

BRASSM (Maestro Brass Master Replica) Instructions

Version 2017November13

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This is a replica of the **Maestro Brass Master** referred to in these documents as **BRASSM**. **Do not attempt to build this project unless you have some experience building effects.** There are a lot of parts and there is a lot of off-board wiring involved. We have divided the wiring instructions into four stages and also a separate diagram for parts placement on the PCB. Each diagram contains only what is being installed in the given stage. There is no diagram that shows all the wires connected since there are so many wires the diagram would be difficult to follow.

The original version had 3 knobs, Brass, Bass and Sensitivity controls. We found that an added Volume control is useful, since some of the settings can raise the volume level considerably and that is not always a good thing when you switch the effect in/out. In some of the photos, we did not installed a battery snap, just the DC jack. We did not use pads "AA" and "BB" and we wired the battery snap wires directly to the input jack as the Stage 4 wiring diagram shows.

It should be noted that with this much wiring and having off-board wiring pads on three sides of the PCB, you can easily wire it in to the enclosure so that you can't get access to the bottom of the PCB. It is a good idea to wire it so that can examine or re-solder the bottom of the PCB if needed. If you route all the wiring up and over toward the edge of the board with pads "O" through "Y", you will still be able to lift the board up from the "switch side" of the PCB. Hopefully you can see that we wired ours this way in the gut-shot photos shown below.



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Building Steps

1. **Populate the PCB.** Follow the **Parts Placement Diagram**. You do **not** need to install the two jumpers (indicated by thick red lines on the Parts Placement Diagram) These jumpers are built into the top layer of the PCB. The transformer can be installed with the primary facing either way, it doesn't matter. Watch the polarity of the aluminum electrolytic capacitors. **Note that we did not install D5 protection diode (1N4003) it is not needed for operation and is not included in the kit.** When you use the Volume Control, R16 is not needed, so don't populate R16 if you are building the 4 knob version. If you look closely at the photo below, the R16 is lifted to disable it.
2. **Stage 1 Wiring.** Hook up the LED indicator as shown in this diagram. There is no spot on the PCB for the "current limiting resistor" for the LED, so it will have to be solder-tacked to the LED and wire. Note that if you build the 4-knob version, the LED will need to go under the PCB. The standoffs provided in the kit are extra tall so that it will easily fit under the PCB. Also wire the PCB input and Pad "M" (ground) to the bypass switch. It is not shown in the diagram for simplicity's sake, but route these wires (from pads A and M) over the front side of the PCB and back under so that you can have easy access to the bottom of the board (for service purposes) if needed.
3. **Stage 2 Wiring.** Wire the potentiometers. Use "2A" diagram if you build the 3-knob or the "2B" diagram if you build the 4-knob. The volume knob lug 2 wire should route under the PCB, again, for access to the bottom of the PCB.
4. **Stage 3 Wiring.** Wire the toggle switches and wire the power wires to the DC Jack as shown in this diagram.
5. **Stage 4 Wiring.** Wire the input and output signal and ground wires to the jacks. Hook up the battery snap to the DC jack and the input sleeve lug.

Here's an inside view of the unit we built to how it looks when assembled in a 1590BB tall enclosure. It is a very tight fit. The potentiometers should to be turned sideways from how we normally install them.

Have fun, comments and questions are welcome and can be sent to info@generalguitargadgets.com

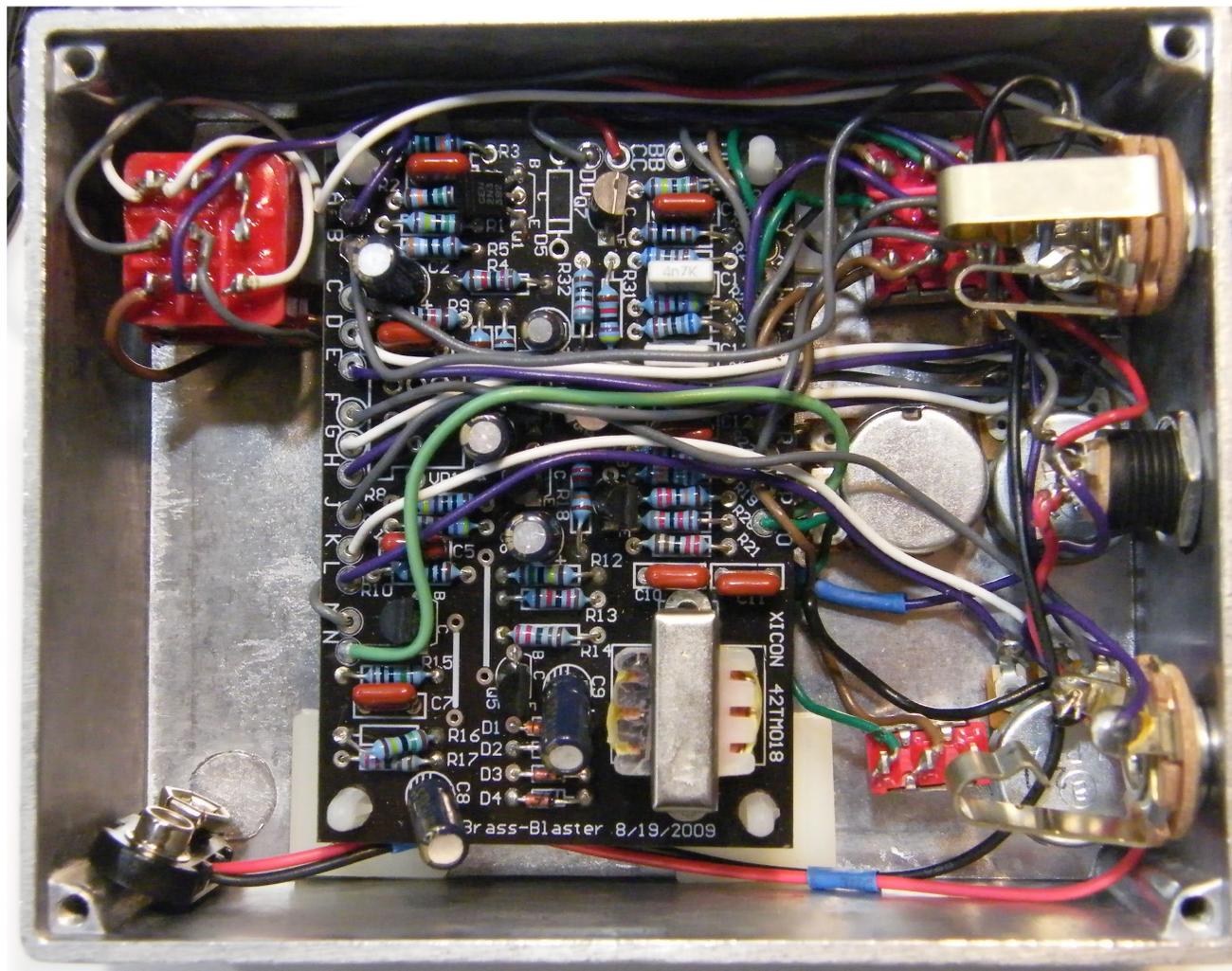
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4 Knob

