AcoustiFX

User Manual

ALESIS

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1 Introduction

Welcome!

Thank you for making the Alesis AcoustiFX a part of your setup. Since 1984, we've been designing and building creative tools for the audio community. We believe in our products, because we've heard the results that creative people like you have achieved with them. One of Alesis' goals is to make high-quality music equipment available to everyone, and this user manual is an important part of that. After all, there's no point in making equipment with all kinds of capabilities if no one explains how to use them. So, we try to write our manuals as carefully as we build our products.

The goal of this manual is to get you the information you need as quickly as possible, with a minimum of hassle. We hope we've achieved that. If not, please drop us an email and give us your suggestions on how we could improve future editions of this manual.

We hope your investment will bring you many years of creative enjoyment and help you achieve your musical goals.

Sincerely,
The people of Alesis

About the AcoustiFX

The first thing you'll probably notice about the AcoustiFX is its size—it's not much larger or smaller than most other effect pedals. But don't let that fool you. The AcoustiFX does much more than most pedals you'll find on the market today (and for an unbeatable price too). We've packed a lot of effects and other features into this unit. Here's a glimpse:

AcoustiFX Key Features

- Audio processing that's made specifically for mic'd acoustic guitars and other acoustic instruments (sounds great with acoustic/electrics too)
- 40 preset patches that you can fully edit, store and restore to the factory default settings
- 8 effect modules that provide multiple selectable effects
- More than 40 different effects with adjustable parameters and numerous effect combinations
- Built-in auto-chromatic tuner
- Battery-powered operation and an external power option (9VDC)
- Simple interface that gives you quick and easy access to the AcoustiFX's features

AcoustiFX Basics

Benefits of a Multi-Effects Pedal

If you've ever used effect pedals, you know they come in an infinite array of effects, colors and sizes. If you use multiple pedals, you probably do so by linking them all together into a chain. The AcoustiFX eliminates the need for so many pedals because in addition to turning your electric into an acoustic, this pedal also combines just about all the effects you need

into one unit. Instead of turning knobs and pushing buttons on pedal after pedal, with the AcoustiFX you have full control over dozens of effects with one foot pedal! It's that easy.

Effect Modules

If you were to think of the AcoustiFX as a series of individual pedals linked together, then each pedal in that series would be considered an effect module. The AcoustiFX has eight separate effect modules, as shown below:

You can assign one effect to each of these modules and adjust its parameters accordingly. On the face of the unit, you'll see a list of possible effect types for some of these modules. For more on effect modules, see chapter 10.

Effect Types

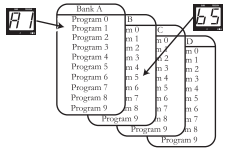
When we use the word "effect" in this manual, we're usually referring to an effect type. Each module provides you with a selection of effect types, only one of which may be chosen for each module. For example, the TYPE module allows you to select which type of acoustic sound you want (Clean, Warm, Bright, Rhythm and others). The behavior of each of these effect types may be adjusted in one or more ways to produce variations of the effect.

Parameters

A parameter is a control that changes the characteristics of an effect. When we use the word "parameter," we are referring to the "direct control" parameter available to the FX1 and FX2 modules. The parameters for FX1 and FX2 are labeled PARAM on the face of the AcoustiFX. The characteristic controlled by a parameter varies from effect to effect.

Programs

A program is a combination of effects modules and their respective settings. In PLAY mode, you have quick access to the AcoustiFX's 40 programs via the foot pedals and the VALUE knob. The programs are divided up into banks A – D and are identified by a bank letter and a program number on the display.



How to Use This Manual

This manual is divided into the following sections describing the various functions and applications for the AcoustiFX. While it's a good idea to read through the entire manual once carefully, if you already have general knowledge about effects, you should use the table of contents to look up specific functions.

Helpful tips and advice are highlighted in a shaded box like this.

Chapter 3: Getting Started shows you how to get the unit connected and turned on. We've included a hookup diagram and some tips on using the AcoustiFX.

Chapter 4: A Tour of the AcoustiFX describes all the controls and features of the unit. This chapter features diagrams of the top and rear panels that are labeled with the name and a brief overview of each function. The paragraphs that follow the diagrams provide in-depth description of these features.

When something important appears in the manual, an exclamation mark (like the one shown at left) will appear with some explanatory text. This symbol indicates that this information is vital when operating the AcoustiFX.

Chapters 5 through 9 include step-by-step instructions for using the AcoustiFX, including how to select and edit programs, use the tuner function, store and copy programs, and defer program changes.

Chapter 10: Effects Knob Settings explains the unit's effect modules and types, as well as other settings controlled by the EFFECT and VALUE knobs.

Chapter 11: Troubleshooting can give you a hand if you're experiencing problems with the AcoustiFX. You'll find that most issues can be resolved simply and quickly.

Chapter 12: Specifications is full of information for the more technical users.

Chapter 13: Warranty/Contact Alesis explains the warranty we supply with the AcoustiFX and lets you know the best way to reach us if you have any questions or comments.

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2 Important Safety Instructions

Important Safety Instructions (English)

Safety symbols used in this product

This symbol alerts the user that there are important operating and maintenance instructions in the literature accompanying this unit.

This symbol warns the user of uninsulated voltage within the unit that can cause dangerous electric shocks.

This symbol warns the user that output connectors contain voltages that can cause dangerous electrical shock.

Please follow these precautions when using this product:

1. Read these instructions.
2. Keep these instructions.
3. Heed all warnings.
4. Follow all instructions.
5. Do not use this apparatus near water.
6. Clean only with a damp cloth. Do not spray any liquid cleaner onto the faceplate, as this may damage the front panel controls or cause a dangerous condition.
7. Install in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
8. Do not install near any heat sources such as 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 is provided for your safety. When 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 or accessories specified by the manufacturer.
12. Use only with a cart, stand, bracket, or table designed for use with professional audio or music equipment. In any installation, make sure that injury or damage will not result from cables pulling on the apparatus and its mounting. If a cart is used, use caution when moving the cart/apparatus combination to avoid injury from tip-over.

