

## How to use Distant Voices Theremin – Tuning and manual

Your Distant Voices Theremin is tuned and ready to use it.

1. Turn on your amp. Turn the volume on your amp down, so it won't hurt your ears when the theremin comes alive.

Your Distant Voices Theremin has no volume pot but can get very loud, so please take this point seriously. You can always adjust the volume on your amp to your liking later.

2. Make sure the theremin has got a 9V battery connected inside (INCLUDED) or a 9V power adapter 2.1mm connected to the DC plug (minus - center).

3. Place the theremin on a chair or a stand, so it doesn't just sit on the floor, and pull the antenna pole all the way out. Be sure that there are no other objects placed within about 1 meter of the antenna pole. Objects in the vicinity could interact with the antenna and interfere with the signal you are making with your hand.

4. Plug the theremin into your amp - use instrument cable with mono 6.3mm Jack plugs.

5. Use the toggle switch on the side to turn the theremin on.

You may hear the theremin making sounds right now. If you can't hear any sound, try moving your hand closer to the antenna. Now it is time to adjust the sensitivity of the theremin to your needs.

There are two control elements to adjust the active zone: 1) The standard pot (a knob) on the front panel and a little trim pot (a screw) located in the hole next to the knob. The screw shall be used for a rough adjustment only. This was set during manufacturing and should be left alone. However, if you cannot adjust the active zone to your liking by using just the knob, use the screw. But do it gently and use a small screwdriver.

6. Step away from the theremin, and using just one hand, turn the knob until the pitch of tone lowers. As you turn the knob, the tone will gradually become deeper and deeper and eventually dies out. If you cannot make the theremin produce a deep, low pitch by just turning the knob, set the knob to the middle position and use a small screwdriver to re-adjust the screw until the pitch drops down.

Now, this is the basic position where the fine adjustment starts. You want to set the "active zone" around the pole (where the theremin responds to your

hand) to about 40-80cm. The theremin must stay quiet when you move your arms outside of the active zone.

For a fine adjustment, you have to gently turn the knob (just a hair) to make the active zone become larger. As soon as you get the active zone to be about 50 cm you have the job done. The active zone can get as large as 90 cm away from the pole, but that needs some patience while tuning it up, because as you turn the knob, you hand interact with the pole, changing the conditions – that’s why you basically have to repeatedly:

- turn the knob a hair
- move your hand away from the pole
- check the size of the “active zone”.

It is nothing like tuning a radio. Also, very tiny changes of the knob may cause big changes to the size of the active zone.

7. Adjust the volume on your amp as needed.

We strongly recommend plugging a delay effect in between the theremin and the amp. The right balance of delay is the secret to the magic of the Theremin. Any digital or tape delay will do. Remember - you use one hand to control the pitch of the Theremin, and the other hand to fiddle with the delay settings at the same time to create the right psychedelic sounds. Have fun :)

#### Connection of Distant Voices Theremin to your Amp.

