



# TYPE 85

The best direct box money can buy  
with all discrete component class A circuits



## Specifications:

- Input Resistance :** Pickup mode: 10,000,000 ohms, 10 times the input resistance of a typical guitar amplifier.  
Speaker mode: 10k ohms.
- Input Capacitance :** 60 Picofarads, equal to two feet of low capacitance guitar cable.
- Maximum Input Level :** Pickup mode: 5 Volts P-P  
Speaker mode: 300 V P-P  
Equal to 2,800 watts into 4 ohms.
- Input Protection :** 220 Volts RMS and 20,000 Volt static discharges.
- Voltage Gain :** Pickup mode: -10dB  
Speaker mode: -46dB
- Noise (shorted input) :** .63uV RMS (-122 dBu) BW = 20kHz
- Frequency Response :** 20Hz to 20kHz +- 1dB
- Distortion :** .018% THD @1kHz and 1 V P-P in  
.08% IMD 10kHz/60Hz 1 V P-P in
- R.F. Filtering :** 250 kHz Low Pass on input  
30 kHz Low Pass on output
- Power Requirements :** 48 V @ .4 ma Phantom or 9V Battery
- Dimensions :** 1.75 in. x 3 in. x 5 in.  
(45mm) x (77mm) x (127mm)
- Weight :** 18.5 oz... (.52 kg)

## What does it do?

The Type 85 connects any high impedance instrument pickup, even piezo pickups, to a balanced microphone (XLR type) input. It provides a strong, clean signal to the mix board without adding noise or distortion.

## What doesn't it do?

It won't change the tone or volume you hear from your own amp like passive direct boxes. It won't add hiss, distortion or buzz like some active direct boxes. It won't break just when you need it. It won't develop a dead battery on stage because it runs on Phantom power.

## Why does it sound so good?

The type 85 doesn't use a cheap FET opamp. It uses only hand selected high quality discrete components woven into a single ended class A circuit much like a classic tube microphone preamp. The Type 85 has an incredibly smooth, sweet sound.

## Why is it so hard to break?

Connectors and switches are recessed into a single piece extruded case with extra thick walls. You can actually drive a truck over a Type 85 without hurting it. Internal electronics are molded in a solid epoxy block and fully protected against electrical damage. The input circuit can withstand 220V AC all day long and static spikes up to 20,000 volts!

## Does it need a battery?

Most mixing consoles provide 48 volt Phantom power and the Type 85 will automatically use it. If your don't have Phantom power, the Type 85 will run from an internal 9V battery. An alkaline battery will last about 400 hours.

## How does it eliminate buzz?

Hum and buzz are often caused by a connection between ground at the mixer and ground at the guitar system. The Type 85 can always isolate ground, even when running on Phantom power. Most active direct boxes can't do that.

## Where are the roll off switches?

It doesn't have any. The Type 85 is designed to transfer the sound of your instrument to the mixing console, adding nothing and taking away nothing. Adjusting the frequency content of a sound source is an artistic decision best done at the mixing location where you can hear the results and easily make changes.

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