13. Unplug this apparatus during lightning storms or when unused for long periods of time.
14. Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel. Servicing is required when the apparatus has been damaged in any way, such as when the 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. This unit produces heat when operated normally. Operate in a well-ventilated area with at least six inches of clearance from peripheral equipment.
16. This product, in combination with an amplifier and headphones or speakers, may be capable of producing sound levels that could cause permanent hearing loss. Do not operate for a long period of time at a high volume level or at a level that is uncomfortable. If you experience any hearing loss or ringing in the ears, you should consult an audiologist.
17. Do not expose the apparatus to dripping or splashing. Do not place objects filled with liquids (flower vases, soft drink cans, coffee cups) on the apparatus.
18. WARNING: To reduce the risk of fire or electric shock, do not expose this apparatus to rain or moisture.

Instructions de Sécurité Importantes (French)

Symboles utilisés dans ce produit

Ce symbole alèrte l'utilisateur qu'il existe des instructions de fonctionnement et de maintenance dans la documentation jointe avec ce produit.

Ce symbole avertit l'utilisateur de la présence d'une tension non isolée à l'intérieur de l'appareil pouvant engendrer des chocs électriques.

Ce symbole prévient l'utilisateur de la présence de tensions sur les raccordements de sorties, représentant un risque d'électrocution.

Veuillez suivre ces précautions lors de l'utilisation de l'appareil:

1. Lisez ces instructions.
2. Gardez ces instructions.
3. Tenez compte de tous les avertissements.
4. Suivez toutes les instructions.
5. N'utilisez pas cet allareil à proximité de l'eau.
6. Ne nettoyez qu'avec un chiffon humide. Il est potentiellement dangereux d'utiliser des pulvérisateurs ou nettoyants liquides sur cet appareil.
7. Installez selon les recommandations du constructeur.
8. Ne pas installer à proximilé de sources de chaleur comme radiateurs, cuisinière ou autre appareils (don't les amplificateurs) produisant de la chaleur.
9. Ne pas enlever la prise de terre du cordon secteur. Une prise murale avec terre deux broches et une troisièrme reliée à la terre. Cette dernière est présente pour votre sécurité. Si le cordon secteur ne rentre pas dans la prise de courant, demandez à un électricien qualifié de remplacer la prise.

10. Evitez de marcher sur le cordon secteur ou de le pincer, en particulier au niveau de la prise, et aux endroits où il sor de l'appareil.
11. N'utilisez que des accessoires spécifiés par le constructeur.
12. N'utilisez qu'avec un stand, ou table conçus pour l'utilisation d'audio professionnel ou instruments de musique. Dans toute installation, veillez de ne rien endommager à cause de câbles qui tirent sur des appareils et leur support.

13. Débranchez l'appareil lors d'un orage ou lorsqu'il n'est pas utilisé pendant longtemps.
14. Faites réparer par un personnel qualifié. Une réparation est nécessaire lorsque l'appareil a été endommagé de quelque sorte que ce soit, par exemple losrque le cordon secteur ou la prise sont endommagés, si du liquide a coulé ou des objets se sont introduits dans l'appareil, si celui-ci a été exposé à la pluie ou à l'humidité, ne fonctionne pas normalement ou est tombé.

15. Puisque son fonctionement normale génère de la chaleur, placez cet appareil au moins 15cm. des équipments périphériques et assurez que l'emplacement permet la circulation de l'air.
16. Ce produit, utilisé avec un amplificateur et un casque ou des enceintes, est capable de produite des niveaux sonores pouvant engendrer une perte permanente de l'ouïe. Ne l'utilisez pas pendant longtemps à un niveau sonore élevé ou à un niveau non confortable. Si vous remarquez une perte de l'ouïe ou un bourdonnement dans les oreilles, consultez un spécialiste.
17. N'exposez pas l'appareil à l'égoutture ou à l'éclaboussement. Ne placez pas les objets remplis de liquides (vases à fleur, boîtes de boisson non alcoolique, tasses de café) sur l'appareil.
18. AVERTISSEMENT: Pour réduire le risque du feu ou de décharge électrique, n'exposez pas cet appareil à la pluie ou à l'humidité.

Lesen Sie bitte die folgende Sicherheitshinweise (German)

Sicherheit Symbole verwendet in diesem Produkt

Dieses Symbol alarmiert den Benutzer, daß es wichtige Funktionieren und Wartung Anweisungen in der Literatur gibt, die diese Maßeinheit begleitet.

Dieses Symbol warnt den Benutzer der nicht isolierten Spannung innerhalb der Maßeinheit, die gefährliche elektrische Schläge verursachen kann.

Dieses Symbol warnt den Benutzer, dem Ausgabestecker Spannungen enthalten, die gefährlichen elektrischen Schlag verursachen können.

Folgen Sie bitte diesen Vorkehrungen, wenn dieses Produkt verwendet wird:

1. Lesen Sie die Hinweise.
2. Halten Sie sich an die Anleitung.
3. Beachten Sie alle Warnungen.
4. Beachten Sie alle Hinweise.
5. Bringen Sie das Gerät nie mit Wasser in Berührung.
6. Verwenden Sie zur Reinigung nur ein weiches Tuch. Verwenden Sie keine flüssigen Reinigungsmittel. Dies kann gefährliche Folgen haben.
7. Halten Sie sich beim Aufbau des Gerätes an die Angaben des Herstellers.
8. Stellen Sie das Gerät nich in der Nähe von Heizkörpern, Heizungsklappen oder anderen Wärmequellen (einschließlich Verstärkern) auf.
9. Verfehlen Sie nicht den Zweck des grounging Terminals auf dem Netzstecker. Dieses Terminal wird für Ihre Sicherheit zur Verfügung gestellt.

