

MR. BLACK

**VINTAGE
ENSEMBLE**

STEREO 

PROFESSIONAL

User/Operations Reference Manual

REVISION A - MARCH 2026

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION:.....	1
OVERVIEW:.....	1
CONTROL KNOBS, BUTTONS AND FOOTSWITCHES:	2
Mix, Depth & Rate:	2
Mix:	2
Depth:	2
Rate:	2
Save Button:.....	3
Save:	3
Normal/Stereo Button:	3
Normal/Stereo:.....	3
TAP/PRESET Footswitch:	3
Tap/Preset:.....	3
NORMAL/EFFECT Footswitch:.....	4
Normal/Effect:.....	4
INPUTS, OUTPUTS & POWER:.....	4
Inputs/Outputs:.....	4
Recommended connection schemes:.....	4
TAP/EXP Jack & Expression Pedals:	4
Power:	5
MIDI:	6
Control knob changes:	6
Bypass / Engage:	6
Presets:	6
MIDI Clock:	6
Normal/Stereo Modes:	7
SVE Pro MIDI Message Reference Tables:	7
MATERIALS, SIGNAL PATH AND ALGORITHMS:	8
TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS:	8
SAMPLE / EXAMPLE SETTINGS:.....	9

INTRODUCTION:

Thank You for purchasing a truly stunning and powerful chorus and spatial expansion pedal. The Stereo Vintage Ensemble Pro was designed to replicate the tone of iconic “OG Chorus pedal” which started it all, back in the late 1970s.

The Stereo Vintage Ensemble Pro, just like all Mr. Black pedals, is hand-built, one at a time by Mr. Black Pedals, in our factory.

The Stereo Vintage Ensemble Pro (herein referred to as “SVEP”) is really, two individual/discrete chorus circuits in one box, sharing common controls and including two modes of operation, which are different enough in tone to nearly make them two separate effects.

Precision tap-tempo, a super-easy-to-use preset and our lossless wet/dry mixer bring new capabilities to the classic sound, and external expression pedal input and MIDI support, round out the package to deliver one incredible true-stereo chorus and vibrato outboard effect.

We encourage you to take a moment to read through this document and familiarize yourself with the SVEP’s controls and operation as the potential within is spectacular.

OVERVIEW:

The SVEP was not only designed to recreate the iconic “Ensemble” chorus tone, but also to expand on the sound by offering two fully-separate/discrete audio paths for true-stereo input and output, and then take the iconic sound even further by including a spatial enhancement algorithm which spreads the fluid movement across a 3D space. When run with two separate amplifiers, Stereo mode is truly breathtaking.

The SVEP was also designed to be intuitive, reliable and as easy to use as possible, so you can spend more time bathing in the warmth it delivers.

The three simple control knobs, two buttons and two footswitches likely already make sense to you, just by looking at them, and that is our goal. There are a few details which may aide you in determining exactly how you’d like to set the pedal up and what you’d like to save in your presets.

CONTROL KNOBS, BUTTONS AND FOOTSWITCHES:

The SVEP's control knobs, buttons and footswitches are about as straightforward and intuitive as possible, but the subtleties within each are where mastery lies.

Mix, Depth & Rate:

Mix: Lossless Wet/Dry mixer control
Full CCW: 100% Dry
Full CW: 100% Wet
General: This control functions as a “blend” control for your dry input(s) and modulated delay line output(s). High-noon will be the most intense chorus effect, full CW will be pitch vibrato.

Depth: Delay-time modulation intensity control
Full CCW: No delay line modulation
Full CW: Pronounced delay line modulation
General: Similar to many chorus designs, Depth sets how much the internal LFOs will modulate the two internal delay-lines' time delay.

Rate: LFO rate/period control
Full CCW: ~0.24Hz (~4.1 seconds)
Full CW: ~8Hz (0.125 seconds)
General: This is your LFOs rate/period control, and it boasts a pretty wide range of speeds: Approx. 0.24Hz at full CCW rotation and approx. 8Hz at full CW rotation.
The LED just below the Rate control will display your current LFO speed and position in real time.
Note: the tap-tempo footswitch drastically extends both extremes of the LFO speed range; more on that shortly

Save Button:

Pressing SAVE once will store whatever your current control settings are into your preset.

