

ADA MP-1 MODS

By Mark Howell

Token Disclaimer:

Perform these mods at you own risk. I will not be responsible for you trashing your MP-1 or electrocuting yourself. Unplug it first!! Don't do these mods if you don't know which end of a soldering iron to hold. Also, tone is very subjective so if you don't like the sound of these mods, don't blame me. Everyone has a different setup (post-processing, effects, power amp, speakers, etc), so it's difficult to determine what YOUR end result will be. These mods are reversible, save for one cut trace, which can be easily rebridged. I've done these mods to my own MP-1, and they sound great!

Warning:

These mods change the sound of your MP-1!! But then again, you wouldn't be doing these mods if didn't want to change the sound of your MP-1 😊

MOD #3

This mod is for those looking for that "modern distortion" tone. The last two gain stages are reconfigured to a circuit designed by Mike Soldano. This circuit is found in the SLO-100, 5150, and the Dual Rectifier. In the MP-1, the mod sounds like a Dual Rec more than the other amps.

Advantages:

Very clear and tight distortion. Chords retain definition even at maximum gain.

Disadvantages:

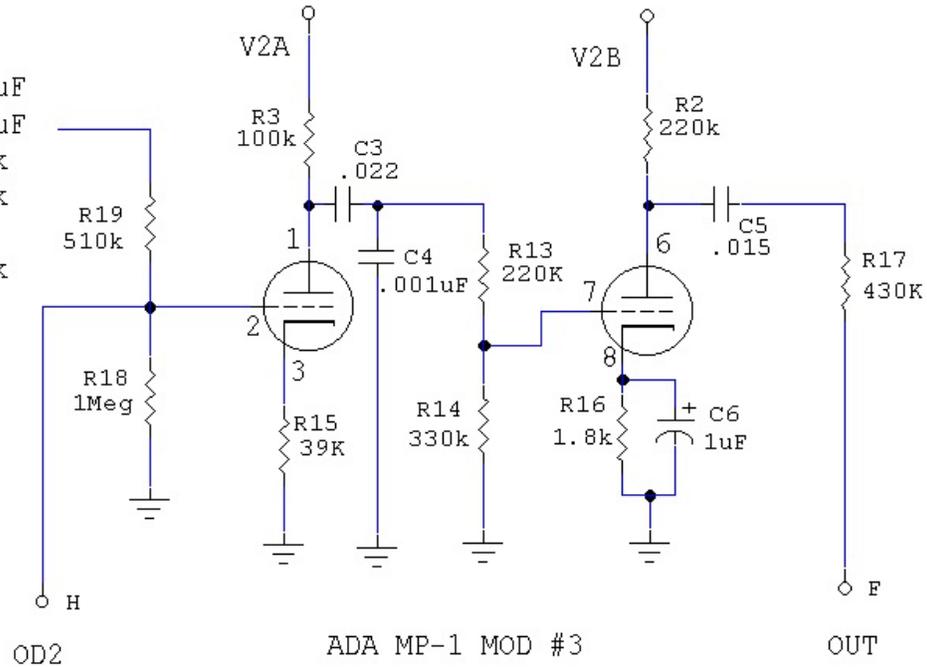
You tend to lose the smooth, compressed sound of a stock MP-1.

MOD #3 Schematic

Below is the schematic of mod3. No traces will be cut, only components will be replaced. Which means this mod is reversible, if you save your original components.

MOD #3:

R15 to 39k
C3 to .022uF
C4 to .001uF
R13 to 220k
R14 to 330k
R2 to 220k
R16 to 1.8k
C6 to 1uF



Parts List:

R2,R13,R14,R15,R16: ¼ watt metal film or carbon comp resistors

C3,C4: polyester or polypropylene capacitors 200-250 WVDC

C6: Radial electrolytic 25-50 WVDC

The Procedure:

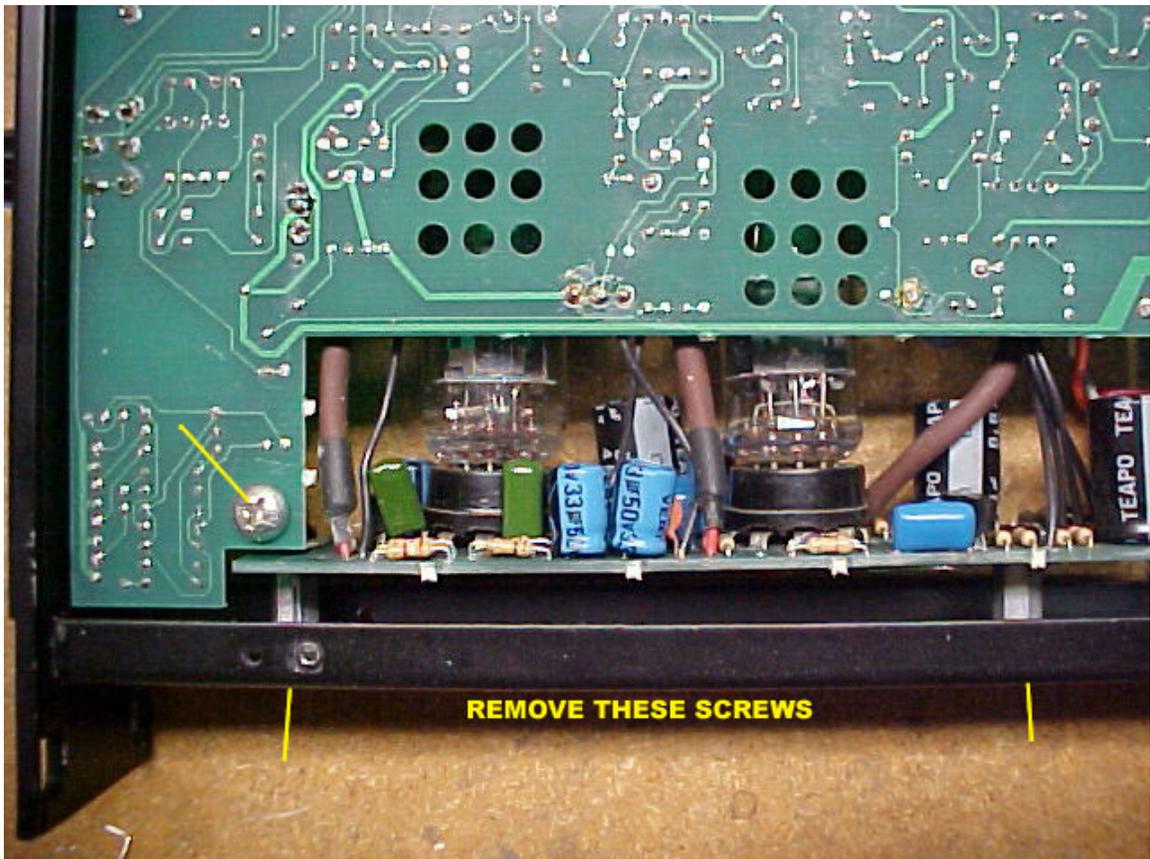
1- Unplug your MP-1 ☺

2- All nasty voltages drop down to zero about 30 seconds after unplugging, so don't worry about getting zapped.

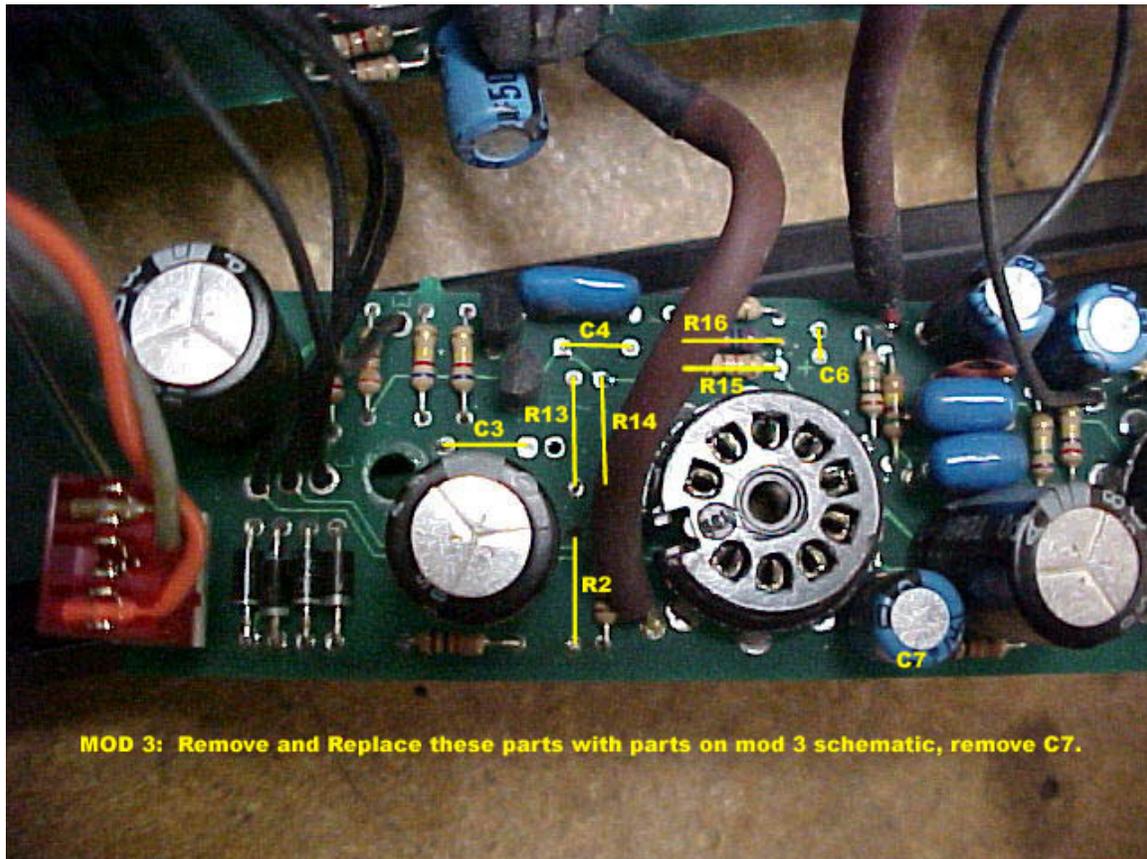
3- Remove the top and bottom covers. They fit inside a groove in the front panel, so slide them back first before lifting them off.



4- Remove the two tubes. Unfasten the tube board and flip it upwards so you can work on it.



5- Remove and replace the components as shown in the picture below. Also, remove C7 (remove only, nothing gets replaced).



6- That's it, you're done! Screw the tube board back in, install the tubes, put the covers back on and fire it up.

--end mod3