10. Verlegen Sie das Netzkabel des Gerätes niemals so, daß man darüber stolpern kann oder daß es gequetscht wird.
11. Benutzen Sie nur das vom Hersteller empfohlene Zubehör.
12. Verwenden Sie ausschließlich Wagen, Ständer, oder Tische, die speziell für professionelle Audio- und Musikinstrumente geeignet sind. Achten Sie immer darauf, daß die jeweiligen Geräte sicher installiert sind, um Schäden und Verletzungen zu vermeiden. Wenn Sie einen Rollwagen benutzen, achten Sie darauf, das dieser nicht umkippt, um Verletzungen auszuschließen.

13. Ziehen Sie während eines Gewitters oder wenn Sie das Gerät über einen längeren Zeitraum nicht benutzen den Netzstecher aus der Steckdose.
14. Die Wartung sollte nur durch qualifiziertes Fachpersonal erfolgen. Die Wartung wird notwendig, wenn das Gerät beschädigt wurde oder aber das Stromkabel oder der Stecker, Gegenstände oder Flüssigkeit in das Gerät gelangt sind, das Gerät dem Regen oder Feuchtigkeit ausgesetzt war und deshalb nicht mehr normal arbeitet oder heruntergefallen ist.

15. Dieses Gerät produziert auch im normalen Betrieb Wärme. Achten Sie deshalb auf ausreichende Lüftung mit mindestens 15 cm Abstand von anderen Geräten.
16. Dieses Produkt kann in Verbindung mit einem Verstärker und Kopfhörern oder Lautsprechern Lautstärkepegel erzeugen, die anhaltende Gehörschäden verursachen. Betreiben Sie es nicht über längere Zeit mit hoher Lautstärke oder einem Pegel, der Ihnen unangenehm is. Wenn Sie ein Nachlassen des Gehörs oder ein Klingeln in den Ohren feststellen, sollten Sie einen Ohrenarzt aufsuchen.
17. Setzen Sie den Apparat nicht Bratenfett oder dem Spritzen aus. Plazieren Sie die Nachrichten, die mit Flüssigkeiten (gefüllt werden Blumevases, Getränkdosen, Kaffeetassen) nicht auf den Apparat.
18. WARNING: um die Gefahr des Feuers oder des elektrischen Schlages zu verringern, setzen Sie diesen Apparat nicht Regen oder Feuchtigkeit aus.

CE Declaration Of Conformity

See our website at

http://www.alesis.com

FCC Compliance Statement

This device complies with Part 15 of the FCC rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) This device may not cause harmful interference and (2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

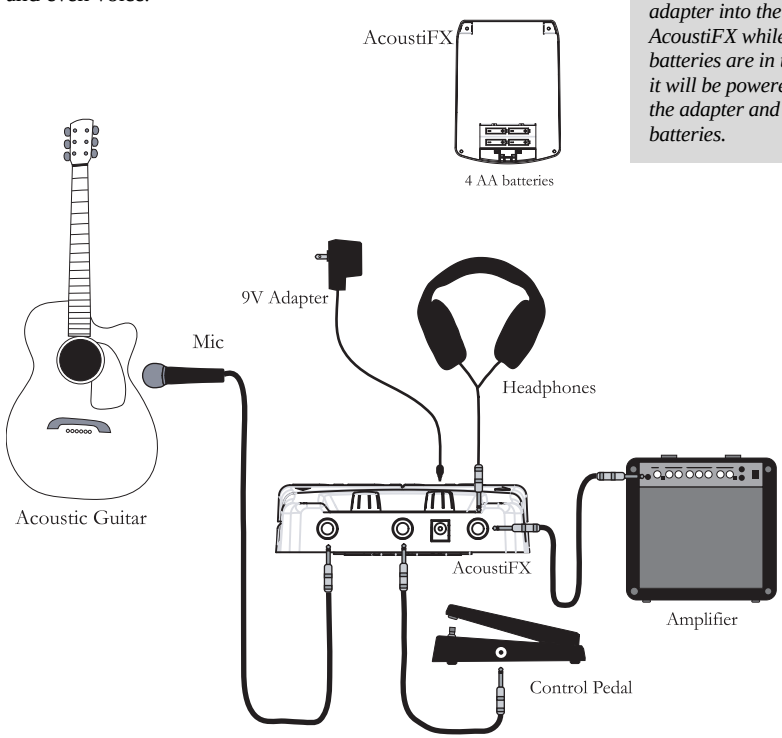
NOTE: This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

-- Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
-- Increase the separation between the equipment and receiver.
-- Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.
-- Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help.

3 Hookup Diagram

The first thing we'll show you is how to get your AcoustiFX up and running. The following diagram shows you the most common method of hooking up your AcoustiFX, but there are other ways of doing it. For example, you may decide to run the AcoustiFX straight into your mixer or recording device instead of an amplifier. You may even want to go so far as to use the AcoustiFX to add effects to other mic'd acoustic instruments such as brass, strings, woodwinds, piano and even voice.

When you plug an adapter into the AcoustiFX while batteries are in the unit, it will be powered by the adapter and not the batteries.



4 A Tour of the AcoustiFX

Top Panel

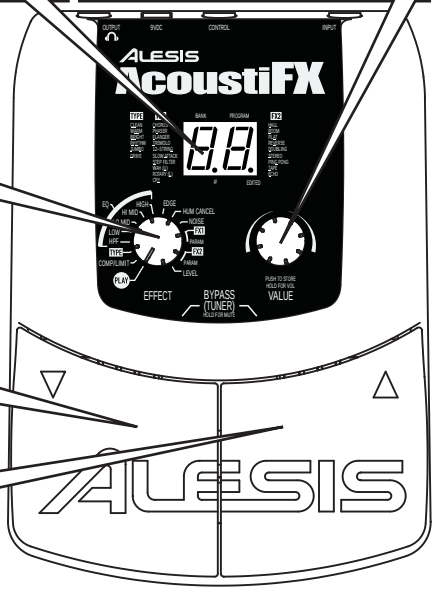
Display
Indicates bank and program, shows parameter values and displays pitch in tuner mode.

