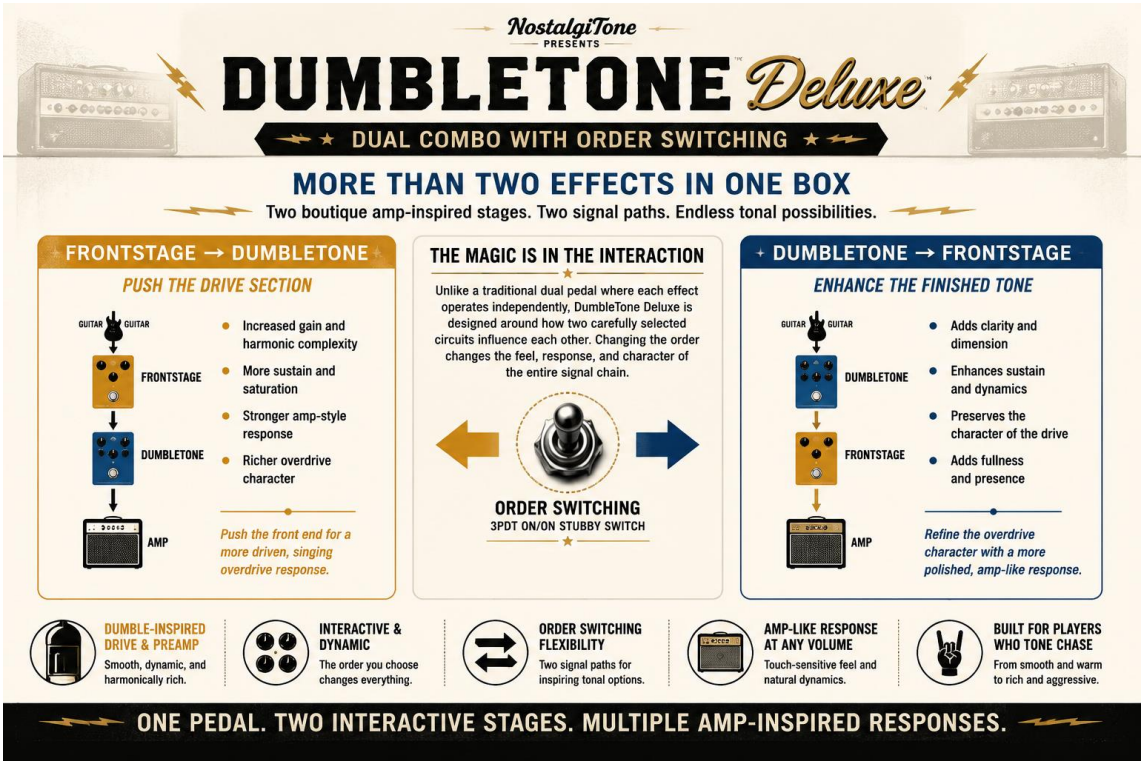
GuitarPCB Presents

DumbleTone Deluxe Dual Combo

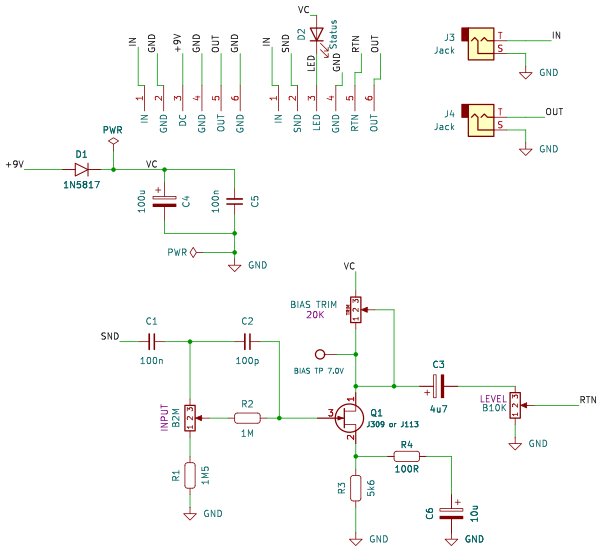
The DumbleTone Deluxe combines two carefully selected circuits inspired by the original reverse engineered John Mayer Dumble units: the smooth, expressive overdrive character of a Dumble drive section and the dynamic enhancement of the preamp clean channel. With NostalgiTone order switching, each circuit can be placed before or after the other, revealing two unique signal paths with their own feel, response, and tonal character.

