONE SECTION and the REC CHAINS.

- Dial in as much GAIN or Distortion as you like.
- Play through as many REC CHAINS as you like and pick the one that sounds closest to what you are looking for without altering the TONE SECTION.
- NOW start tweaking the TONE SECTION to fine-tune your amp settings.

Experiment, be creative. We are confident that the different tone selections of the amp and the huge selection of REC CHAINS will offer you many possible combinations that will sound great on a big variety of musical styles and genres.