



Sonic Research™

M400

Turbo Tuner

The MXR Turbo Tuner is the only tuner you'll ever need. Built around the core engine of the original Sonic Research Turbo Tuner, this pedal brings modern versatility to the gold standard in strobe tuning. Sonic Research engineered it to deliver the same fraction-of-a-cent, professional-grade accuracy. It's all built to the roadworthy standard that defines both Sonic Research and MXR.

jimdunlop.com/mxr-turbo-tuner/

Table of Contents

Controls & Features	3
Basic Operation	4
Tuning Presets	5
Bypass Modes	6
Additional Features	7
Custom Tunings & Temperaments	9
Appendix A - True Temperament™ Open Tunings	12
Specifications	13
End-User License Agreement	14

Controls & Features



- 1 **USB TYPE-C** port for accessing software editor and firmware updates.
- 2 **9V DC IN** jack connects to power adapter or power supply.
- 3 **9V DC OUT** passthrough jack provides power to additional compatible device.
- 4 **TRUE STROBE DISPLAY** pattern in the ring of LEDs rotates left if the note is flat, and rotates right if the note is sharp.
- 5 **SHARP/FLAT LEDs** indicate if note is more than 50 cents out of tune. These are only active in Open Tuning mode.
- 6 **LED NOTE DISPLAY** shows note name in chromatic mode or string number in Open Tuning mode.
- 7 **MUTE INDICATOR** defaults to true bypass with muted output. Internal switch can be set to change Bypass Modes.
- 8 **A4** illuminates when the A reference is set to any value other than 440.0 Hz. The range of A4 is 300.0 to 599.9 Hz in .1 Hz increments.

- 9 **DROP TUNING INDICATOR** displays drop tuning status, supporting detunes down to 9 semitones.

PRESET INDICATOR shows which of six tuning presets is active:

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| 10 CHR (Chromatic) | 13 C1 (Custom1) |
| 11 G (Guitar) | 14 C2 (Custom2) |
| 12 B (Bass) | 15 C3 (Custom3) |

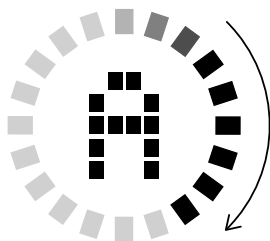
- 16 **LEFT ARROW BUTTON** changes tuning preset in normal operation. Hold down during power on to change the A4 reference.
- 17 **RIGHT ARROW BUTTON** changes tuning preset in normal operation. Hold down during power on to change the number of semitones to drop.
- 18 **OUT** jack sends instrument signal.
- 19 **IN** jack receives instrument signal.
- 20 **FOOTSWITCH** toggles effect on/bypass and, when held with other controls, accesses certain advanced settings.

Basic Operation

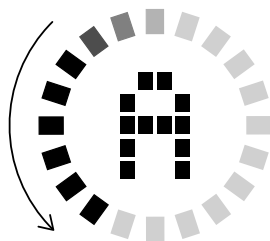
Power

The MXR® Turbo Tuner is powered by one 9-volt battery (remove bottom plate to install), a 9-volt DC power supply such as the Dunlop ECB003/ECB003EU, or an MXR Brick™ Series power supply.

DIAGRAM A



SHARP
pattern rotates right



FLAT
pattern rotates left

Quick Start

1. Connect an external 9V power supply or install a 9V alkaline battery.
2. Plug in your instrument and turn on the tuner. Make sure the volume control on your guitar is all the way up.
3. Play a note and observe the pattern in the LEDs. The direction of rotation indicates whether the note is sharp or flat (see diagram A). The farther out of tune, the faster the pattern will rotate.
4. Turn the tuning pegs as fast as you want. The Turbo Tuner's zero latency display will track the note instantly and keep up no matter how fast you change the pitch.
5. Don't worry about trying to get the rotation to stop completely. As long as it's moving slowly, you are within a fraction of a cent.

Tuning Presets

The MXR Turbo Tuner offers six tuning presets.
All except Chromatic can be customized.

Chromatic

In the Chromatic preset, the tuner responds to all 12 notes of the chromatic scale. The note display in the center of the LED ring shows the note name (e.g. A, F#).

Guitar (Open Tuning)

The tuner detects only the notes defined for the selected tuning preset. The default preset is standard six-string guitar tuning:

String #	Note
1st	E4
2nd	B3
3rd	G3
4th	D3
5th	A2
6th	E2

The display shows the string number instead of the note name.

Bass (Open Tuning)

As in the Guitar preset, the tuner detects only the specific notes programmed into the preset. The default preset supports standard 4-string and 5-string bass tunings:

String #	Note
1st	G2
2nd	D2
3rd	A1
4th	E1
5th	B0

The display shows the string number instead of the note name.