VALUE knob
Adjusts parameter values, program numbers and master volume; stores changes.

EFFECT knob
Puts the AcoustiFX in PLAY mode or EDIT mode. You are in EDIT mode when you select a module or parameter with this knob.

Left foot pedal
Decrements program number; when used with the right foot pedal, puts the unit in BYPASS and MUTE modes and accesses the tuner.

Right foot pedal
Increments program number; when used with the left foot pedal, puts the unit in BYPASS and MUTE modes and accesses the tuner.



Display

This LED display is made up of two digits and two decimal points. In PLAY mode, the digits indicate the current bank letter and program number. When you turn the EFFECT knob to a module or parameter, the two digits display the setting of the selection. Descriptions of settings for each mode and parameter are in chapter 10.

When either of the decimal points on the display is flashing, battery power is low and about to run out.

The Display also contains two decimal points, each to the right of one of the digits. The # decimal point is used by the

AcoustiFX's tuner to help indicate the pitch of a note you're playing, and the EDITED decimal point lights up when you have changed the settings of the current program. You can read more about these in chapter 6, "Editing Programs," and chapter 7, "Using the Tuner."

EFFECT knob

The EFFECT knob is used for selecting effect modules, parameters and other settings to edit. Around the knob, you'll see the names of sixteen different settings, including eight effect modules (EQ is a single module made up of five separate settings), two effect parameters (labeled PARAM) and a program-level setting (LEVEL). The PLAY setting is what you'll want to be in while playing your guitar through the AcoustiFX.

Refer to chapter 10 for descriptions of the possible values for the EFFECT knob's settings.

VALUE knob

In PLAY mode, this knob lets you select a program. When you make a selection other than PLAY with the EFFECT knob, you are in edit mode, and the VALUE knob allows you to change the setting of the mode, parameter or global setting you have selected. Also, you can press this knob to store changes you have made to a program.

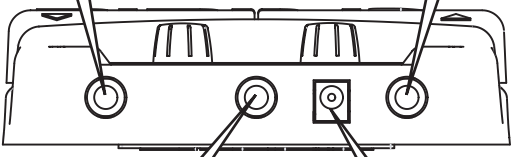
Foot Pedals

While in PLAY mode, the left foot pedal decrements the program number, and the right foot pedal increments the program number. When you press both pedals together, the AcoustiFX goes into bypass mode, in which the audio signal from your guitar simply passes through the AcoustiFX without being affected. When you hold both foot pedals down for longer then half a second, the AcoustiFX goes into mute mode, in which no signal at all leaves the AcoustiFX. When you are in bypass or mute mode, the tuner is activated.

While in PLAY mode, if you press and hold the VALUE knob for longer than half a second, the display will change to the current master volume setting (1 to 30). Default volume is 21 (unity gain) and each number indicates a 2dB change from the number above or below it. Unlike LEVEL, which indicates the level of an individual program, the master volume is a global setting that is remembered each time the unit is turned off.

Rear Panel

The rear panel is where you'll connect the power source, optional control pedal and your guitar and amplifier. It's important that you use the right types of plugs in these jacks. Be sure to follow these guidelines.



INPUT jack
This input jack is a 1/4" monophonic high impedance unbalanced input. If you are using battery power, the unit powers on when you insert a plug here.

OUTPUT jack
This is a stereo 1/4" unbalanced jack that provides enough current to drive headphones. You may use a stereo-to-mono Y cable to run this into two amplifiers.

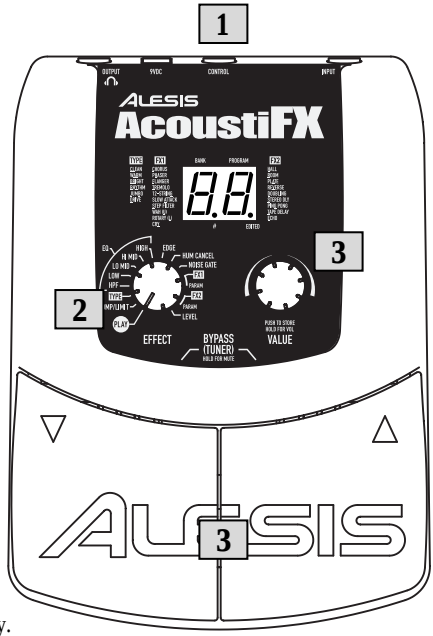
CONTROL jack
This is a 1/4" jack where you can connect an optional control pedal, which can be used to control most effects. You may plug in pedals that have 50kOhm linear taper control with 1/4" TRS connection and a wiper on the ring.

9VDC jack
Here's where you plug in the AC power adapter. This jack is compatible with most other 9VDC adapters. The unit powers on as soon as you connect the adapter.

5 Selecting Programs

After you've plugged everything in, you'll probably want to check out the factory presets we programmed into the AcoustiFX. This chapter shows you how to do that.

To Select Programs



1. Make sure the AcoustiFX is hooked up properly and turned on, as outlined in chapter 3.

2. Make sure you're in PLAY mode (turn the EFFECT knob to PLAY).

3. Change programs in one of these two ways:

   Foot pedals
   This is the easiest way to switch programs, especially while playing your guitar. Just step on the left foot pedal ▽ to decrement the program number and the right △ to increment it. You can hold down a pedal to increment or decrement programs continuously.

   VALUE knob
   You also can turn this knob to switch programs.