The JFET preamp clean channel captures the dynamic response of a classic amplifier front end, providing natural harmonic enhancement, improved touch response, and a more expressive feel under the fingers. While the original design utilized a J309 JFET, the readily available J113 has proven to be an excellent choice for this application, offering similar performance characteristics and excellent reliability. The onboard bias adjustment makes setup simple and precise.

The Input control is not a gain control. Instead, it adjusts how the preamp stage responds to the guitar signal. Increasing the control allows players to explore changes in compression, fullness, and harmonic response. Full CCW provides a thinner, precise character, and full CW delivers a fuller, rounder tone.



FrontStage

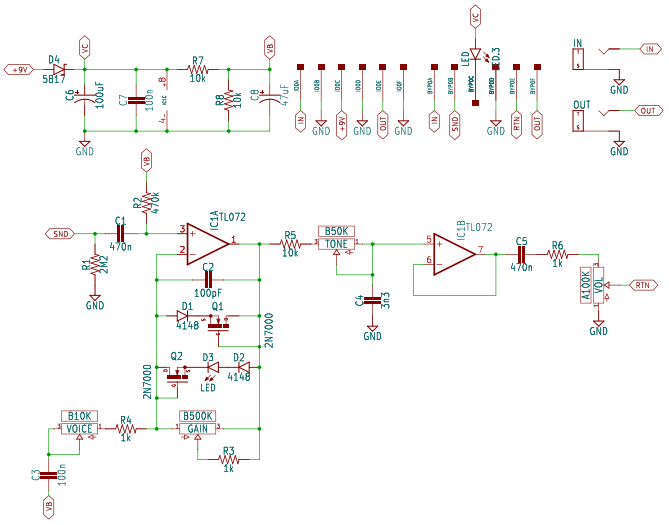


Part	Value
R1	1M5
R2	1M
R3	5k6
R4	100R
Bias Trim	20K
Q1	J309 or J113

Part	Value
C1	100n
C2	100p
C3	4u7
C4	100u
C5	100n
C6	10u

Part	Value
D1	1N5817
D2	Status
BIAS TP	BIAS TP 7.0V
Input	B2M
Level	B10K
* CLR x 1	1K8 - 4k7

DumbleTone



Part	Value
R1	2M2
R2	470k
R3	1k
R4	1k
R5	10k
R6	1k
R7	10k
R8	10k

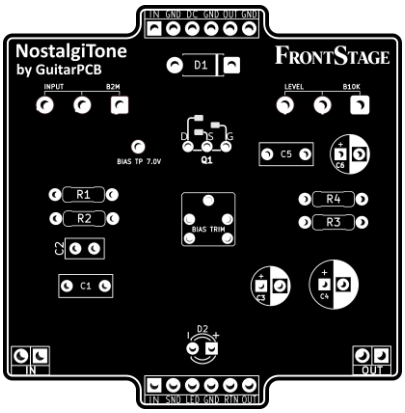
Part	Value
C1	470n
C2	100pF
C3	100n
C4	3n3
C5	470n
C6	100uF
C7	100n
C8	47uF

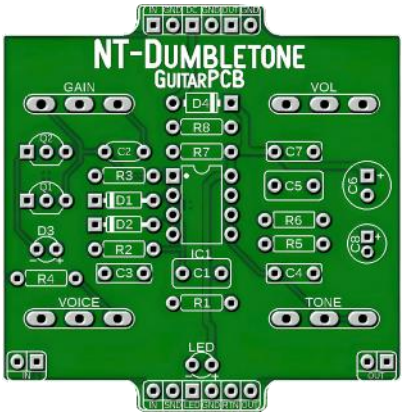
Part	Value
Q1	2N7000
Q2	2N7000
VOL	A100K
GAIN	B500K
VOICE	B10K
TONE	B50K

Part	Value
D1	1N4148
D2	1N4148
D3	Red LED
D4	1N5817
IC1	TL072
LED	Status
*CLR x 1	1k8 - 4k7

The BOM reflects standard kit component values, including the J113 transistor, which performs very similarly in this application. The PCB also includes SMD pads for those that want to use the original J309 package.

*** You'll need a 3PDT toggle switch On/On (solder lug version) with a short bat (stubby) for order switching on the dual wiring board PCB.**





Biasing Note: BIAS TP is provided as a convenient bias test point. With the circuit powered by 9V, connect your multimeter black probe to ground and the red probe to BIAS Test Point Pad. Adjust the bias trimmer until the reading is approximately 7.0V.

