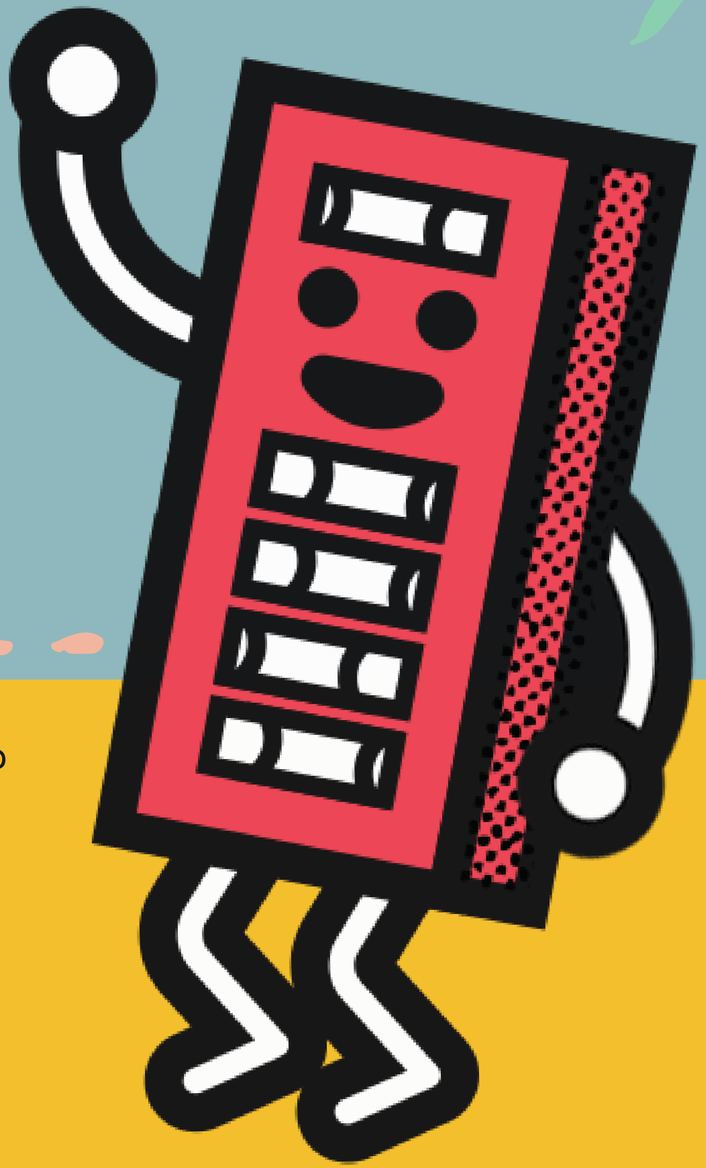
dip switches 101



Why do Chase Bliss pedals have little white switches in little red boxes?

THAT IS THE QUESTION.

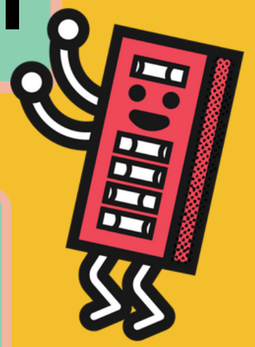
The dip switches exist to help you go one step further and really make a pedal your own!

SO WHAT DO DIPS DO?

They perform two jobs:

customization

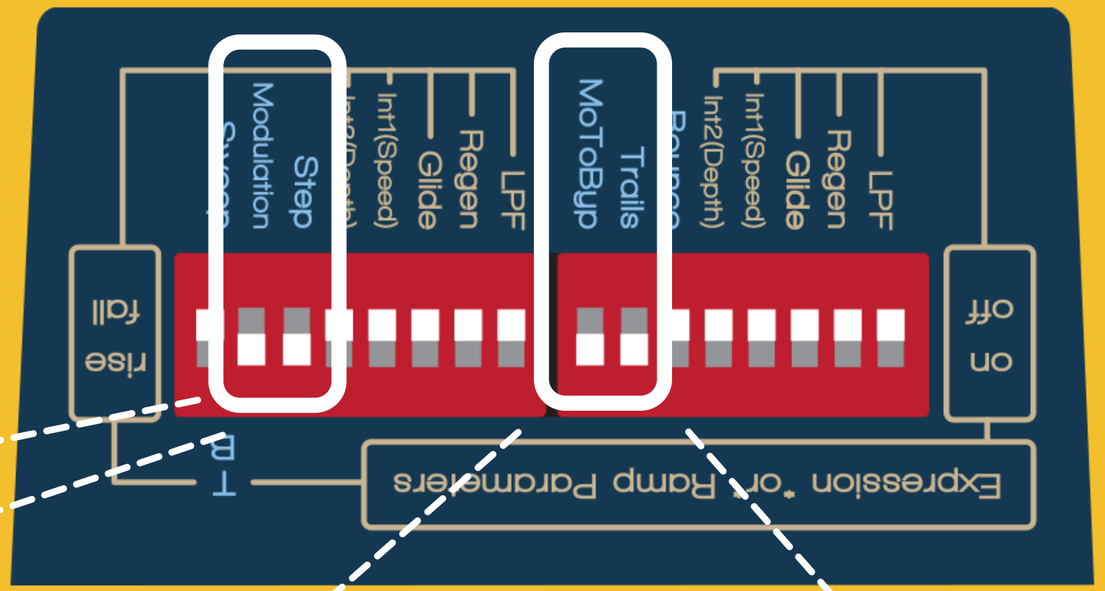
advanced control



That's it! They allow you to go under the hood, to access hidden features and personalize. Each pedal is a little different but if you understand one, you understand them all.

CUSTOMIZATION

This is the simplest way to start exploring dip switches. Let's look at Thermae as our example. All the highlighted dip switches change one part of the pedal's behavior. Simply flip that switch to the on (up) position, and it's done.



Modulation

A very important dip. This changes four of Thermae's controls to allow you to shape some unique and creative modulation. The alternate controls are described in brackets.

Step

This is a fun one. Now Thermae's sequence will only progress when you press the TAP footswitch. This can turn Thermae into a more standard analog delay, and allows for manual sequencing as a performance effect.

MoToByp

Short for Momentary Bypass. Now the pedal is only on when the bypass switch is held down. You'll find this option on most Chase Bliss pedals.

Trails

In the off position, the pedal is true bypass and echoes disappear immediately when the pedal is turned off. In the on position, the pedal is buffered bypass and echoes fade away naturally.

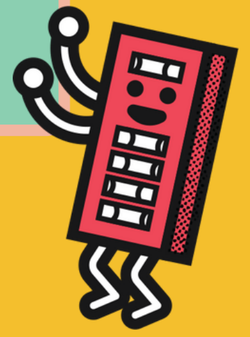
*Each Chase Bliss pedal has its own set of customization options, check out their manuals to see what each one can unlock.

ADVANCED CONTROL

This is what most of the dip switches do,
configure deeper control:

expression/CV

ramping

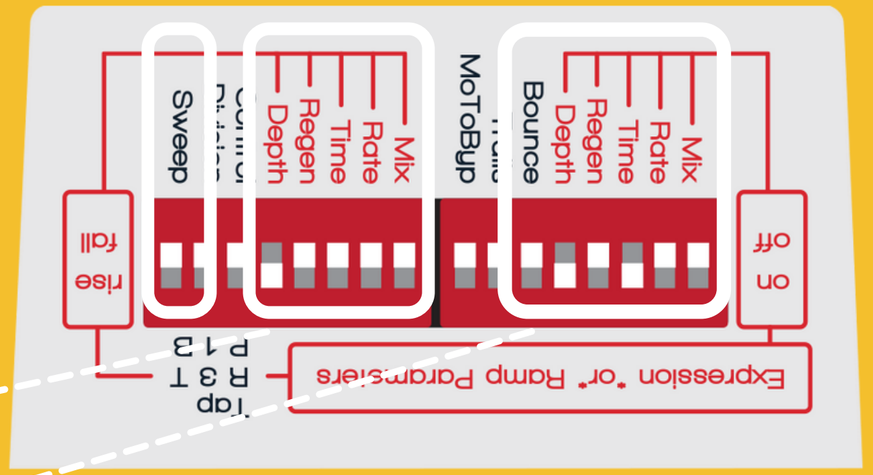


bounce

EXPRESSION/CV

Let's start with expression / CV, using Tonal Recall as our example. When an expression or CV signal is plugged into the pedal, it will automatically be detected*.

In this case we've created a custom behavior: moving towards the toe position causes Tonal Recall's modulation to both slow and deepen, sliding through various flavors of modulation before arriving at a bending, unsteady feeling.



1. Rise or Fall (Polarity)

Choose which direction each knob will move. RISE means the knob will be turned up as expression moves toward the toe position, FALL means it will be turned down.

2. Engage

Choose which knobs you would like to control. You can control multiple knobs at once, simply flick their switches to the on (up) position*. Let's use both DEPTH and RATE.

