

v. 24 July 2015



# ***SUPER SYNTH***

## **OWNER'S MANUAL**

## IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

- 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 dry cloth;
- 7) Do not block any ventilation openings. 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 ground-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) Only use 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 injury from the tip-over (and Fig 21 DU Tipping Cart Symbol).
- 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 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) "Warning: to reduce the risk of fire or electric shock, do not expose this apparatus to rain or moisture; and objects filled with liquids, such as vases, should not be placed on this apparatus";
- 16) To completely disconnect this apparatus from the AC mains, disconnect the power supply cord plug from the AC receptacle;
- 17) The mains plug of the power supply cord shall remain readily accessible.
- 18) In case of voltage selector make sure the switch on the rear panel is on the correct voltage before connecting it to the AC power, and the fuse is the right value for that voltage (This selector is not available on the 100V version). Please change the voltage/fuse values label located near the voltage selector matching the voltage/fuse values when you need to change the voltage of the apparatus.
- 19) "WARNING: this apparatus must be securely attached to the floor or wall in accordance with installation instruction. Tipping, shaking, or rocking the machine may cause injury or death."

### MORE INFORMATION

For warranty and service information, please contact your local Markbass distributor (contact information available at [www.markbass.it](http://www.markbass.it)). For more technical information, please visit us at [www.markbass.it](http://www.markbass.it) and fill out the form on the Contact Us page. We hope you enjoy your effect pedal and use it to make great music!



"The Lightning Flash with arrowhead symbol within an equilateral triangle, is intended to alert the user to the presence of uninsulated "dangerous voltage" within the product enclosure that may be of sufficient magnitude to constitute a risk of shock to persons."



"The exclamation point within an equilateral triangle is intended to alert the user to the presence of important operating and maintenance (servicing) instructions in the literature accompanying the product."



"To be used only with altitude not exceeding 2000 m"



"To be used only where the climate is not tropical"



## PRÉCAUTIONS D'EMPLOI

- 1) Lire ces instructions;
- 2) Conserver ces instructions;
- 3) Suivre tous les conseils d'utilisations;
- 4) Suivre toutes les instructions;
- 5) Ne pas utiliser cet appareil au bord de l'eau;
- 6) Nettoyer uniquement avec un chiffon humide;
- 7) Ne pas bloquer le système de ventilation. Installer conformément aux instructions du fabricant;
- 8) Ne pas installer l'appareil près d'une source de chaleur tel qu'un radiateur, un fourneau, ou bien un autre appareil qui produit de la chaleur;
- 9) Ne pas modifier le système de sécurité de la fiche polarisée ou de la fiche pour les prises de terre. Une fiche polarisée a deux broches, l'une étant plus distante de l'autre. Une fiche pour prise de terre a deux broches et une pointe pour la masse. La broche plus distante et la pointe pour la masse ont été installées pour votre sécurité. Si la fiche fournie ne rentre pas dans votre prise de courant consulter un électricien pour la substitution;
- 10) Protéger le cordon d'alimentation afin qu'il ne soit pas piétiné ou écrasé tout particulièrement au niveau des fiches, des prises de courant femelles, et des parties qui sortent de l'appareil;
- 11) Utiliser uniquement les accessoires recommandés par le fabricant;
- 12) Utilisez uniquement avec le chariot, le socle, le trépied, le support ou la table spécifiés par le fabricant ou vendu avec l'appareil. Lorsque vous utilisez un chariot, soyez prudent lorsque vous déplacez l'ensemble chariot / appareil pour éviter toute blessure du renversement (et la figure 21 DU Tipping panier Symbol).
- 13) Ne pas branché l'appareil en cas d'orage accompagné d'éclairs. Le débrancher en cas de non utilisation pro longée;
- 14) S'adresser à un service assistance agréé si l'appareil a subi des dommages, si le cordon d'alimentation ou la fiche a été endommagé, si un liquide a été renversé sur l'appareil ou bien si un objet est tombé dans l'appareil, si ce dernier a été exposé à la pluie ou à l'humidité, s'il ne fonctionne pas correctement ou s'il est tombé;
- 15) "Avertissement: pour réduire le risque du feu ou de décharge électrique, n'exposez pas cet appareil à la pluie ou l'humidité et les objets remplis de liquides; tels que des vases, ne devraient pas être placés sur cet appareil";
- 16) Pour déconnecter totalement cet appareil du secteur, débranchez le cordon d'alimentation fiche de la prise secteur;
- 17) La prise de courant doit être facilement accessible.
- 18) En cas de sélectionner de tension s'assurer que l'interrupteur sur le panneau arrière est sur la bonne tension avant de le raccorder à l'alimentation secteur et le fusible est la bonne valeur pour que la tension (Ce sélecteur n'est pas disponible sur la version 100V). S'il vous plaît changer la tension / valeurs de fusibles étiquette située près du sélecteur de tension correspondant aux valeurs /fusibles de tension lorsque vous avez besoin de changer la tension de l'appareil.
- 19) "AVERTISSEMENT: cet appareil doit être assujéti au plancher ou au mur conformément aux instructions d'installation. Le fait de l'incliner, de le balancer ou de l'agiter peut causer des blessures ou la mort."