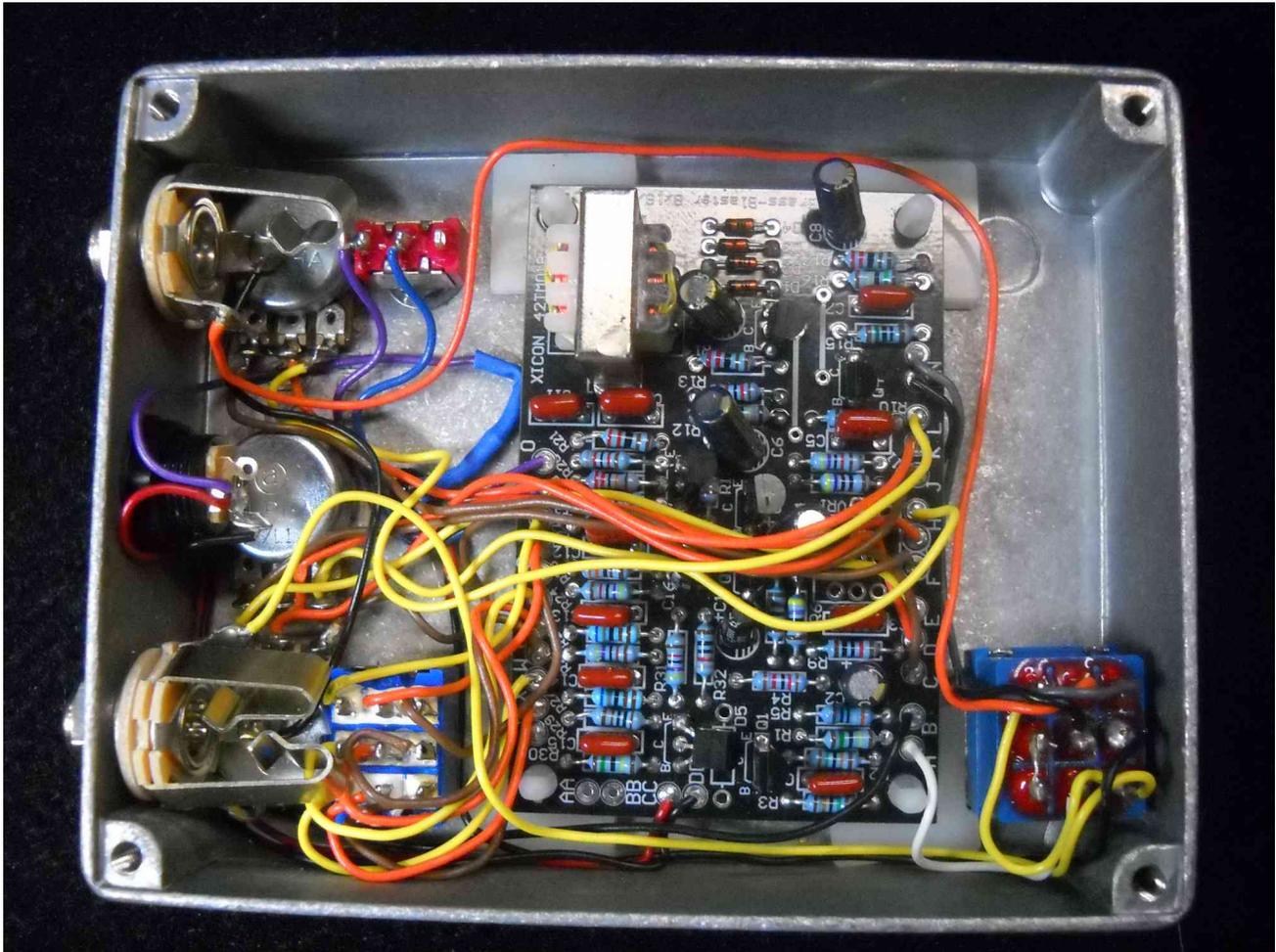
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3 Knob