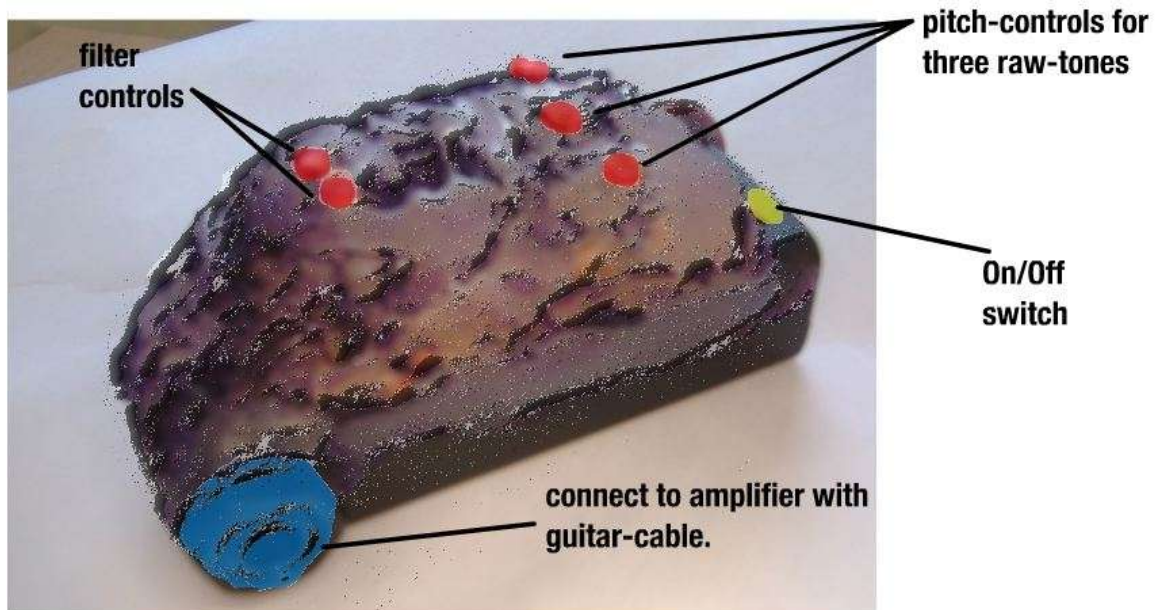


Alien Brain Pocket-sized Synthesiser

user manual

The Alien Brain is an analog synthesiser designed to fit in your pocket. Its battery-powered noise-making fun for the electronic musician on the move.

As the Alien Brain has no internal speaker you need to plug it into an amplifier using a standard guitar-cable. Once plugged in and switched on you're ready to go.



The Brain has three ultra-wide-range oscillators (raw tones), each controlled by a separate light-sensor. This means that by covering an oscillator's sensor completely you can get rhythmical clicking or noisy bass, and by exposing it to bright light you get almost higher tones than the ear can hear. Of course you also can get every pitch in-between these two extremes, try moving your hands and fingers over the controls, hiding the Brain in a bag, or flashing a light on and off in a dark room to get mixtures of pitches and timbres.

The Brain's three raw-tones are passed through a band-pass filter (for that classic squelchy analog synth sound), which also has light-sensors to control its two interacting parameters. These roughly equate to center-frequency and squelchy-ness of the filter.

Things to try::

*partially cover the oscillators' sensors and slowly cover/uncover the filter to get a bassey growling sound, then try covering the filter control nearest to the output socket and varying the light falling on the other control to get a more raspy sound.

*turn off the lights in the room and then quickly flash them on and off again to get a divebomb pitch falling from the highest level to the lowest.

*cover the oscillators completely to get three simultaneous rhythms, and use the filter to give the clicks a sense of pitch.

The Alien Brain is powered by a single 9-volt battery. Whilst each battery will last for many hours, when you need to replace one just unscrew and slide off the back panel to expose the battery compartment.

The Alien Brain is probably not water-proof and is definitely not heat-proof.

Have fun!