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## 3. INTRODUCTION

Congratulations on your purchase of the Markbass stereo SUPER SYNTH.

This pedal turns your bass into a synthesizer—with seriously cool sounds and no tracking delay! It also doubles as a digital octaver, with both octave up and octave down layers. The easy-to-read display always identifies what effect is being applied. The parameters of the pedal's presets can be modified using the Markbass Pedal Controller software, which is available for download from the pedal's product page at [www.markbass.it](http://www.markbass.it). Simply install the software, connect the pedal to your computer using a USB cable, modify the presets as desired, and then load them back onto the pedal.

Like all our pedals, this unit features true bypass: that means that when the effect is 'off', your signal goes directly from the input jack to the output jack without any degradation of audio quality.

This manual will help you get the most out of your pedal. If you have any questions after reading it, please feel free to contact our online customer service department at [info@markbass.it](mailto:info@markbass.it).

Thank you again, and enjoy your Markbass stereo SUPER SYNTH!



## 4. FUNCTION OVERVIEW

**GAIN (1)** - Controls the level of input into the pedal, from -10 ÷ +16dB.

**CUT FREQ / OCT -1 (2)** - In Synth mode, this knob controls the cutoff frequency, from 70Hz to 14000Hz. In Octaver mode, it controls the volume level of the lower octave (one octave below your dry signal).

**TOPE / OCT +1 (3)** - In Synth mode, this knob allows you to select from seven (1-7) factory presets of Detune, Amp and Pan settings of the oscillators, and one user preset (8). In Octaver mode, it controls the volume level of the upper octave (one octave above your dry signal).

**LEVEL/DRY (4)** - In Synth mode, this switch controls the output level from the pedal. In Octaver mode, it's a volume knob for your dry signal.

**PRESETS (5)** - This switch lets you scroll through the 12 presets in the pedal

**True Bypass Switch (6)\*** - Toggles between "on" and bypass mode. The LED illuminates when the synth/octaver effect is active.

### \* True Bypass

When the pedal's controls are 'off', your signal goes directly from the input jack to the output jack without any degradation of audio quality.

**SYNTH/OCTAVER Switch (7)** - This switch toggles between Synth and Octaver modes.

**DISPLAY (8)** - The digital display is easy to read and always identifies what effect is active.



## 5. CONNECTIONS

**1/4" INPUT JACK (9)** - Connect your instrument to the input jack. Make sure your amp is off and ensure that the volume is turned down before making connections.

**1/4" OUTPUT JACK LEFT/MONO (10)** - Output for a mono effect signal or, when both outputs are connected, the left channel of the stereo effect signal.

**1/4" OUTPUT JACK RIGHT (13)** - Output of the right channel when running stereo.

**CONTROL (12)** - The USB connection allows you to modify the parameters on your computer using the supplied Markbass software, and then store your favorite settings back on the pedal to have them at your disposal whenever you need them! See "Software Instructions" to find out how to create and store presets on your computer.

**DC IN (11)** - External power supply connection: 12VDC (550 mA minimum) PSU.



## LIMITED WARRANTY

Markbass offers an international limited warranty on Markbass products purchased from any authorized Markbass dealer, effective from the day of purchase. The terms of this warranty vary from country to country; please contact the Markbass distributor in your country for details.