Save: Saves the current control settings to preset
Press: Save current settings
General: The SAVE button saves the currently active control settings. The Preset LED will illuminate once the current settings have been successfully saved.
Note: Tap-tempo speed and active expression pedal position will over-ride the control knob positions, if either are being used.

Normal/Stereo Button:

Pressing the NORMAL/STEREO button will select between Normal-mode (indicated by Red LEDs) and STEREO-mode (indicated by Green LEDs).

Normal/Stereo: Select between Normal-mode and Stereo Mode
Press: Switch from Normal to Stereo, or Stereo to Normal
General: Red LEDs: Normal-mode
Green LEDs: Stereo-mode

TAP/PRESET Footswitch:

The TAP/PRESET footswitch pulls double-duty on the SVEP. Its primary function is to allow you to tap in the tempo/rate of the internal LFOs, and using tap-tempo extends the range of LFO speeds, stretching all the way out to 30 seconds!

Holding the TAP/PRESET footswitch for 1.5 seconds will activate / deactivate your preset. You'll note that when your preset is active, the Preset LED will illuminate.

Tap/Preset: Tap-Tempo / [HOLD] Activate/Deactivate preset
Tap/Press: Tap-Tempo (two tap system)
Hold [1.5 Sec.]: Activate/ Deactivate preset
General: The Tap-Tempo footswitch pulls double-duty and can be used to set the speed/period of the LFO by tapping in the tempo you'd like: The first tap starts the time-capture window, the second tap records the time you've tapped in and resets the LFO's cycles.
Note: the second tap of the tap-tempo footswitch "re-starts" the LFOs at the beginning of their cycles so that you can time the modulation and sweep to your song perfectly.
Holding the Tap-Tempo switch for approx. 1.5 seconds will allow you to activate/deactivate your saved preset.

NORMAL/EFFECT Footswitch:

As the name suggests, the NORMAL/EFFECT footswitch activates and deactivates the SVEP. The LED just left of the NORMAL/EFFECT footswitch displays the current state of your SVEP, where LED-on is active, and LED-off is inactive.

Normal/Effect:	Bypass/Engage
Tap/Press:	Toggle between bypass and effect modes
General:	Engage effect, or bypass effect

INPUTS, OUTPUTS & POWER:

The SVEP has a total of six jacks, four on its right edge, and two on its left edge, plus a 2.1mm 9VDC power jack just above the outputs on the left edge. They are all intuitive and easy to use, however there are some details within each one which can allow you to connect your SVEP to your signal chain just as you see fit.

Inputs/Outputs:

Your SVEP features two fully independent audio paths and two fully independent chorus engines, which share controls but remain internally separate/isolated.

Recommended connection schemes:

Mono-In / Mono-Out:	Connect to mono input and mono output only
Mono-In / Stereo-Out:	Connect to mono input and both mono and stereo outputs
Stereo-In / Stereo-Out:	Connect to mono <i>and</i> stereo inputs, and mono <i>and</i> stereo outputs

TAP/EXP Jack & Expression Pedals:

The TAP/EXP jack allows you to connect either a momentary NO (normally-open) tap-tempo switch via a standard ¼” patch cable for remote tap-tempo, or an external expression pedal, which can be assigned to any control on the fly, via a ¼” TRS cable. Your SVEP accepts the “common” expression pedal wiring:

Tip:	Wiper
Ring:	High
Sleeve:	Ground

To use an external expression pedal with your SVEP, simply connect your expression pedal to the TAP/EXP. jack with a ¼” TRS cable, ensuring that your expression pedal follows the wiring connections above, and rotate the control to be assigned to expression control to its maximum clockwise rotation.

The control has now been assigned to be controlled by your expression pedal.

It’s *that* easy.

To resume control knob use, simply rotate the control away from its full clockwise rotation.

That’s it.

You can change the control(s) assigned to expression pedal at any time, by simply rotating the control to, or away from, the control’s full clockwise rotation.

We call it “the easy way” and I think you’ll really enjoy it.

Power:

Your SVEP was designed to use “industry standard” 9VDC pedal power, and your SVEP will *only operate on regulated 9VDC power*, via the ubiquitous 2.1mm barrel connector. While your SVEP’s power draw is surprisingly low at 74mA, we recommend ensuring that your power supply can deliver a minimum of 100mA. Most commercially available pedal power units will easily meet this requirement.