Custom Presets

C1, C2, and C3 can each be configured for:

- Open tunings with up to 12 strings
- Custom chromatic temperaments

By default:

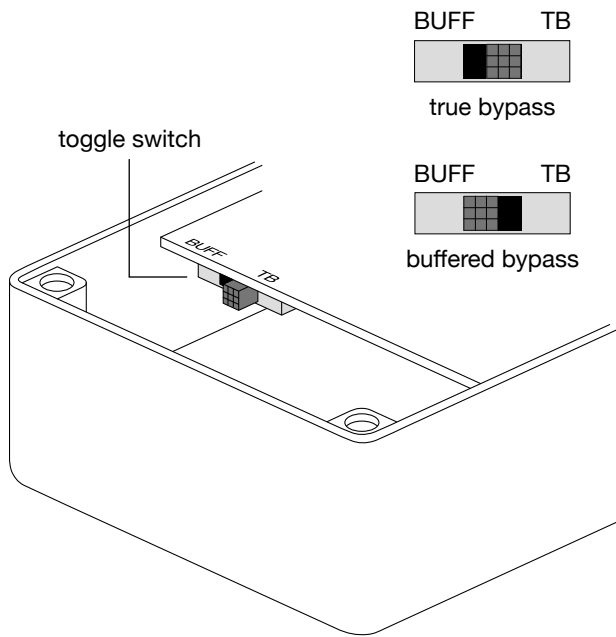
- C1 is set to standard guitar tuning
- C2 is set to drop D tuning
- C3 is set to standard 6-string bass tuning

These presets provide flexible starting points for personalized tunings.

Bypass Modes

The tuner can be configured to use either true bypass or buffered bypass. Remove the bottom plate and locate the toggle switch inside the pedal (see diagram B). Slide the switch to “TB” for true bypass mode or “BUFF” for buffered bypass.

DIAGRAM B



True Bypass

This is the factory default bypass mode. The output signal will always be muted when the tuner is on. When the tuner is off, the input signal is completely disconnected from the tuner’s circuitry. Switching is achieved by relay.

Buffered Bypass

When using buffered bypass, your signal always passes through the pedal’s internal high-fidelity buffer. There are three selectable buffered bypass modes:

Mode 1: Default

Footswitch controls whether the tuner is on or off. The output signal mutes when the tuner is on. This is similar to how true bypass behaves and is the factory default.

Mode 2: Passthrough

The footswitch only controls whether the tuner is on or off. The input signal always passes through to the output.

Mode 3: Monitor

The tuner is always on. The footswitch toggles output muting. Not recommended when using a battery.

To Select Buffered Bypass Mode

1. With the tuner on, press and hold the footswitch.
2. While still holding the footswitch, press the right arrow button. The number 1, 2, or 3 will appear in the note display, indicating the current buffered bypass mode.
3. Press the right arrow button until the desired mode is displayed.
4. Release the footswitch.

Additional Features

Flat Tuning

Flat tuning lowers the pitch of all notes below standard tuning by 1 to 9 semitones.

To Adjust Flat Tuning

1. Scroll to the desired preset and then press the footswitch to deactivate the pedal.
2. Hold the right arrow button and then press the footswitch.

The FLAT LED and the LED for the current tuning preset will flash.

The note display will show the current flat tuning value (0–9).

3. Press the right arrow button to change the number of semitones.

In CHR preset: scrolls from 0–9.

In all other presets: scrolls from 0–9, then shows “D” for default, which refers to the CHR preset’s flat setting.

Each of the 5 presets can save its own flat setting or be programmed to follow the CHR preset’s flat setting. Subsequent changes to CHR will be reflected in presets set to “D.”

4. Press the left arrow button to save your setting and return to normal operation.
5. Whenever your flat tuning is set to anything other than zero, the FLAT LED will remain illuminated during use.

Reference Pitch

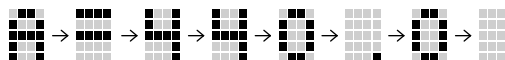
By default, the tuner’s reference pitch is set to A4 = 440.0 Hz, but you can change it in 0.1 Hz increments, anywhere from 300.0 Hz to 599.9 Hz.

To Change Reference Pitch

1. Scroll to the desired preset and then press the footswitch to deactivate the pedal.
2. Hold the left arrow button and then press the footswitch.

The A4 LED and the LED for the current tuning preset will flash.

The display will begin scrolling the current reference pitch (for example: A = 4 4 0 . 0).



3. Use right and left arrow buttons to change the frequency:

Press the left arrow button to move to the next digit.

Press the right arrow button to change the value of the selected digit.

4. When finished:

Continue pressing the left arrow button until the display goes blank.

Then press the right arrow button to save and return to normal operation.

Note: The default A4 reference frequency is set when the tuner is in the CHR (chromatic) preset. Each of the five programmable presets can be set to this default frequency by setting the first digit to “D” (for default). Whenever the A4 reference is set to anything other than 440.0 Hz, the A4 LED will be illuminated.

