# **ZOOM 504** ACOUSTIC Operation Manual

Thank you for selecting the ZOOM 504 (hereafter simply called the "504").

Please take the time to read this manual carefully so you can get the most out of your 504 and ensure optimum performance and reliability.

Retain this manual for future reference.

### ZOOM CORPORATION

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## **Major Features**

- New type of compact multi-effect device designed for creating great acoustic guitar sound.
- Suitable for use with an acoustic guitar or an electric guitar. Use the dedicated effects for acoustic guitar, or make an electric guitar sound like an acoustic guitar with the built-in simulator.
- Unique AIR effect imitates the sound as picked up by a microphone. Reverb and chorus effects help to create a spacious feeling. Enjoy life-like, dynamic sound even during line recording.
- Feedback suppressor automatically detects and attenuates problem frequencies. This makes the 504 useful not only for line recording but also on stage.
- Two input jacks with different sensitivity allow optimum matching to any type of guitar, from acoustic guitars with magnetic pickups to electric guitars with humbucking type pickups.
- You can switch between 24 patches to store diverse settings based on your preference.
- Integrated auto-chromatic tuner for guitar. You can tune your instrument easily anywhere, any time. You can also leave the tuning function disabled all the time.
- Dual power supply design allows the unit to be powered from a 9V alkaline battery (6LR61) or an AC adapter.

### **Safety Precautions** 2

### **USAGE AND SAFETY PRECAUTIONS**

In this manual, symbols are used to highlight warnings and cautions for you to read so that accidents can be prevented. The meanings of these symbols are as follows:

This symbol indicates explanations about extremely <u>/!\</u> dangerous issues. If users ignore this symbol and handle the device incorrectly, serious injury or death could Warning result

Caution This symbol indicates explanations about dangerous issues. If users ignore this symbol and handle the device the wrong way, bodily injury and damage to the equipment could result.

Please observe the following safety tips and precautions to ensure hazard-free use of the 504.

 $\mathbb{N}$ About power

Warning Since power consumption of this unit is fairly high, we recommend the use of an AC adapter whenever possible. When powering the unit from a battery, use only an alkaline type

- AC adapter operation Be sure to use only an AC adapter which supplies 9 V DC, 300 mA and is equipped with a 'center minus' plug (Zoom AD-0006). The use of an adapter other than the specified type may damage the unit and pose a safety hazard. Connect the AC adapter only to an AC outlet that supplies the rated voltage required by the adapter. When disconnecting the AC adapter from the AC outlet, always great the adapter.
- always grasp the adapter itself and do not pull the cable it is not to be used for a long time, disconnect the AC If the adapter from the outlet

### Battery operation

Use only a 9 V (alkaline) battery (6LR61).

### **Usage precautions**

### Electrical interference

For safety considerations, the 504 has been designed to provide rot safety considerations, the 504 has been designed to provide maximum protection against the emission of electromagnetic radiation from inside the device, and from external interference.However, equipment that is very susceptible to interference or that emits powerful electromagnetic waves should not be placed near the 504, as the possibility of interference cannot be ruled out entirely.

Whatever the type of digital control device, the 504 included, electromagnetic damage can cause malfunctioning and corrupt or destroy data. Since this is an ever-present danger, thorough care should be taken to minimize the risk of damage.

### Cleaning

Use a soft, dry cloth to clean the 504. If necessary, slightly moisten the cloth. Do not use abrasive cleanser, wax, or solvents (such as paint thinner or cleaning alcohol), since these may dull the finish or damage the surface.

Connecting cables and input and output jacks

You should always turn off the power to the 504 and all other equipment before connecting or disconnecting any cables. Also make sure to disconnect all cables and the AC adapter before moving the 504.

- The 504 cannot be used for rechargin Pay close attention to the labelling of the battery to make sure
- you choose the correct type.
  If the 504 is not to be used for an extended period of time, remove the battery from the unit.
  If battery leakage has occurred, wipe the battery compartment
- and the battery terminals carefully to remove all remnants of battery fluid.
- While using the unit, the battery compartment cover should be closed.