Please ensure that your power cable is a 2.1mm negative center-pin, running at 9VDC.

Inverted polarity, AC power supplies, and any voltage in excess of 12VDC is likely to permanently damage your SVEP.

MIDI:

Your SVEP is MIDI-equipped and accepts a 3.5mm (1/8th inch) TRS phone cable, following the **MIDI Type A** connection standard. Please ensure that your MIDI controller and cabling follows the MIDI Type A wiring standard.

Your SVE Pro ships factory assigned to **MIDI Channel 13**. Because: it's the coolest.

The SVE Pro is very easy to integrate into your MIDI system, and using MIDI with your SVE Pro can greatly expand the capacity and capabilities of this powerful chorus pedal.

All controls, buttons and functions on your SVE Pro are available to be controlled remotely via MIDI, and there are *an additional 8 presets* available for you when using MIDI control! Below is a quick reference guide for all MIDI actions your SVE can execute. Please take a moment to review and familiarize yourself with the power now available to you, so that you can get the most out of your SVE Pro.

Control knob changes:

You can quickly and easily change the control knob settings by sending your SVE Pro a CC message with the specific value that you would like to set the control to.

-Example: Set Mix control to 50/50 -- Send CC#: 0, Value: 63

Bypass / Engage:

There are three ways that you can bypass or engage your SVE Pro:

- CC# 5 (Value of "0" will Bypass your SVE Pro; *any* value >= 1 will Engage your SVE Pro)
- Note-On / Note-Off message (Note-On to Engage, Note-Off to Bypass)
- CC# 12 will toggle Bypass/Engage (i.e. if bypassed, CC# 12 will engage your SVE Pro)

Presets:

Your SVE Pro features one "Live" preset, available by holding down the Tap-Tempo/Preset footswitch for 1.5 seconds, and your SVE Pro has *eight more* presets available via MIDI.

To Save a MIDI Preset:

-CC# 7, Value of 0 – 7 (0 being MIDI Preset 0, 3 being MIDI Preset 3, etc.)

To Recall a MIDI Preset:

-PC# with MIDI Preset to recall. (E.g.: PC# 5 will recall and activate MIDI Preset 5.)

MIDI Clock:

Your SVE Pro will lock onto MIDI clock any time MIDI clock is preset, and MIDI Clock is enabled. To Enable MIDI Clock: CC# 52. To Ignore MIDI Clock CC# 51

Normal/Stereo Modes:

- CC# 9 will switch to Normal Mode
- CC# 10 will switch to Stereo Mode
- CC# 11 will toggle between Normal and Stereo Mode.

SVE Pro MIDI Message Reference Tables:

Action/Parameter	MIDI Message Type	MIDI CC #:	Value:
Mix Control	Control Change	0	Control Value: 0 – 127
Depth Control	Control Change	1	Control Value: 0 – 127
Rate Control	Control Change	2	Control Value: 0 – 127
Bypass / Engage	Control Change	5	0 = Bypass, 1 - 127 = Engage
Save MIDI Preset	Control Change	7	Preset Number: 0 – 7
Normal Mode	Control Change	9	<i>NULL / DON'T CARE</i>
Stereo Mode	Control Change	10	<i>NULL / DON'T CARE</i>
Normal/Stereo	Control Change	11	<i>NULL / DON'T CARE</i>
Toggle Bypass	Control Change	12	<i>NULL / DON'T CARE</i>
MIDI Tap-Tempo	Control Change	13	<i>NULL / DON'T CARE</i>
MIDI Clock Ignore	Control Change	51	<i>NULL / DON'T CARE</i>
MIDI Clock Enable	Control Change	52	<i>NULL / DON'T CARE</i>
Subdivision	Control Change	53	0 = 1/4 Note 1 = 1/8 Note 2 = Dotted 1/8 Note
Live Controls	Control Change	99	<i>NULL / DON'T CARE</i>
Action	MIDI Message Type	MIDI PC #:	
Load Preset	Program Change	Preset Number: 0 – 7	
Live Mode	Program Change	99	
Set Channel* (See Below)	Program Change	New Channel: 1 – 16	
Action	MIDI Message Type	Note Number:	Velocity:
Engage	Note-On	<i>NULL / DON'T CARE</i>	<i>NULL / DON'T CARE</i>
Bypass	Note-Off	<i>NULL / DON'T CARE</i>	<i>NULL / DON'T CARE</i>
Action	MIDI Command		
MIDI Clock	MIDI Clock		

MATERIALS, SIGNAL PATH AND ALGORITHMS:

Great care was taken in designing your SVEP, from the physical layout of the enclosure to the specific parts used, and from the enclosure to the solder, your SVEP employs exclusively high-performance, long-life, premium parts, components, and materials.