4. Play your guitar to hear how the program affects the sound.

6 Editing Programs

To Edit a Selected Program

1. Select a program to edit using the foot pedals or VALUE knob.

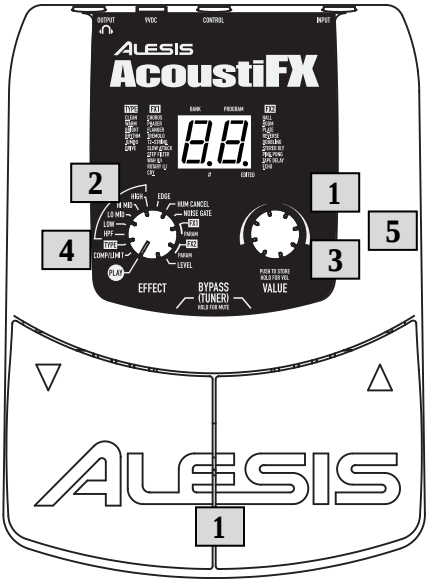
2. Turn the EFFECT knob to the effect module or parameter you wish to modify.

3. Turn the VALUE knob to select an effect type or value for the module. As soon as you change the value, the EDITED decimal point on the display lights up to show you a change has been made to the current program.

4. If the module has a parameter (PARAM), turn the EFFECT knob to select the parameter.

5. Using the VALUE knob, select a value for the parameter.

6. Continue in this way until you have completed assignments for all modules and parameters.



To toggle an effect module on and off, press both pedals while the effect module is selected.

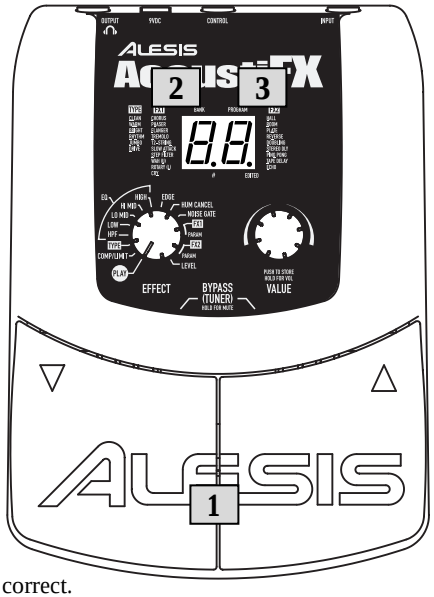
To Restore Factory Presets

Once you have saved changes to a preset program, you can still recall the original settings. To enter RESTORE FACTORY PRESETS mode, simply hold down the VALUE knob as you turn the unit on and then select the program to be restored (or AL for all programs). Press the VALUE knob to confirm your selection. Any program changes you have made will be lost, so you might want to copy the program to another location first. See chapter 8 for instructions on how to copy programs.

Just turn the EFFECT knob to exit the RESTORE FACTORY PRESETS mode, or turn the unit off and then on again.

7 Using the Tuner

To Tune Your Guitar



1. In PLAY mode, enter BYPASS mode  by pressing both foot pedals at the same time once, or enter MUTE mode  by holding them both down for more than half a second. The display will now show tuning information.

2. Make sure your guitar is connected to the AcoustiFX, and play the open string you wish to tune. The left digit of the display indicates the pitch nearest that of the open string. If the # decimal point is lit, the note is a sharp. If it is not lit, the note is a natural.

3. Look at the right digit of the display to determine if the pitch is correct. If the top four segments of the digit are rotating clockwise, then your guitar's pitch is higher than the pitch shown in the first digit. If the bottom four segments are rotating counterclockwise, the pitch is low. The more the pitch is off, the faster the rotation. If no pitch is detected, you'll see a dash in the left digit.

4. Tune the string until an 8 appears in the second digit, indicating that the string is in tune with the pitch displayed in the left digit.

   The visual guide on the next page shows you what you'll see on the display while tuning your guitar.

Visual Guide to Tuning

Low

In tune High

The top four segments rotate clockwise if the pitch is high.
The bottom four rotate counterclockwise if pitch is low.
An 8 means you're in tune.

 = no pitch detected.

Here are the 12 possible pitches (a decimal point indicates a sharp):

Changing Pitch Reference

If you turn the VALUE knob while using the tuner, the display shows you the setting for the AcoustiFX's pitch reference, which is set to 440Hz (shown as ) for the A note above middle C. The possible range of values for this setting is 35 to 45, which represents 435Hz to 445Hz.

When you turn the AcoustiFX on and off again, the reference pitch is reset to 40.

While you are viewing or editing the pitch reference, the display will return to pitch indication if you do not turn the VALUE knob for more than two seconds.

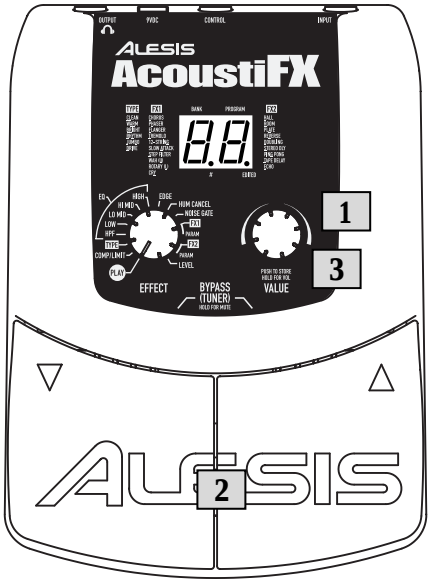
8 Storing & Copying Programs

To Store a Program

1. In PLAY or EDIT mode, press the VALUE knob. The display will flash the current program number.

2. Use the VALUE knob or the foot pedals to select the program number where the current program will be stored. If you want to save it in the same program number, you can skip this step.

3. Press the VALUE knob again to store the program in the selected place. The AcoustiFX then returns to the mode it was in before you began the store operation, and the destination program becomes the current program.



The store operation times out if you do nothing for more than five seconds. You also can abort the operation by turning the EFFECT knob to a different position.