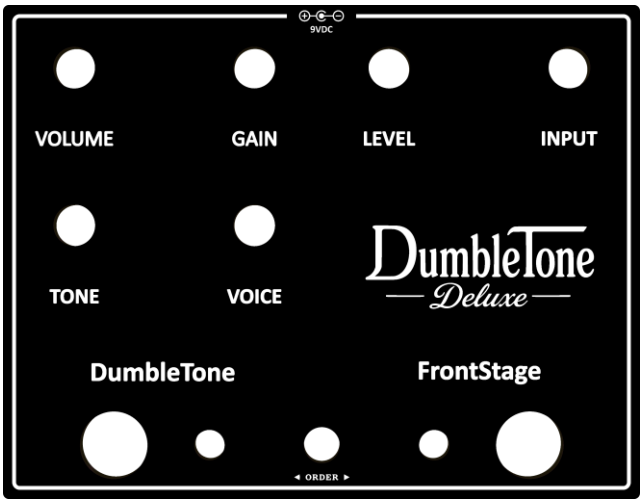
At the heart of FrontStage is a JFET preamp stage inspired by the classic amplifier front end, delivering enhanced dynamics, harmonic richness, and touch-sensitive response. The original design used the J309 JFET; the readily available J113 performs exceptionally well in this application. The 20K bias trimmer simplifies setup, while SMD pads are provided for builders who prefer the original J309 package.

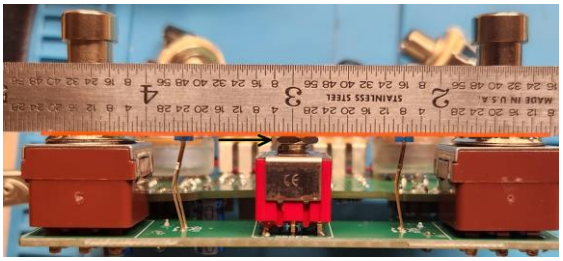
Clipping Note: NostalgiTone's preferred asymmetrical clipping configuration uses 2× 1N4148 diodes with an LED for a higher clipping threshold and additional headroom that reacts more like an actual amplifier. If you would rather match the original configuration, use 2× BAT41 diodes instead of 1N4148 with a standing 1N5817 in place of the LED. Match the diode stripe to the negative (-) silkscreen marking. You may substitute R1-1M5 to 1M2 if you need. You may also substitute R3-5k6 to 5k1 if you need.

Build Notes:

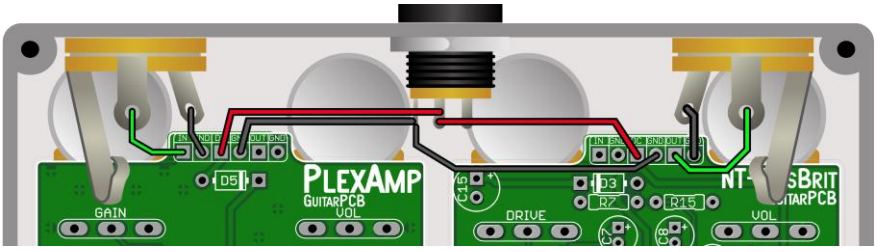
1. Solder the short side of both pin headers to the top of each main board, pointing upward. Next, solder all three switches, and (CLRs), to the dual wiring board. Dry hang the LEDs (optional) if mounting to the dual wiring board.
2. The Dual Combo wiring board includes dedicated LED locations that match the drill guide, plates, and drill files. In this case you must jumper the LED pads on each main PCB to complete the circuit. CLRs are required regardless of LED location choice.
3. Remove both nuts on each of the 3PDT foot switches for the best height match. Adjust the height of the inner Order Switch adjustment nut so it is level with the foot switches' height relative to the enclosure. Do not over-tighten the outer Switch nut.
4. Install the wiring board by sliding it over both pin headers. Once the foot switches and toggle switch are tightened within the enclosure, proceed to solder the long side of the pin header to the dual wiring board.
5. * There are two (CLR) Current Limiting Resistors crucial to protect and adjust the brightness of their corresponding status LED. You may use a value of 1k8 (Bright) to 4k7 (Dim).