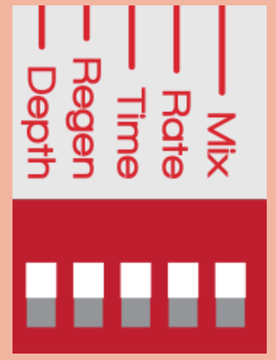
3. Sweep

Choose the range of the sweep. You can either move from the minimum position to the knob's current position (B), or from the maximum to the knob's current position (T). This is a global control.

4. Enjoy!

Bonus!

Most Chase Bliss pedals have one additional expression option. Simply plug in your expression or CV signal, and leave all other knobs in the off position. In the case of the Tonal Recall, you get an expression-controlled modulation effect, like manual vibrato.

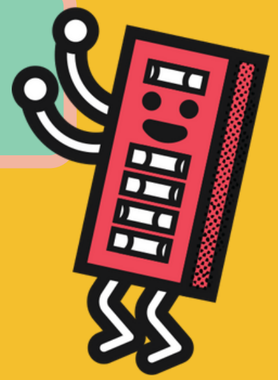


RAMPING

Ramping allows you to activate automatic movement, like an extra hand adjusting the knobs. You configure ramping the same way as expression. As long as nothing is plugged into the EXP/CV input, the pedal will know it's time to ramp*.

There are two ways to use ramping:

ramp

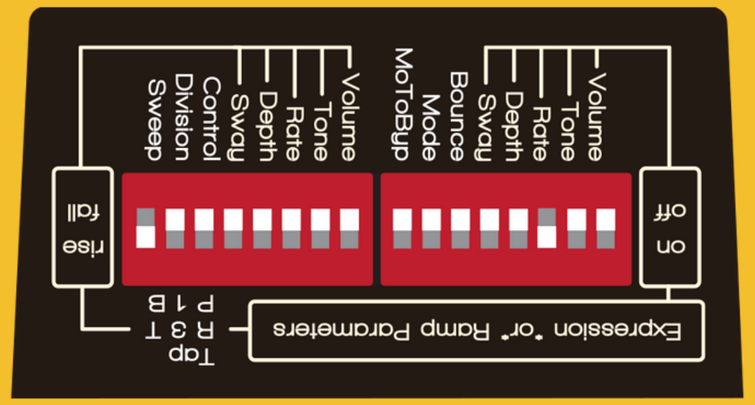


bounce

RAMP

Ramp is a one-time movement that happens when the pedal is turned on. Think of it like one full sweep of an expression pedal, then it parks. It can be a great performance effect, a dramatic entrance when you engage a pedal. Let's use the Gravitas to illustrate:

In this case, Gravitas starts off at its maximum rate - fast, frantic tremolo - then gradually settles to the position chosen by the RATE knob.



1. Configure

Select which knobs will be ramped, and how. This covers steps 1-3 from Expression / CV. We're going to use RATE, and have it move from its maximum value to a more relaxed position.

2. Set Ramp Speed

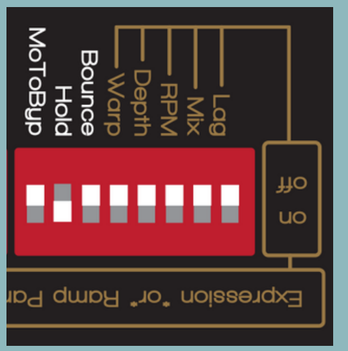
When ramping is engaged**, one of the knobs changes its function and now controls the ramp speed (it will be labelled in brackets). This happens automatically. Ramp speed controls how long it takes for the sweep to complete.

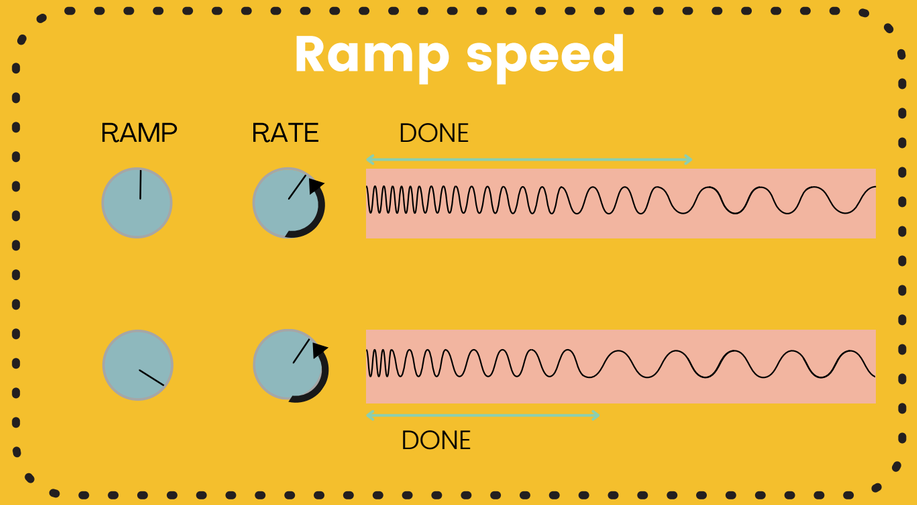
3. ACTIVATE

Turn on your pedal, and behold. Remember – the ramp option is not continuous. You will only hear its effect when you turn your pedal on.