To Copy a Program

A copy is just a store of a program that hasn't been modified, so just follow the same steps as you would to store a program.

9 Deferred Program Change

When you switch programs, the AcoustiFX normally changes immediately to the program shown on the display. However, in some situations—especially when playing live—you may want the ability to scroll through program numbers while remaining in the current program setting. For example, let's say you're performing in program A3, which gives you clean sound with slight reverb. If you want to scroll up to program C6 for a larger sound with an echo while you continue playing, you'll have to be in deferred program-change mode, which allows you to defer a program change until you confirm it. Here's how:

To Defer Program Change

1. As you turn on the AcoustiFX, hold down either foot pedal. Letters will scroll by on the display, spelling the word "deferred."

2. While in PLAY mode, step on one of the foot pedals or turn the VALUE knob to change the program number. You'll notice that the AcoustiFX remains in the program it was in before you changed the program value. Also, the display will flash the digit that is different from the currently selected program. For example, if you are playing in program D5 and scroll up to program D7, the 7 will flash. If you scroll down to B2, both digits will flash.

3. Once the display shows the program number you desire, step on both foot pedals at the same time ▽△ to confirm the program change. The display will stop flashing and the AcoustiFX will switch to the new program.

4. To return to normal program-change mode, turn off the AcoustiFX and turn it back on without holding down either foot pedal.

Deferred program-change mode is especially useful when you're performing and want to switch easily between settings as you continue playing.

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10 EFFECT Knob Settings

Following are descriptions of each of the effect modules (and other settings of the EFFECT knob), along with their effect types and parameters.

PLAY

In this setting, the display shows you the current program number. This is the mode in which you should be performing, as it allows you to easily switch programs via the foot pedals.

A0→A9 b0→b9 C0→C9 d0→d9	Indicates the bank letter and program number of the current program.

COMP/LIMIT (Compressor/Limiter)

Compression evens out the highs and lows of your sound by squeezing them into a thinner range of levels, bringing down the louder levels and boosting the quieter ones. Limiting eases only the high levels.

C1→C9	Provide increasing levels of compression.
L1→L9	Provide increasing limiting.
OF	Turns COMP/LIMIT off.

TYPE

Many factors affect the sound of an acoustic guitar, including its size, the type and thickness of the wood, and the make of amplifier. The TYPE effect module allows you to capture a number of these acoustic-guitar sounds.

CL	**Clean** The clean, natural sound of a quality acoustic guitar.
Ar	**Warm** A dark, deep sound typical of guitars made of dense rosewood or mahogany.

br	**Bright** Accentuates the higher frequencies for a crisp sound usually found in acoustics with smaller bodies.
ry	**Rhythm** A full, warm sound that's great for strumming rhythm parts.
Jb	**Jumbo** Provides a little more low-end for that sound associated with large-body acoustics.
d0→d9	**Drive** Adds a crunch to your acoustic sound, as if you're playing through a tube amplifier and pushing the gain. Higher values mean more drive.
OF	**Off** Turns TYPE off.

EQ (Equalizer)

This module provides you with a high-pass filter and four bands of equalization that you can use to shape the sound of your audio signal by cutting and boosting certain frequencies.

HPF (High-Pass Filter)

This filter eliminates unwanted low frequencies by cutting out all frequencies lower than 80 Hz when activated. Frequencies higher than 80 Hz are allowed to pass (thus the name "high-pass filter"). This is very useful for getting rid of noise caused by air conditioners, passing cars or other low-frequency rumble (great if you're recording at home).

On	Turns on the high-pass filter.
OF	Turns off the high-pass filter.

LOW

This is a single-pole low-shelf filter at 150Hz. This works by allowing you to boost or cut all of the frequencies below 150Hz. Use the LOW band to adjust the bass in your guitar signal.

-12→12	This range corresponds to -12dB to +12dB in 1dB steps.
OF	Turns off the LOW EQ band.
LO MID	
This EQ band is a parametric band at 700Hz with a Q of 1.5. This type of EQ works by boosting or cutting at 700Hz, along with a band of frequencies above and below 700Hz. Q determines the range of frequencies affected (the bandwidth). A Q value of 1.5 is an optimal setting for most EQ applications.	
-12→12	This range corresponds to -12dB to +12dB in 1dB steps.
OF	Turns off the LO MID EQ band.
HI MID	
This band is a parametric band at 2.5kHz with a Q of 1.5.	
-12→12	This range corresponds to -12dB to +12dB in 1dB steps.
OF	Turns off the HI MID EQ band.
HIGH	
This is a single-pole high shelf filter at 5kHz. This works by allowing you to boost or cut the 5kHz frequency, along with all of the frequencies above that. Use the HIGH band to control the highest frequencies in your guitar signal.	
-12→12	This range corresponds to -12dB to +12dB in 1dB steps.
OF	Turns off the HIGH EQ band.

EDGE	
This is a filtered limiter that gives your acoustic guitar a bright, edgy sound. This effect works by taking the original signal, filtering out all frequencies that fall below 2kHz, feeding that into a limiter and then mixing it back with the original, unfiltered, unlimited sound.	
1→20	Increasing amounts of edge.
OF	Turns off EDGE.

HUM CANCEL

The hum canceller eliminates unwanted low-end hum by eliminating the frequency that contains the hum (60Hz). Unlike the high-pass filter, this mode allows you to control how much noise you want to eliminate. If the high-pass filter is turned on, you do not need to use the hum canceller.

	Increasing levels of hum elimination (60Hz harmonic notch filters).
	Turns off the hum canceller.

NOISE GATE

The noise gate eliminates unwanted noise by gating the signal, which means that it mutes the signal until the signal's level rises above a certain point.

	Increasing levels of gate threshold.
	Turns off the noise gate.

FX1 (Multi-Effect Module 1, Stereo Effects)

This module gives you a choice of stereo effects. You assign one effect at a time to this module.

