



# KENNY'S DEATH

Manual - V1.0 04/2010

<http://kennys-death.blogspot.com/>

The most kaputt sounding  
fuzz-workstation ever!

## What is Kenny's Death?

This machine is a heavy fuzz including a lowpass filter. You can use both combined or separated. The fuzz can sound super heavy and the filter is not really a luxury filter, but that's exactly what we wanted. So if you bought one, welcome to the world of lo-tech sound! Kenny's Death is a low-tech machine, no clean sound, no perfection. Strange things will happen and sometimes it's uneasy to control.

Why we built such a machine? Cause we want it to fuck up sound! There are enough razor like and clean distortions on the market, fuck that shit. Kenny's Death is completely handmade. From the circuit board to the colouring. That also means that it looks handmade. Every unit is a bit individual.

## Who needs Kenny's Death?

You can use it for what you like but it was made as an experimental fuzz workstation for integrating it in a modern digital audio setup such as laptop and multiple in/out-soundcard. So you can easily route one beat or sound through Kenny and back into your system record it, done. That was the basic idea.

## For what kind of sounds or instruments can you use it?

You can also use it for guitar, bass, synth or voice. How much input volume you need and how you set the controls depends absolutely on your sound material, so just try out and don't be frustrated if you don't get the best sound within the first five minutes. Kenny is a but tricky and you have to learn how to use it. But therefore you are able to create very much extremely different sounds with it. Try out how much input level (from your soundcard, instrument or mixer-send) is best for your material/instrument (not necessarily the Kenny input level). For example dry beats with short sounds allow mostly much more input than complex guitar signals, where multiple frequencies are layered over another. You'll find out by yourself.

## A note before you start.

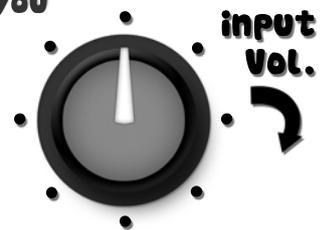
As said before, Kenny isn't always easy to control. You have to practice a few hours before you really got it. But then you are able to create extremely much different sounds and you can nearly reproduce it the next time. It's an experimental machine, remember that.

Nearly all controls react somehow on each other. That means: if you change for example the Egg-Crusher, all other controls will react a bit different than before. So the sound you hear it's always a result of a combination of all controls. You have to know that!

# FUZZ Section<sup>1</sup>

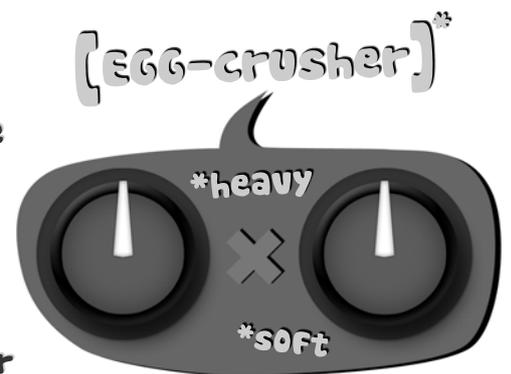
## Input Volume

It controls just the input volume of the machine. Sounds simple and you might think to screw it to 100% is always best. After a while you will find out that you can do much more with it. The whole machine can sound different when you take it back to 80 or 90%. Specially together with extreme positions of the Egg-Crusher and using beats as input you can control much more than just the volume.



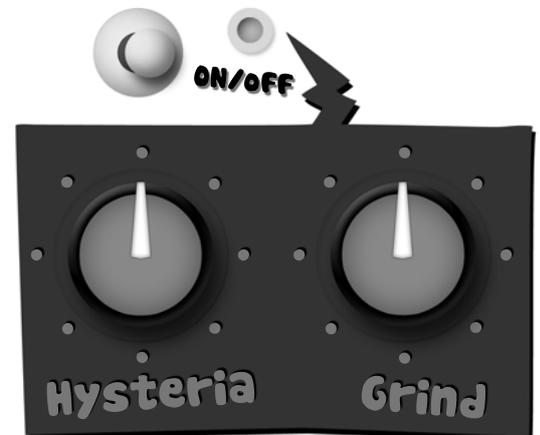
## Egg-Crusher

With this you can squeeze Kenny's balls. If you squeeze them hard, your music will sound squeezed, too. There are 2 controls: Heavy (left) and soft (right). Normally you should start with a kind of middle or 9 o'clock position of both controls. Use the heavy one for adjusting the sound. If you have it in a middle position, the soft one will have nearly no effect, that's normal. It is the fine tuning - if the heavy one is put completely to the right or left, time has come to use the soft one. In combination with rhythmical material like beats (and changing Kenny's input level) this is a murder cool way to vary rhythmical structures.