### Environment

- Avoid using your 504 in environments where it will be Caution exposed to
  - Extreme temperature
  - High humidity or moisture Excessive dust or sand

  - Excessive vibration or shock

### Handling $\triangle$



- The 504 is a precision instrument. Except for the foot switches, do not push other parts with your feet or subject Caution them to strong force
  - · Take care that no foreign objects (coins or pins etc.) or liquids ter the unit
  - Be sure to turn the power to all equipment off before making
  - connections. Before moving the unit, turn the power off and disconnect all cables and the AC adapter.

### Alterations $\underline{\Lambda}$



Never open the case of the 504 or attempt to modify the product in any way since this can result in damage to the unit.

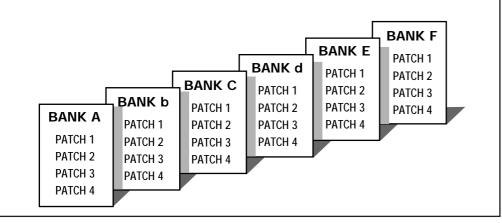
### What Are Banks and Patches? 3

### PATCH

A group of the settings for a certain effect type is called a PATCH. The 504 comes with 24 preset patches which can be changed (edited) by the user.

### BANK

The 504 calls up patches in sets of four, called a "bank".



### PATCH LIST 4

The 504 has memory capacity for 24 patches. At the factory, these are programmed with recommended settings.

The user can Edit and Store any patch, and also restore the factory settings.

The patches of banks A (HINT) through d for acoustic guitar are designed for line output to a mixer or similar. When using a guitar amplifier, it is recommended to adjust the De-Amp parameter.

### BANK A - d for ACOUSTIC GUITAR 1 Acoustic Master Basic Acoustic sound with short reverberation 2 Spacy-12 BANK A Simulated 12-string sound DEMO Gut string simulation, good for solo play 3 Gut Style 4 Studio Strum Recording quality sound for strum 1 J-Folk Folk guitar sound Hawaiian Steel Simulated Lap-steel guitar sound BANK b WORLD Street Blues Tight sound with room ambience Asian Dream SFX making sound like ethnic instruments Studio Finger

Recording quality sound for finger picikng Slide (Bottle Doubling sound for bottle-neck play BANK C 3 Ragtime PLAY Natural sound with delay and revert Resonato Simulated "Dobro"sound Green Flavor Freddie Green sound BANK d Arpeggian Bright Arpeggio sound ARTIST Virtuoso Warm jazz guitar sound Avant-Gard Prog

### BANK E, F ACOUSTIC SIMULATION for ELECTRIC GUITAR

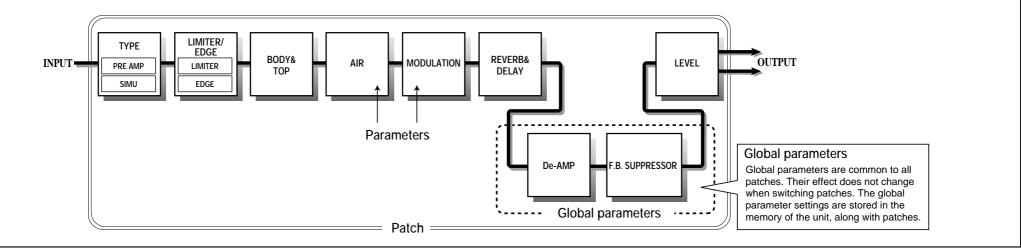
BANK E DEMO	1	Standard	Standard acoustic simulation sound
	2	EI-Acorustic	Piezo type electric-acoustic sound
	3	Warm Taste	Nylon-string type solo sound
	4	12-Plus	Octave enhanced sound, good for solo and arpeggio
BANK F STYLE	1	Jumbo Type	Jumbo body sound
	2	Stage Strum	Useful acoustic simulation sound
	3	New-Strings	Bright acoustic sound
	4	Rich Strum	Acoustic 12-string simulation
		* ACOUSTIC S	IMULATION is suitable for single pickup at front position.