	**Chorus** Adds fullness to your sound by emulating a chorus of multiple instruments. Higher values indicate greater modulation depth.
	**Pedal Chorus** A Chorus effect whose modulation depth is controlled by the control pedal.
	**Phaser** An effect that shifts the phase of the signal and adds it to the original sound (in simpler terms, it adds a duplicate signal that is delayed a bit). The phaser gives your guitar a full, pulsating sound. Higher values result in more feedback, producing a more intense effect.
	**Pedal Phaser** A phaser effect whose feedback is controlled by the control pedal.

F0→F9	**Flanger** Shifts the pitch of the signal up and down, creating a swirling effect. Higher values result in more feedback.
FP	**Pedal Flanger** A flanger whose delay is controlled by the control pedal.
t0→t9	**Tremolo** Varies the volume of the signal, creating a rising and falling effect. Higher values result in greater depth of variation.
tP	**Pedal Tremolo** A tremolo effect whose depth is controlled by the control pedal.
C0→C9	**12-String** Emulates the crisp, full sound of a 12-string guitar by creating the impression that your guitar has six additional strings that are tuned an octave higher than the original six.
CP	**Pedal 12-String** A 12-string effect whose intensity is controlled by the control pedal.
A0→A9	**Slow Attack** Reduces the attack rate of the signal, slowing the rate at which the volume of the sound rises when you attack a string. Higher values result in higher sensitivity.
S0→S9	**Random Sample and Hold Step Filter** Filters the signal with a cutoff frequency that changes to a new random value at fixed time intervals, producing an arpeggiator-like sound.
SP	**Pedal Step Filter** A step filter whose depth is controlled by the control pedal.
U0→U9	**Auto Wah** The classic auto wah sound that we all know and love. U1 – U4 are the standard, upward-sweeping variations with varying attack/release rates. U5 – U9 are downward-sweeping variations with varying attack/release rates.

UP	**Pedal Wah** A wah sound controlled by moving the control pedal up and down as you play.
L0→L9	**Rotary Speaker** Emulates the sound of the classic rotary, creating a Doppler effect similar to that achieved by an organ's rotating speaker. Higher values result in greater intensity and pan depth.
LP	**Pedal Rotary Speaker** A rotary speaker effect whose intensity and pan depth are controlled by the control pedal.
90→99	**Cry** Creates an effect similar to that of a voice box, adding a human-like crying effect to the sound. Higher values result in faster attack/release rates.
YP	**Pedal Cry** A cry effect whose intensity is controlled by the control pedal.
OF	**Off** Turns off FX1.

PARAM (Direct-Control Parameter for FX1)

This parameter modifies the operation of the effect selected for the FX1 module. Changing between effect types with dissimilar value ranges will scale this value accordingly. For example, if you set Phaser to PARAM=63 and then switch to the Auto Wah effect, its PARAM value will be 12. Changing back to Phaser will result in a PARAM value of 63.

1→99	Indicates the value of FX1's direct-control parameter, according to the following: For Phaser, Tremolo, Step Filter, Flanger and Chorus, indicates the rate of the effect. For Slow Attack, indicates the rate of the attack. For Rotary Speaker, indicates the rate of the speaker rotation.

0→20	For Cry and Auto Wah, indicates the attack/release rate.
Pd	Indicates that the control pedal controls the parameter.
--	Indicates that the effect assigned to the FX1 module does not have a direct-control parameter (for example, 12-String, Pedal Wah or Pedal Cry) or that FX1 is off.

FX2 (Multi-Effect Module 2, Delay-Based Effects)

This module gives you a choice of delay-based effects. A delay is an echo of the original signal that can occur at varying frequency and time.

h0→h9	**Hall Reverb** Simulates the effect of sound waves bouncing off of the walls of a concert hall. Higher values indicate a wetter mix.
hP	**Pedal Hall Reverb** A Hall Reverb effect whose wet/dry mix is controlled by the control pedal.
r0→r9	**Room Reverb** Simulates the effect of sound waves bouncing off of the walls of a room. Higher values indicate a wetter mix.
rP	**Pedal Room Reverb** A Room Reverb effect whose wet/dry mix is controlled by the control pedal.
A0→A9	**Plate Reverb** Recreates the classic "plate reverb" sound achieved by using a metal plate. Higher values indicate a wetter mix.
AP	**Pedal Plate Reverb** A Plate Reverb effect whose wet/dry mix is controlled by the control pedal.
u0→u9	**Reverse Reverb** Creates a backwards-playing reverb that you hear immediately before you hear the original signal, instead of after it. Higher values indicate a wetter mix.

	**Pedal Reverse Reverb** A Reverse Reverb effect whose wet/dry mix is controlled by the control pedal.
	**Doubling** Doubles the signal with a slight delay, creating the effect of two instruments playing at once. Higher values indicate higher intensity.
	**Pedal Doubling** Doubling effect whose intensity is controlled by the control pedal.
	**Stereo Delay** A standard delay that occurs in stereo. Higher values indicate more feedback, producing a longer-repeating echo.
	**Pedal Stereo Delay** A Stereo Delay effect whose feedback level is controlled by the control pedal.
	**Ping Pong Delay** Creates a delay that bounces back and forth between the right and left sides of the stereo spectrum. Higher values indicate more feedback.
	**Pedal Ping Pong** Ping Pong Delay effect whose amount of feedback is controlled by the control pedal.
	**Tape Delay** Emulates the retro tape-delay effect that was created by recording a signal to tape and playing it back as a delay. Higher values indicate more feedback.
	**Pedal Tape Delay** A Tape Delay effect whose feedback is controlled by the control pedal; great for singling out notes or sections to echo.
	**Echo** An echo for which higher values indicate a wetter signal and lower values indicate a drier signal.
	**Pedal Echo** An echo whose wet/dry mix is controlled by the control pedal.