Your SVEP has been designed with two entirely independent channels, and two entirely independent chorus engines, sharing only controls. Because the two channels are entirely separate audio paths, you can run two different instruments into each channel and as such, have, quite literally: two separate chorus channels at your toes, in the same box! As your SVEP is true-stereo, your SVEP features buffered-bypass ensuring silent switching, exceptional signal integrity and ease of use.

Your SVEP employs full 24-bit floating-point DSP processing and when run in Stereo-mode, a unique “spatial enhancement” algorithm, which vastly expands the stereo field. This incredible “moving sound field” is achieved via clever matching of complimentary delay times within the SVEP’s dual modulation engines. You can think of Normal-mode as your vintage chorus, and Stereo-mode as your vintage chorus with an incredible “aural illusion” that greatly expands the stereo field.

Connect your SVEP to two amplifiers, flip over to Stereo-mode and get lost in the glory.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS:

Input Impedance:	470k Ω per channel
Output Impedance:	2k Ω per channel
Bypass:	Buffered-Bypass
MIDI Input:	3.5mm, MIDI Type-A Standard
Power Requirement:	Regulated 9VDC (2.1mm negative center-pin)
Current Draw:	74mA @ 9VDC; \geq 100mA supply recommended
Dimensions:	3.725” x 4.75” x 2.10” (94.6MM x 120.6MM x 53.5MM)
Weight:	13.25oz (375g)

SAMPLE / EXAMPLE SETTINGS:



*Classic Chorus
(Normal-mode)*



*Light Chorus
(Normal-mode)*



*Pitch Vibrato
(Normal-mode)*



*Spatial Expanse
(Stereo-mode)*

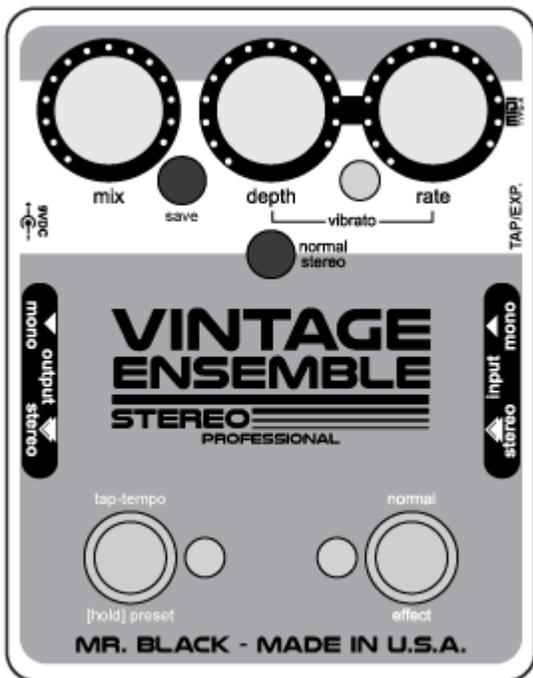


Dizzy Warble
(Stereo-mode)

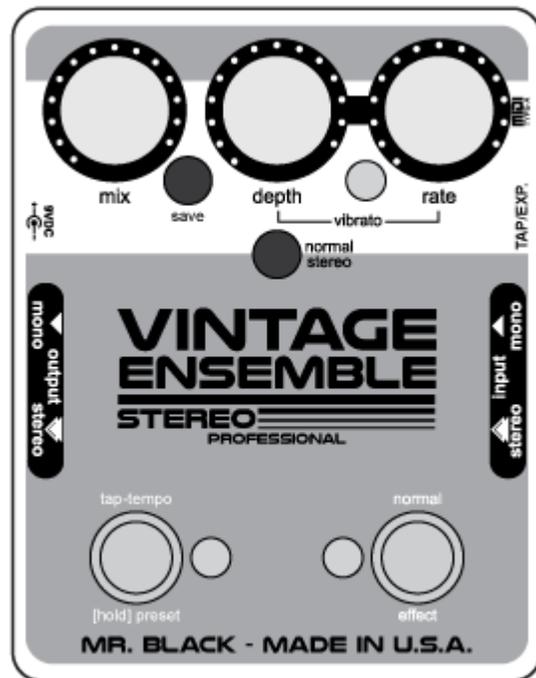


"Just Right"
(Stereo-mode)