Please register this product online at [www.markbass.it](http://www.markbass.it) to establish the date of purchase. However, please note that you are required to retain a copy of your receipt as proof of purchase in order to receive warranty service.

This warranty does not apply to any damage to the product caused by misuse, mishandling, accident, abuse, alteration, modification or unauthorized repairs. Product appearance and normal wear and tear (worn paint, scratches, etc.) are not covered by this warranty. Markbass reserves the right to be the sole arbiter regarding the misuse or abuse of this product.

Markbass assumes no liability for any incidental or consequential damages, which may result from the failure of this product. Any warranties implied in fact or by law are limited to the duration of this express limited warranty. Your legal rights related to the warranty will vary depending on the country of purchase.

## WARRANTY CARD

This product is guaranteed by the warranty provided in the country of purchase, under the following conditions:

A - The MARKBASS warranty is only applicable if this document been properly completed (here or online) and if the original invoice/bill of sale, mentioning model, serial number and purchase date, is presented together with this document.

B - The obligations of MARKBASS are limited to the repair of defects. Warranty repair eligibility will be decided at the sole discretion of MARKBASS or its representatives. Freight, freight insurance costs, and any other costs related to the repair of this product are not covered by this warranty.

C - All warranty repairs must be made by MARKBASS or an authorized MARKBASS (PARSEK) service center.

D - This warranty does not apply in the following instances:

- if the damage was caused by accident, negligence or modifications; use of non MARKBASS spare parts; or improper use, installation or packing;
- if the serial number on the equipment is illegible;
- if the damage was caused by lightning, water, fire, incorrect main voltage, insufficient ventilation or any other cause beyond the control of MARKBASS.

E - This warranty is not applicable to any speaker that has been subjected to power in excess of that for which it has been designed.

F - MARKBASS reserves the right to redesign or improve/modify its product at any time without any obligation to modify previously manufactured products.



## WARRANTY CARD

We'd like to thank you for choosing a Markbass product.

If any problem occurs, please don't hesitate to contact our support team at [service@markbass.it](mailto:service@markbass.it).

You can fill out this form and send a copy to Markbass (Parsek srl, Via Po 52, 66020 San Giovanni Teatino, CHIETI ITALY) or, even better, you can now register your warranty online in a matter of minutes, using our online registration form at [www.markbass.it](http://www.markbass.it). Simply point, click and type in your information...and you're done!

Registering your warranty identifies you and your product, in case you are ever in need of warranty service. Please note that in order to qualify for warranty service, you must retain a copy of the sales receipts or bill of delivery as proof of purchase.

The information that you provide here will not be shared with any third parties and will be used for Markbass business purposes only.

### PRODUCT INFORMATION

Model : \_\_\_\_\_ Serial Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Purchase : \_\_\_\_\_ (mm/dd/yyyy)

### DEALER INFORMATION

Dealer: \_\_\_\_\_ Dealer City: \_\_\_\_\_ Dealer Country \_\_\_\_\_

### PERSONAL INFORMATION

Purchased by

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ Your Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Prov \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_

Do you want to join our mailing list?  YES  NO

### MORE INFO (\* not mandatory)

\*Age \_\_\_\_\_ \*Sex \_\_\_\_\_ \*Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

### WHERE DO YOU PLAY YOUR INSTRUMENT?

Stage / Performing Musician  School / Student  Classroom / Educator  Home  Studio Recording

### WHAT LEVEL OF PLAYER ARE YOU?

Beginner  Amateur  Semi-Professional  Professional

### PRODUCT PURCHASED VIA:

Internet  Retail Store

### WHAT MOST INFLUENCED YOUR BUYING DECISION?

\_\_\_\_\_



## 6. MARKBASS PEDAL CONTROLLER SOFTWARE

To customize your Super Synth pedal, simply download the software from this pedal's product page at [www.markbass.it](http://www.markbass.it), install it on your Mac or PC computer, and connect your pedal to the computer using a standard USB cable.

