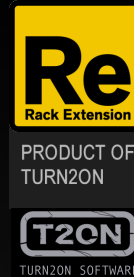




KLEON

MODDED OVERDRIVE

[RACK EXTENSION]
MANUAL



FX device by Turn2on Software



KLEON started as a study of one of the most quietly influential overdrive circuits ever built, a germanium-diode transparent booster that made three simple knobs into a design classic almost by accident. We took that circuit apart, learned how it actually behaves, then kept going long past the point of just reproducing it.

What you have now isn't another clone of the Klon. It grew its own personality along the way – three distinct voicings, a hidden fourth character waiting under one of them, and a set of controls tuned by ear rather than by spec sheet. Cleon rewards patience: its character shifts more with how hard you play and where you sit the knobs than with any single "more gain" switch. It's an homage that outgrew its reference point – its own instrument now, not another tribute.

A stock overdrive gives you one circuit, one character, and a Gain knob to push it harder.

KLEON gives you three distinct voicings under one mode switch, plus a fourth hiding inside the first one – Vault isn't a preset, it's a genuine mod-switch in the tradition of the hand-modified boutique pedals that inspired it, the kind where someone popped the enclosure open and wired in an extra clipping stage because the stock circuit wasn't quite enough.

Zenith is where most players will live most of the time – warm, dynamic, transparent. It's the algorithm that makes your amp sound like it's

simply working harder, not like something's been bolted on in front of it. Chords stay articulate, single notes still sing, and it never loses that "is this even algo?" quality even when you push it hard. If you've ever wanted a boost that disappears into your tone rather than sitting on top of it, this is the one.

Underneath Zenith sits **Vault** – flip it on and the same core character gets a real shove: more gain, a touch more midrange push, and a second stage that only clamps down on your loudest hits. It's not a different algorithm, it's **Zenith** with its collar off – same voice, more attitude when you dig in.

Dusk is the moodier sibling. Where Zenith stays clean and open, **Dusk** leans into a darker, boxier, more midrange-forward growl. It breaks up earlier, it's got more grit in the attack, and it's the mode to reach for when you want the overdrive to be felt, not just heard underneath you.

Dawn goes the other direction entirely: tighter, brighter, and noticeably leaner in the low end. Less warmth, more cut. It's built for staying audible in a busy mix, or for guitar tones that need edge and presence rather than body.

Three real choices, one knob-turn apart. Read on for exactly what each control does – but if you only remember one thing before you try, remember this: Zenith for transparency, Dusk for grit, Dawn for cut – and Vault when Zenith needs to shout.

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KLEON MODDED OVERDRIVE

History

The real story starts in the mid-1990s, when a small overdrive pedal built by a solo engineer became legendary less for its distortion than for its restraint. It added just enough saturation to sound like the amplifier itself was working harder. Never like a stompbox announcing itself. Hand-built in small numbers, the originals became some of the most sought-after, and most cloned pedals in guitar history, spawning decades of tributes, boutique remakes, and reverse-engineered homages.

KLEONs own history is a little stranger. Its early design notes were, admittedly, written with more than circuits in mind. Its three voicings are named after phases of light – Zenith, Dusk, Dawn – as much for atmosphere as for diode type, and the whole project grew out of an old fascination with sprawling science-fiction sagas: the kind where a single idea gets tested, refined, and carried forward across generations, each version keeping the spirit of the original while becoming something new in its own right. That's the lineage **KLEON** tries to carry – not a copy, own continuation.

FRONT PANEL



PARAM	DESCRIPTION
GAIN Empire	The core drive control. Shapes how hard the signal pushes into the circuit, how much character comes through, and how much clean signal blends in underneath it – all from one knob.
TREBLE Corona	A brightness control centered around the upper-mid/high range. Turn it down for a darker, rounder tone; turn it up for more sparkle and presence. Center position is neutral.
OUTPUT Gravity	Overall output level, from silent up to a healthy boost. Use this to match Cleon's level to your clean signal, or push your amp harder.
VAULT	A hidden extra gain stage, available only in Zenith mode. Engaging it adds more push, a touch more midrange, and a second layer of clipping that only kicks in on your loudest playing. Louder and more assertive without losing the core character.
MODE	Selects between Zenith, Dusk, and Dawn (see below). Zenith: The foundational voicing. Warm, dynamic, and transparent. It stays musical and articulate even when pushed hard. Start here if you're not sure where to start. Dusk: A darker, more midrange-forward personality. Breaks up a little earlier than Zenith and carries more edge and grit – a more aggressive, boxier character. Dawn: Tighter and brighter than Zenith, with less low end and more presence up top. Less warmth, more cut – good for staying clear in a busy mix.
LC LowCut	A user-adjustable filter that tightens or loosens the low end feeding into the drive. Lower settings keep more body; higher settings keep the distortion tighter and more focused. This is a manual control, it stays wherever you leave it, independent of Mode.

PARAM	DESCRIPTION
LIMITER	Enable limiter to keep levels in check, with a fixed 0 dBFS threshold.
MONO	Set signal below the selected frequency value to Mono
BYPASS	FX On / Bypass switch for the effect. Variation of effect bypass with fade in and fade out, that excludes loud peaks when you enable or disable the effect. Off routes your signal straight through, untouched

REAR PANEL CONTROLS



HOW TO USE

1. Start in **ZENITH** mode with low Gain, centered Treble, and Out at unity.
2. Play normally and slowly raise Gain until you find the amount of drive you want.
3. Adjust Treble to taste – down for darker/rounder, up for brighter/more present.
4. Set Out so the effect's volume matches your bypassed tone, or push it louder if you want the boost.
5. Try engaging Vault for a louder, more aggressive variation on Zenith mode.
6. Switch Mode to Dusk or Dawn to explore the other two personalities. Each has its own character, so revisit Gain and Treble after switching.
7. Use LC if the low end feels muddy (raise it) or thin (lower it) – it works the same way across every mode.
8. Use Bypass at any time you want to A/B against your untouched signal.

BETTER TO USE WITH:

Electric guitar: the primary target. Works well with both single-coil and humbucker pickups, cleanest at the front of your chain, ahead of your amp.

Bass: usable and characterful, especially in Zenith mode. Consider raising LC a bit to keep low end from turning muddy.

Synths and keys: Dusk and Dawn can add interesting grit and edge as a creative texture effect.

Vocals: possible for subtle coloration in small doses. Not the primary design target, so use gently.

Full mix / bus processing: experimental but interesting at low Gain settings in Zenith mode, for subtle glue and warmth.

REAR PANEL



CONNECTORS

AUDIO I/O

Mono or Stereo connections for audio signals.

CV INPUTS

Use these CV inputs to control the main parameters by external CV source curves

SIGNAL ROUTING

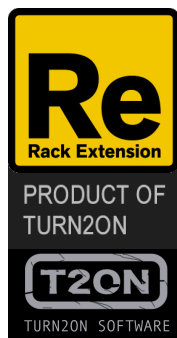
TRUE MONO / STEREO OVERDRIVE EFFECT



KLEON

MODDED OVERDRIVE

 Reason Studios Add-on Shop



Turn2on

Rack Extension Developer

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Thanks to all beta-testers



Thank you very much for supporting us by choosing our products.

This allows us to develop future interesting and creative effects / utilities / instruments in the Rack Extension format.

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