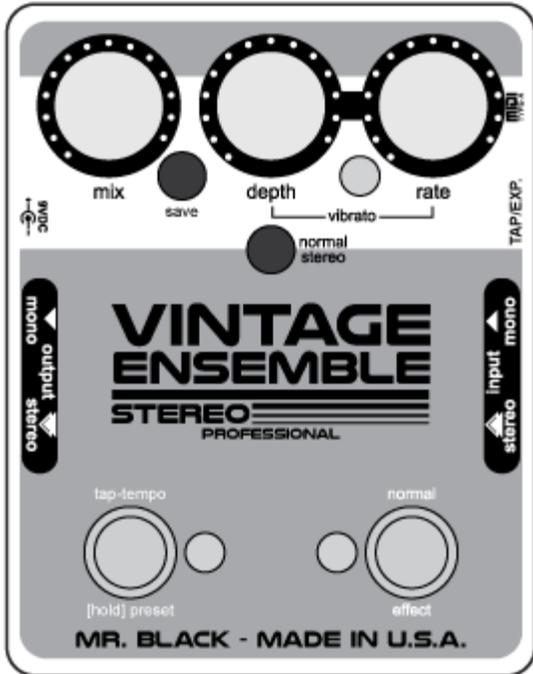
USER SETTINGS:



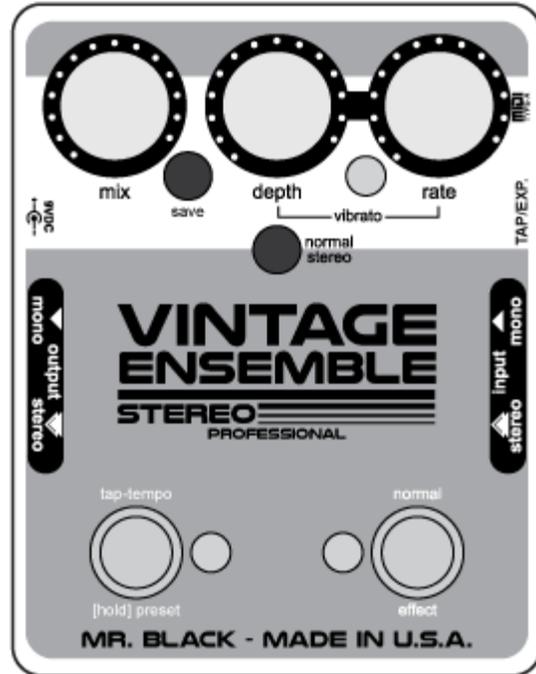
User Setting 1



User Setting 2



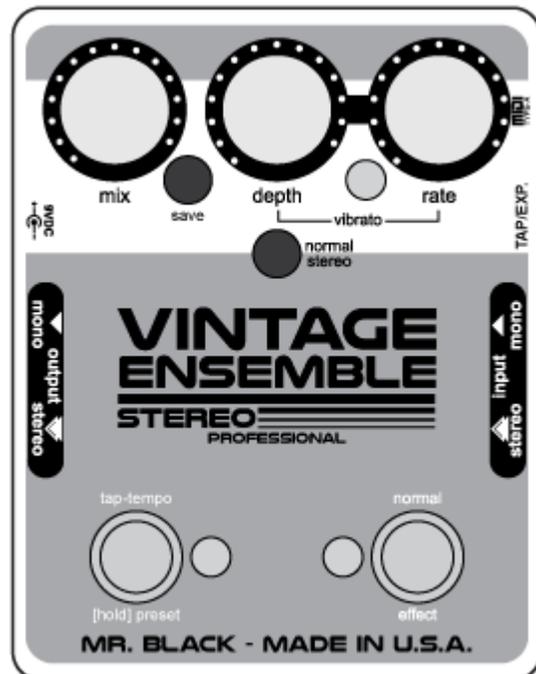
User Setting 3



User Setting 4



User Setting 5



User Setting 6