## Hysteria & Grind

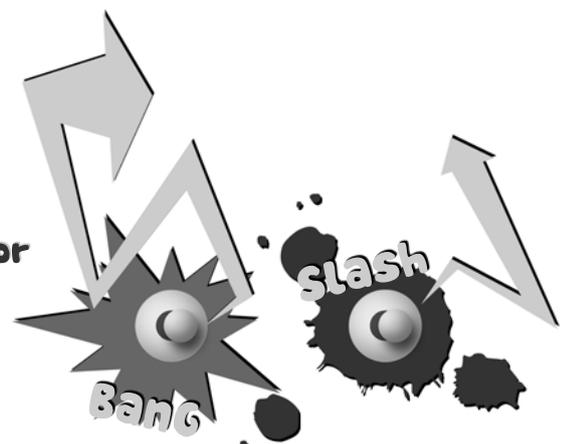
You can switch it on or off. With the Hysteria knob you change the strength of the effect. Thanks to Hysteria the whole machine fucks up, the sound cries and Kenny's carrot explodes. Check out how it works together with Grind and the other features. The knob can react quite sensitive, in most cases it's best to use just the first few millimeters, but that really depends of the other controls, too!



Grind is a heavy booster inside the machine. Depending on the other controls it just shifts the level or has a certain effect. It works together with Hysteria, Bang & Slash.

## Bang & Slash

If you bang and slash Kenny, the sound of your music will change. The way how the distortion reacts on certain frequencies and things like that will change dramatically. Try different combinations of Bang and/or Slash and the other parameters like Hysteria. This parameters work together with the others, too. Down is off, up is on.



# Filter Section<sup>2</sup>

## Hypnose

By this you can hypnotize Kenny. Hypnose mixes between the fuzz-effect (left) and the filter (right). The signal-mix will appear on the main out (see also at Inputs and Outputs). It is normal that the fuzz effect bleeds into the filter and the other way round, that's no defect or so. You can use the filter as a nice overdrive by it's own. Just use high enough input level, put Cut-off to 100% (right) and Resonance to 0% (left), it's a nice effect to saturate single sounds, beats or bass drums.

## HYPnose



## Cut-off

Cut-off controls the cutoff frequency of the lowpass filter. It is normal that it always stays a bit open at 0% (left).



## Resonance

Resonance controls the resonance of the lowpass filter. If you turn it up it starts to feedback. As said before, the filter bleeds into the Fuzz, so you can use it to make the distortion effect scream a bit more. Just try.



## Bypass

The big bypass switch bypasses the fuzz, but not the filter!

# Other stuff

## Inputs & Outputs / Power

There are four connectors on the back.

From left to right (if you look on top of Kenny's Death):

- Input (mono)
- Output / main out (mono) Fuzz and Filter (mix by Hypnose)
- Output (mono) Filter only  
(So you can use the fuzz independent from filter at same time)
- Power 12 volt, tip is plus

## Warning

- Connect only the original 12v power supply (tip = +).  
Using the wrong power supply or polarity will damage the machine and it's your own problem!!!
- Do not step on the knobs! Do not put weights on the knobs, the potentiometers can be damaged!  
We don't take the guarantee for this!
- Don't drop the machine!
- Don't use it in moist surroundings!

## Technical problems & support

All units are tested before we sell them, so they are working as they should. If you have problems after shipping, ask the post, normally we send by insured package, except you want it a cheaper method, then it's your risk.

If there should be a problem during the first time after purchase, that's clearly a manufacturing problem, we'll help you for free. If you damage the machine by rough handling or so: your problem. If you have problems later we maybe can give tips about repairing or so. In any problem case please write an email ([kennysdeath@gmx.net](mailto:kennysdeath@gmx.net)) before sending a machine, cause most things can be done very easily by yourself!

## A word about output levels.

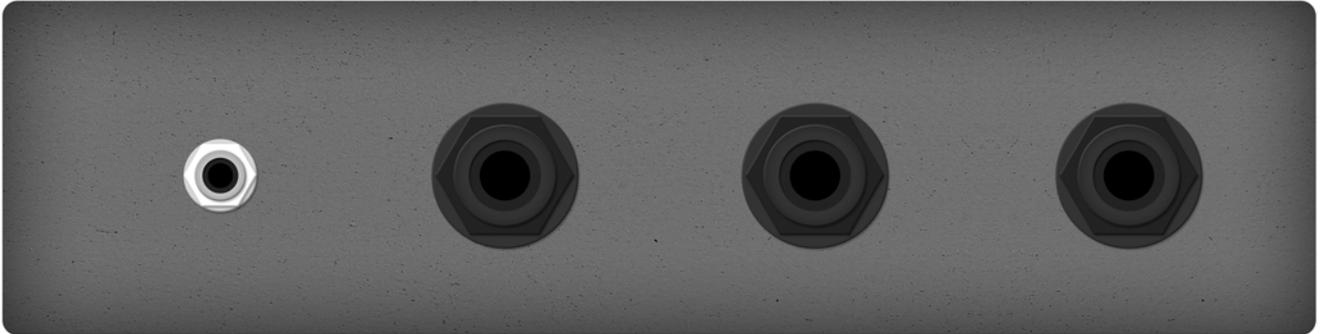
In some combinations of features and controls the output level can vary and jump if you turn on a feature. Well, that's a result of the circuit. As Kenny's Death is made for integrating it in a DAW-setup, it should be easy to put a compressor on the return channel that only starts to work at this level jump. If you do so, all problems are solved and the listeners ears will thank you. Kenny's Death is a heavy machine..

Please always remind: You are responsible for what you do to your audience ok? Having a good time and a few beers on stage is no reason to damage peoples ears forever. If you think so I must say you are a motherfucker!

# Overview

(Rear view)

Power      output (filter only)      Output (main out)      Input



(Top view)

1 Fuzz Section

on/off



2 Filter Section