Additional Features (cont.)

Automatic Power Up

By default, the tuner is configured to turn on when external power is first applied. To change this:

1. Disconnect from power and remove battery.
2. Hold the footswitch down for 5 seconds, and then release.
3. Hold the right arrow button down and plug the power back in.
4. The tuner will no longer turn on when your board is first powered up.

Note that for this feature to work, there must be no battery connected.

To reenable automatic power up, repeat this procedure but hold the left arrow button down instead of the right arrow button. Alternately, perform a full reset as described in the following RESET section.

Brightness Setting

To change the display LED brightness:

1. With the tuner on, press and hold the footswitch.
2. While still holding the footswitch, press the left arrow button. A number from 1 to 4 will appear in the note display, indicating the current brightness.
3. Press the left arrow button until the desired brightness is achieved.
4. Release the footswitch.

Reset

To reset the tuner: while the pedal is bypassed, press and hold both arrow buttons. While continuing to hold down both arrow buttons, press the footswitch to cycle between numbers 0 to 4. Select a number and release the arrow buttons to perform the desired reset actions as shown below:

0: No action. Tuner resumes normal operation.

1: Sets the mode to Chromatic, sets A4 to 440Hz, clears any flats and sets the buffered bypass mode to mode 1.

2: Full Reset. This will restore all the factory defaults including the tunings and temperaments. ANY USER DEFINED TUNINGS AND TEMPERAMENTS WILL BE ERASED. During the loading process the note display will read "L#."

3: Same as above, but loads the tunings for True Temperament™ necks instead of the defaults. These are described in Appendix A. During the loading process the note display will read "t#".

4: Displays the serial number and firmware revision.

Firmware & Editor Software

Visit jimdunlop.com to update firmware and access editor software.

Custom Tunings & Temperaments

Each tuning preset, with the exception of Chromatic, can be set as either as open tuning* or chromatic with custom temperaments. You can further customize the presets to accommodate different notes, string numbers, or offsets.

Enter Edit Mode

1. Pick the preset you want to edit using the LEFT or RIGHT arrow buttons.
2. Press both arrow buttons simultaneously.
3. The preset's LED will flash to confirm that you've entered edit mode.
4. If you need to start over, turn the tuner off and on again.

Upon entering edit mode, the note display will show:

 for open tuning

 for temperament

Use the right arrow button to toggle between modes, and press the left arrow button to confirm your selection.

Each of the 5 presets has a temperament and open tuning associated with it, and editing one has no effect on the other.

***Note:** “Open Tuning” here does NOT mean the common guitar term for tunings that form a chord when strings are played open. Instead, Open Tuning Mode lets you assign any specific note (and octave) to each string.

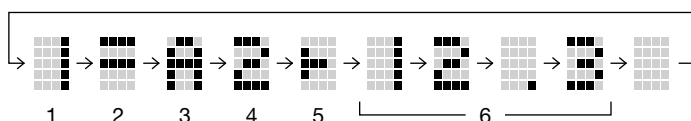
Custom Tunings & Temperaments (cont.)

Edit an Open Tuning

Open tunings let you set the exact pitch for each string on your instrument. In addition to standard tunings, you can create custom setups for different styles, songs, or personal preference.

Along with choosing the note name and octave, you can fine-tune each string slightly sharper or flatter. These small offsets help refine your instrument's intonation or achieve a particular sound. For instance, some players might raise the pitch of a string slightly to help certain chords ring out with greater clarity.

After entering edit mode and selecting open tuning as described above, the display will show the following sequence for each string:



1. The string number (e.g. 1)
2. An equals sign (=)
3. The note name (e.g. A)
4. The octave number (e.g. 2)
5. A + or – sign
( represents the + sign)
6. The cents offset
(difference from standard pitch, e.g. +12.3 or –5.0)

1. Changing Values

Use the right arrow button to move through each item in the sequence.

Use the left arrow button to change the value currently displayed.

When Editing:

String number: Select which string to edit. When scrolling through the strings, there will be one more string than is defined for the tuning. For example, a standard guitar tuning has 6 strings, and when scrolling through the strings in edit mode, there will be 7. This is an undefined slot, to let you add more strings.

Note name: Choose any note from A to G#.

Octave: Select an octave from 0 to 7.

Cents offset: Adjust how much sharper (+) or flatter (-) the note is. You can set both the + or – direction and the numeric value, from -50.0 to +50.0 cents.

2. Adding a String

Scroll to the extra “undefined” string slot.

Set the desired note and octave (when a string is undefined, the note will display as U).

This string will now be included in your tuning setup.

3. Removing a String

To remove the last string in your tuning, set its note to U (undefined).

4. Exit Edit Mode

When finished, press the right arrow button repeatedly until the display goes blank.