Launch the software, click on "CONNECT" button and wait for connection. The software gives you more control over the presets than the pedal itself does... so you can completely customize your sounds in real time and save up to twelve presets to suit your needs perfectly. Future updates of the Markbass Pedal Controller software may be downloaded for free from [www.markbass.it](http://www.markbass.it) as they become available. Please stay tuned!

Although the Super Synth pedal performs some pretty complex technical feats, Markbass has designed the user interface to be as simple and easy-to-use as possible!

**MODE:** This switch toggles between **Synth** and **Octaver** modes (same as the switch on the pedal).

### SYNTH

**CUTOFF:** controls the cutoff frequency of the synth filter

**LEVEL:** controls the synth output level

**TONE:** this control allows you to select from seven factory presets with different presets of Detune, Amp and Pan of the three oscillators. You can modify the Dynamic settings of these presets, but not the Oscillator parameters. The Super Synth parameter controls are located on two pages: **DYNAMICS** and **OSCILLATORS**. The one User preset allows you to modify the parameters on both the Dynamics and Oscillators pages.

### DYNAMICS

#### NOTE DYNAMICS SECTION

**NOTE ON LEVEL:** controls how hard you have to play in order to trigger the synth sound (note on). The further you turn this up, the harder you have to play to trigger the synth sound

**NOTE OFF LEVEL:** controls the level at which the synth sound is untriggered (note off). As the synth note is decaying, at a certain point the synth sound disappears and you just have dry sound. Here you can adjust the volume level at which this transition happens

**AMP DYNAMIC:** controls how much the dynamics of the synth sound follow the dynamics of your playing

**FILTER DYNAMIC:** controls how much the envelope of dry sound increases the cutoff filter

#### FILTER AND MIX SECTION

**CUTOFF:** the synth's filter cuts out the range of frequencies above the specific frequency set here. It responds dynamically to the envelope of your bass sound, depending on how Filter Dynamic and Envelope are set

**RESONANCE:** controls the resonance of the synth filter

**LEVEL:** controls the synth output level

**MIX:** controls the mix between the original sound and the synth

#### ENVELOPE CONTROL SECTION

**ATTACK:** controls the envelope attack time

**RELEASE:** controls the envelope release time

**PORTAMENTO:** transition time between two different notes

**ENVELOPE:** controls how much the envelope generator increases the cutoff filter

#### OSCILLATORS

Oscillators 1 / Oscillators 2 / Oscillators 3

**DETUNE:** detunes the note, measured in semi-tones

**DETUNE FINE:** detunes the note, measured in cents

**AMP:** amplitude of the oscillator

**PAN:** oscillator stereo balance L/R

### OCTAVER

**OCTAVE +1:** volume level one octave above the dry signal

**OCTAVE -1:** volume level one octave below the dry signal

**OCTAVE -2:** volume level two octaves below the dry signal

**DRY:** volume of the dry signal

## 7. TECHNICAL SPECS

**INPUT:**

**INPUT IMPEDANCE:**

**OUTPUTS:**

**PRESETS:**

**GAIN:**

**CUT FREQ (SYNTH MODE)**

**TONE PRESETS:**

**POWER REQUIREMENTS - DC INPUT:**

**DIMENSIONS:**

**WEIGHT:**

1x ¼" mono jack

200 Kohm

2x ¼" mono jack (mono L, stereo L+R)

12 (user modifiable)

-10 ÷ +16dB

70 ÷ 14000 Hz

seven factory presets (1-7) / one user presets (8)

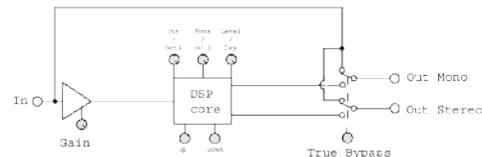
+12 Vdc 550 mA minimum

170 x 145 x 60 mm

6.7" x 5.7" x 2.4"

730 g / 1.61 lbs

## 8. BLOCK DIAGRAM



Product specifications are subject to change without notice



Via Po, 52 - 66020 San Giovanni Teatino (Ch) - Italy - Tel. +39 085 446 3755 - Fax +39 085 440 7764  
[www.markbass.it](http://www.markbass.it) - [info@markbass.it](mailto:info@markbass.it)