
Subject: Has anyone ever done any gain type mods?

Posted by [noexit](#) on Thu, 07 Feb 2008 17:23:29 GMT

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Hi, I'm new here. I recently picked up a 1970 K100 with a 2X12 cts cab in gold tuck and roll. I know it's a bass amp, but I like the sound of it with my Les Paul. What I want to know is if there is any kind of mod I could do to create more gain. I don't really like to use pedals other than a wah. I just want to be able to plug right in and get the sound I want. Has anyone ever attempted this?

Subject: Re: Has anyone ever done any gain type mods?

Posted by [stevem](#) on Fri, 08 Feb 2008 11:46:11 GMT

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Hi, Do you want more gain to have more touch sensation, or distortion as these amps with humbuckers will start to clip a bit anyway with the volume around 4 to 5 with hard playing. More touch may be easy, try bringing your pickups up closer to the strings, distortion will be tough! these amps had good distortion in the so called crunch sound area(although it will be pretty loud at this point) but when Kustom found a need to get useable distortion out of there products they added a seperate distortion section. So yes while the amp could be modified for more gain the distortion that would come with it I would say would not be to your liking.

Subject: Re: Has anyone ever done any gain type mods?

Posted by [noexit](#) on Fri, 08 Feb 2008 16:44:49 GMT

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I was looking for more distortion. Not a lot just a little bit of sizzle that would be useable at any volume level. Like having a master volume and a volume control to adjust the level of gain and the level of volume. My pickups are already about as close as I would want them. This amp is just so loud that its really ear splitting before any distortion comes up.

Subject: Re: Has anyone ever done any gain type mods?

Posted by [stevem](#) on Fri, 08 Feb 2008 17:53:46 GMT

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That cabinet has 2 16 ohm speakers wired in parallel for a 8 ohm load, if you unhook one speaker the amp will output about half as much wattage, plus the change from two speakers down to 1 will cut 3 db out of the sound pressure/volume. This may be just the ticket your looking for!

Subject: Re: Has anyone ever done any gain type mods?

Posted by [noexit](#) on Fri, 08 Feb 2008 21:57:38 GMT

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That's not exactly what I had in mind. I want to be able to adjust the volume for practice at home, to jamming, to playing in a club, but still have that nice distortion. I want it all! When I turn the amp up about halfway, the sound is just what I want. Just starts to break up a bit. Unfortunately, half volume is way too loud for at home and almost too loud for a jam at a buddy's place.

Subject: Re: Has anyone ever done any gain type mods?

Posted by [steven](#) on Mon, 11 Feb 2008 11:32:58 GMT

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If you only use one channel of that two channel head there is a mod you can do if you can solder OK, here's the deal.

Since there are many tube type stomp boxes on the market today that sound far better than any type of solid state type distortion that you will get out of that amp what I did for a buddy of mine is I had him go out and find a tube driven stomp box that he really likes the sound of, I then went in the amp and opened up the signal line that feeds the output of the channel that he liked best into the amp's driver/output stage.

I replaced this opened line with shielded wire and hooked up each open end to one of the two input jacks on his now unused channel. He was now able to wire the stomp box in just like he had a newer amp with an effects loop, and it sounds really great and has the added value of being able to put the amp right back to stock as to not harm its vintage value as no added holes had to be drilled in the chassis.

This mod should take you no longer than 1.5 hours to implement.

Subject: Re: Has anyone ever done any gain type mods?

Posted by [Smoke1](#) on Wed, 13 Feb 2008 14:57:24 GMT

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Buy a Digitech RP-90 or RP350 for \$100/\$200 beans and you will be amazed at how good just ONE Stomp Box can be. It's got it all, Barber!!!! It's the only thing I use in all my Kustoms and All Amps Tube or Solid State. Get Some.....RP Action

Smoke1