Then press the left arrow button to exit edit mode and return to normal operation.

Your preset will be saved.

Custom Tunings & Temperaments (cont.)

Edit a Temperament

Most tuners use equal temperament, where all notes are evenly spaced. But sometimes making one or two notes a little sharper or flatter can help certain chords or keys sound sweeter or more in tune. Changing the offset for a note shifts its pitch slightly sharper or flatter everywhere that note appears across your entire tuning.

To create a custom temperament, enter edit mode and select temperament mode as previously described. The display will show the first note of the chromatic scale, along with its current offset, indicating whether it's sharp (+) or flat (–) compared to standard tuning:

C + 00.0

This indicates you're ready to adjust how that note is tuned.

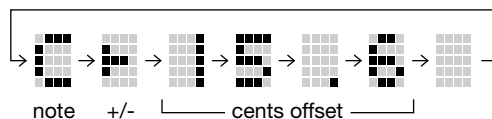
Changing Note Offsets

1. Left arrow button: moves through each note in the chromatic scale:

C, C#, D, D#, E, F, F#, G, G#, A, A#, B.

2. Right arrow button: changes the cents offset for the note currently displayed.

Offsets can range from -50.0 to +50.0 cents in 0.1 cent steps. Your chosen settings will affect every occurrence of that note, regardless of key or chord.



Exiting Edit Mode

1. To exit and save, scroll past the last note until the display goes blank, and then press the left arrow button.

2. To cancel, simply disengage the pedal by pressing the footswitch.

Capturing a Custom Tuning

If you use a custom tuning that offsets your guitar's open strings, you can easily capture and store it as an open tuning preset.

1. Enter edit mode.

Refer to Edit an Open Tuning for how to enter edit mode and navigate note and offset settings.

2. Select the string to capture.

Use the arrow buttons to choose the string number.

3. Set the offset to +00.0 cents.

Press the right arrow button to reach the offset value. Make sure it's set to +00.0.

4. Set the note and octave to match the intended pitch of your open string.

5. Determine the offset sign (+ or –):

Play the open string.

If the strobe pattern rotates right, set the sign to +.

If it rotates left, set the sign to –.

Use the left arrow button to change the sign.

6. Adjust the cents offset:

While the string is still ringing, press the right arrow button to move to the tens digit of the cents offset.

Press the left arrow button to increase the offset value until the rotation just begins to change direction.

Back the value down one step so the display is just before the point where rotation reverses.

7. Fine-tune the offset:

Repeat the same process for the ones and tenths digits of the offset until the strobe pattern stops moving or moves very slowly.

Repeat these steps for each string you wish to capture, then exit edit mode. Your custom tuning preset will be saved.

Appendix A - True Temperament™ Open Tunings

The MXR Turbo Tuner can be loaded with open tunings for the True Temperament™ necks, as shown below.

C1 Formula 1		C2 D.W.G.		C3 TT Low Tune	
String #	Note	String #	Note	String #	Note
1st	E4-1.0	1st	E4-2.0	1st	B3-3.0
2nd	B3-1.0	2nd	B3	2nd	F#3-3.0
3rd	G3+4.0	3rd	G3+3.9	3rd	D3+2.0
4th	D3+2.0	4th	D3+2.0	4th	A2
5th	A2	5th	A2	5th	E2-2.0
6th	E2-2.0	6th	D2-2.0	6th	B1-4.0
7th	B1-4.0				
8th	F#1-8.0				

To Load These Tunings

1. Start with the MXR Turbo Tuner powered off.
2. Hold down both left and right arrow buttons, and press the footswitch repeatedly until the number 3 appears on the display.
3. Release the left and right arrow buttons.
The presets shown above will be loaded.

Note: This will restore all factory defaults, including tunings and temperaments. Any user-defined tunings and temperaments will be erased.

To reload the standard open tunings, cycle power while holding both left and right arrow buttons until the number 2 appears on the display.

Specifications

Dimensions	4.4" (11.2 cm) x 2.4" (6.1 cm) x 1.9" (4.8 cm) HxWxD
Weight	6.8 oz / 192 g (without battery)
Bypass	True Bypass / Buffered Bypass (internal switch selectable)
Tuning Range	C0 (16.35 Hz) to C8 (4,186.0 Hz)
Accuracy	± .02 cents (calibrated crystal oscillator)
Reference Pitch	A4 = 300.0 Hz to 599.9 Hz in .1 Hz increments
Connectors	Input, Output (1/4") 9V DC In, 9V DC Out, USB-C
Power Supply	9 volts DC
Current Draw	48 mA (min brightness) to 73 mA (max brightness) typ.

Note: This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected. Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help. This device complies with Part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) This device may not cause harmful interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation. Unauthorized changes or modifications to this product could void the user's authority to operate the equipment.

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