OF	**Off** Indicates FX2 is off.

PARAM (Direct-Control Parameter for FX2)	
This direct-control parameter works in a similar fashion as the one for FX1.	
1→99	For Doubling, Ping Pong, Tape Delay, Stereo Delay and Echo, indicates the length of the delay, up to one second for Tape Delay and up to half a second for the others.
0→20	For all reverbs, higher values indicate a longer decay.
Pd	Indicates that the control pedal controls the parameter.
- -	Indicates FX2 is off.

LEVEL	
In this position, the display shows you the output level of the current program.	
1→30	**Level** Indicates the program output level in 2dB steps, where 25 is unity gain (0dB). Unity gain is the point at which the level of the output is the same as the level of the input.

11 Troubleshooting

Troubleshooting Index

Symptoms	Cause	Solution
Unit does not function (no display or audio).	Batteries dead.	Replace batteries.
	Incorrect AC adapter.	Use only Alesis P6 or equivalent.
	No/incorrect INPUT connection.	On battery power, the AcoustiFX will turn on only when a mono 1/4" plug is inserted into the INPUT jack.
Audio distorted, even in BYPASS.	Input level too high.	Reduce instrument output level.
	Output level too high.	Turn down master volume.
	Batteries low.	Replace batteries.
No sound, level low.	Incorrect input/output connections.	Refer to pages 16 and 19.
	Master volume or program level set too low.	Change setting.
Display dim, # or EDITED dot flashing.	Batteries almost dead.	Replace batteries.

12 Specifications

For the more technical-minded, here are some detailed specifications for the AcoustiFX.

AUDIO PROCESSING

Effect Modules:	8
Programs:	4 banks x 10 Programs = 40 programs, user overwritable, maintained when unit is off, restorable to factory defaults

AUDIO PERFORMANCE

THD+N:	< 0.05%
A/D Converter:	20-bit, 64 times oversampling
D/A Converter:	20-bit, 128 times oversampling
Sample Rate:	31.25kHz

AUDIO INPUT

Input Connector:	1/4" mono phone jack
Max. Input Level:	7.6dBu
Input Impedance:	470kOhm

AUDIO OUTPUT

Output Connector:	1/4" stereo phone jack
Max. Output Level:	1.9dBu w/ 10kHOhm or more load impedance 0.25 dBu w/ 63 Ohm load impedance

CONTROL INPUT

Input Connector:	1/4" stereo phone jack, Tip = 1.5V, Ring = Input, Sleeve = GND

POWER

AC Adapter (sold separately):	Alesis P6 - 9VDC (center minus), 300mA
Batteries:	4 IEC R6 (size AA) batteries
Battery Life:	Approximately 30 hours continuous operation with high-drain alkaline batteries
Dimensions:	7.5” x 5.5” x 1.6” (190mm x 140mm x 41mm)
Weight:	15.7oz (445g) without batteries

13 Warranty/Contact Alesis

Alesis Limited Warranty

ALESIS CORPORATION ("ALESIS") warrants this product to be free of defects in material and workmanship for a period of one (1) year for parts and for a period of one (1) year for labor from the date of original retail purchase. This warranty is enforceable only by the original retail purchaser and cannot be transferred or assigned.

For the most effective service, the purchaser should register the purchase on the ALESIS website at http://www.alesis.com/support/warranty.htm.

During the warranty period, ALESIS shall, at its sole and absolute option, either repair or replace free of charge any product that proves to be defective on inspection by ALESIS or its authorized service representative. In all cases disputes concerning this warranty shall be resolved as prescribed by law.

To obtain warranty service, the purchaser must first call or write ALESIS at the address and telephone number available on the Alesis website to obtain a Return Authorization Number and instructions concerning where to return the unit for service. All inquiries must be accompanied by a description of the problem. All authorized returns must be sent to ALESIS or an authorized ALESIS repair facility postage prepaid, insured and properly packaged. Proof of purchase must be presented in the form of a bill of sale, canceled check or some other positive proof that the product is within the warranty period. ALESIS reserves the right to update any unit returned for repair. ALESIS reserves the right to change or improve design of the product at any time without prior notice.

This warranty does not cover claims for damage due to abuse, neglect, alteration or attempted repair by unauthorized personnel, and is limited to failures arising during normal use that are due to defects in material or workmanship in the product.

THE ABOVE WARRANTIES ARE IN LIEU OF ANY OTHER WARRANTIES OR REPRESENTATIONS WHETHER EXPRESS OR IMPLIED OR OTHERWISE, WITH RESPECT TO THE PRODUCT, AND SPECIFICALLY EXCLUDE ANY IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE OR MERCHANTABILITY OR OTHER IMPLIED WARRANTIES. Some states do not allow limitations on how long an implied warranty lasts, so the above limitation may not apply to you.

IN NO EVENT WILL ALESIS BE LIABLE FOR INCIDENTAL, CONSEQUENTIAL, INDIRECT OR OTHER DAMAGES RESULTING FROM THE BREACH OF ANY EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTY, INCLUDING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, DAMAGE TO PROPERTY, DAMAGE BASED ON INCONVENIENCE OR ON LOSS OF USE OF THE PRODUCT, AND, TO THE EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW, DAMAGES FOR PERSONAL INJURY. Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitation or exclusion may not apply to you.

THIS CONTRACT SHALL BE GOVERNED BY THE INTERNAL LAWS OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA WITHOUT REFERENCE TO CONFLICTS OF LAWS. This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights required by law which vary from state to state.

This warranty only applies to products sold to purchasers in the United States of America or Canada. The terms of this warranty and any obligations of Alesis under this warranty shall apply only within the country of sale. Without limiting the foregoing, repairs under this warranty shall be made only by a duly authorized Alesis service representative in the country of sale. For warranty information in all other countries please refer to your local distributor.

Alesis Contact Information

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