Hold

The Warped Vinyl HiFi has a handy hidden feature – it lets you momentarily engage ramping at any time by holding the TAP foot switch.

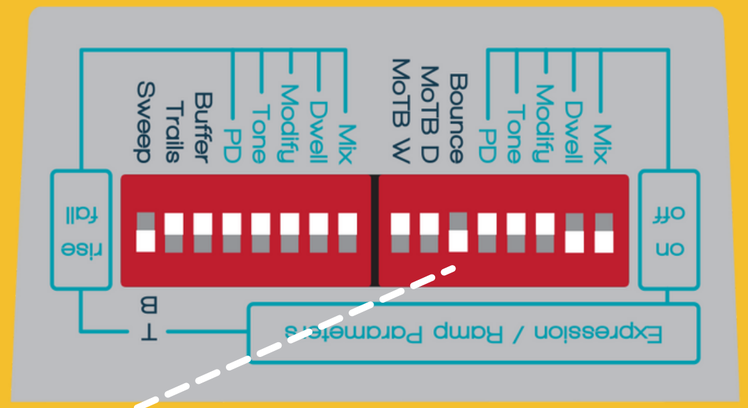




BOUNCE

Bounce goes one step further. It turns ramping into a continuous movement – imagine the motion of a tremolo, except you can use it to move any knob you want. Dark World would be fun for this:

In this scenario, bouncing DWELL creates the illusion of a room constantly changing in size. MIX adds another layer to this illusion, making it sound like you are phasing in & out of that room. Just one possibility of many.



1. Configure

Select which knobs will be ramped, and how. This covers steps 1-3 from Expression / CV, and is no different from ramp. For this scenario, we're going to use both DWELL and MIX.

2. Engage BOUNCE

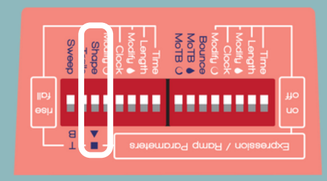
As soon as you flick on BOUNCE, you should hear smooth, continuous motion begin.

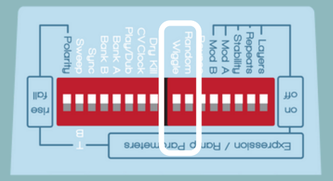
3. Enjoy!

Listen. To. That. Because bounce is continuous, you can tweak and refine the effect as you go.

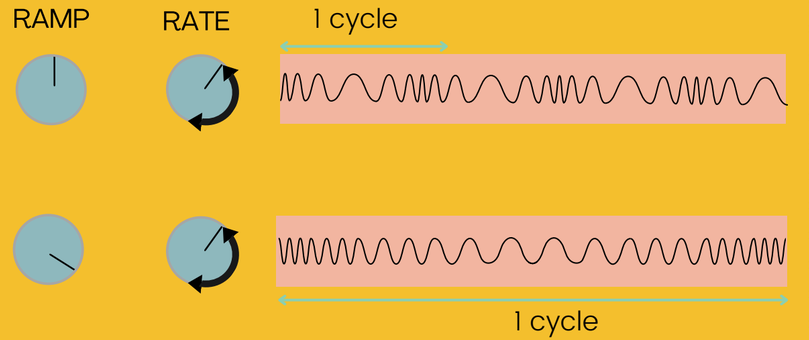
Deeper ramping

Some pedals let you customize ramping even further. MOOD lets you use square wave ramping, for example, for precise movement between two points. Blooper has several ramping options, including random movement, and the ability to sync the ramping speed to the length of your loop.





Ramp speed



That's all!

There you have it. Dip switches. Little tiny switches, big hearty potential.
Hope this was helpful.

*Chase Bliss pedals use the same dip switches to activate Expression, CV & Ramping. There's no need to select which of the signals you're using, the pedal will know automatically. Simply remove all cables from the EXP/CV input jack if you wish to use ramping.

**Expression, CV & Ramping are engaged as soon as the dip switch for any knob is moved to its on position

CHASEBLISS AUDIO

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