### **Configuration of Patches** 5

The patches of the 504 are created using the nine parameters listed below. A parameter is an element that determines a certain aspect, such as the sound character or the effect intensity. Parameters can be altered by the user as desired, and a set of changed parameters can be stored as a patch for later recall.

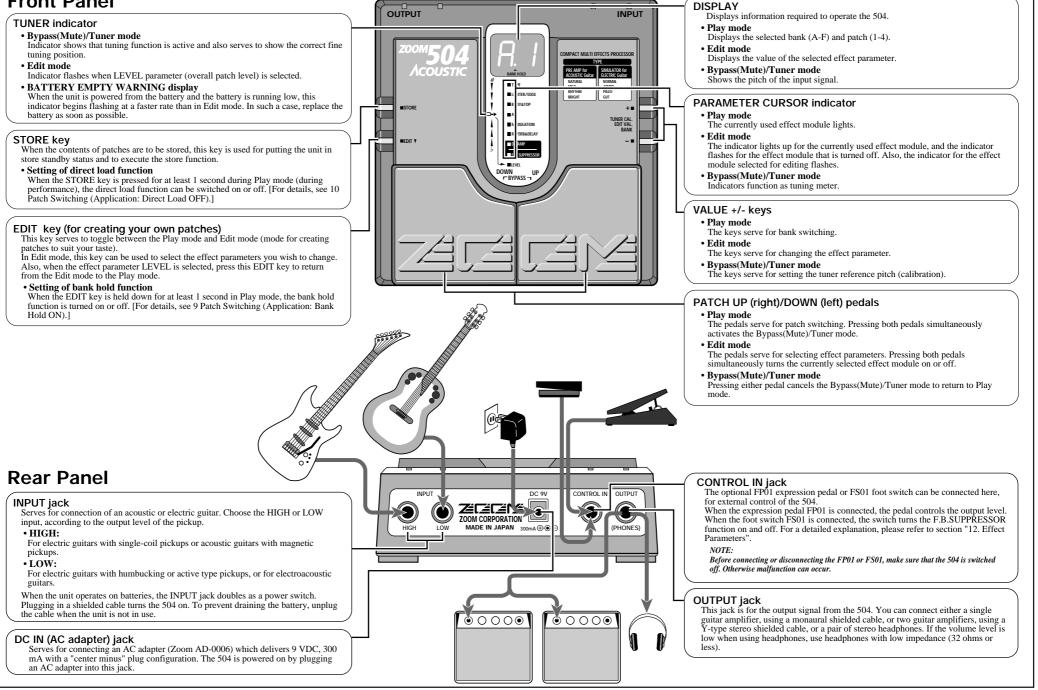
Global parameters are common to all patches.

For an explanation of the function of each parameter, please refer to section "11. Editing Patches".