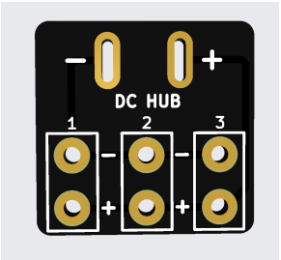
Need help or inspiration? Visit the GuitarPCB Community Forum to see other members build examples, and ask questions.
https://guitarpcb.com/community





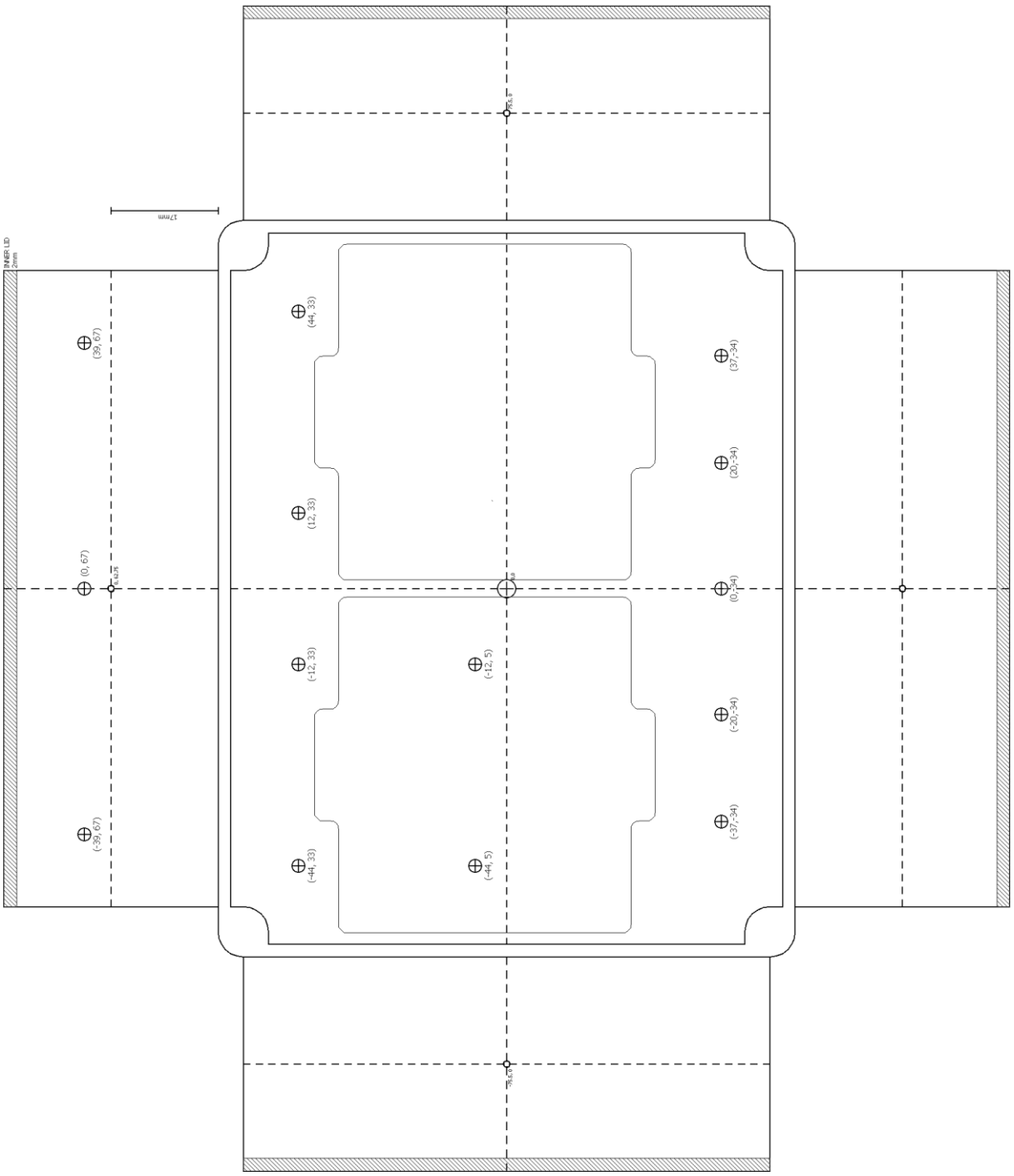
Easy Wiring Diagram





New DC Hub available now for easier DC routing to both circuits.

Designed for the 2.1mm low profile jack.



1590BB2 Drill Template

Drill only the holes required for your chosen project. LED holes can be located on either the wiring board or the main boards, giving you flexibility in how you lay out your build.

A link to a Tayda-drilled enclosure is available on the GuitarPCB Shop page. If you use the Tayda-drilled enclosure, both status LEDs must be installed on the dual wiring board