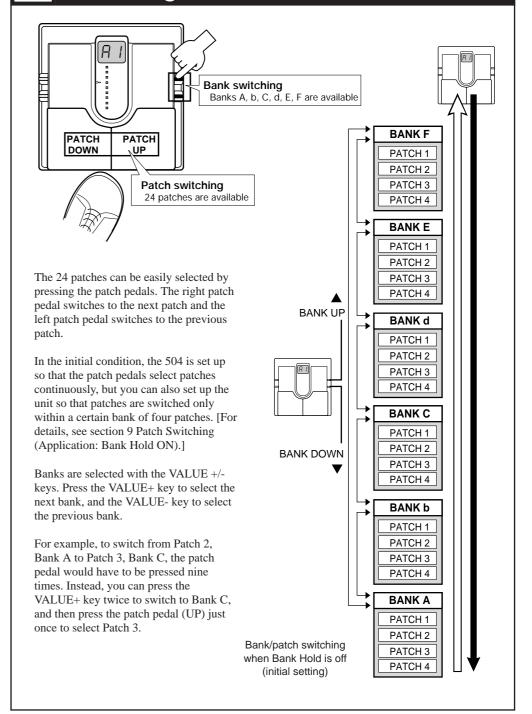


### **Controls, Functions and Connections** 6

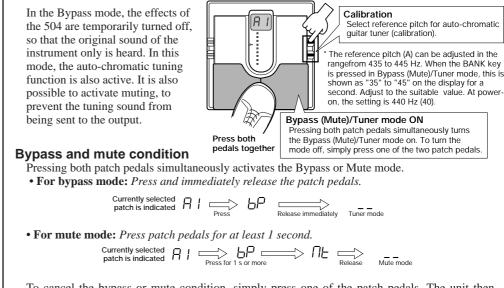
### Front Panel



## Selecting Patches



## 8 Using the Bypass (Mute)/Tuner Mode



To cancel the bypass or mute condition, simply press one of the patch pedals. The unit then reverts to the previously selected patch.

### **Tuner mode**

The 504 is initially set so that the auto-chromatic tuning function for the guitar activates

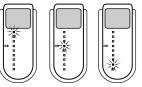
automatically when the Bypass(Mute) mode is invoked. In Bypass(Mute) mode, pick an open string to be tuned. The closest note will be shown on the display.



When the tuning function is active, the parameter cursor LEDs serve as tuning meter, designed to enhance tuning precision during fine adjustments.

### Turning tuning function off

If you do not want to activate the tuning function in Bypass(Mute) mode, press the STORE and EDIT keys simultaneously for more than one second in Play mode. The



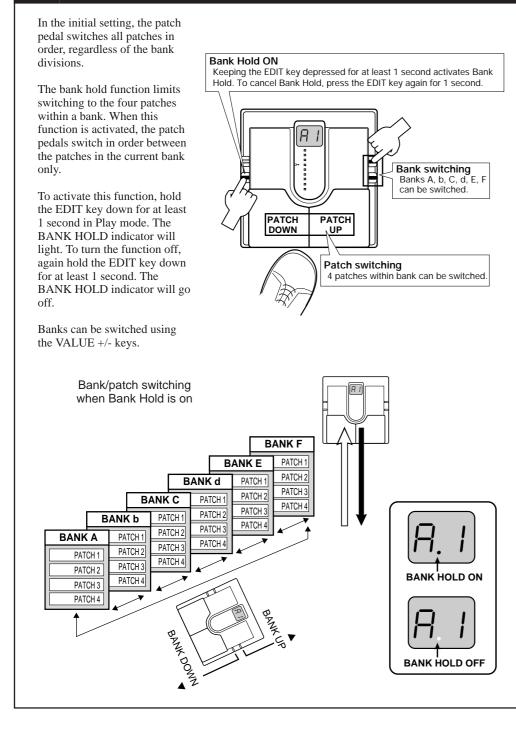
Pitch is too high Correctly tuned Pitch is too low

tuning function will be turned off, and this setting will be stored even when the power is turned off. When you turn the function off, the display will show "tunEr oFF" (tuning function off).

To turn the tuning function on, press the same keys simultaneously again. The display will show "tunEr on" (tuning function on).

NOTE: Please note that the tuning function may not operate properly if other effect modules between the guitar and the 504 are on.

## 9 Patch Switching (Application: Bank Hold ON)



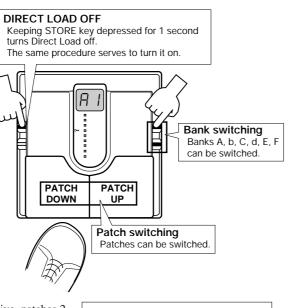
## **10** Patch Switching (Application: Direct Load OFF)

In the default condition, the 504 is set up in such a way that pressing a patch pedal immediately switches the patch and alters the output sound. This is called Direct Load ON. This switching principle is most convenient when the desired patches are adjacent or close to each other. However, when wanting to switch to a patch that is further away, it may be desirable not to activate the sound of the other patches in between.

When this is desired, turn the Direct Load function off as follows. When Direct Load has been turned off, switching banks and patches has no effect until the user confirms the selection.

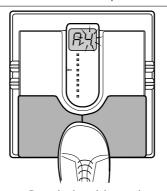
### For example, when going from

patch 1 to patch 4 with Direct Load active, patches 2 and 3 will briefly be heard when the patch UP pedal is pressed three times. When Direct Load is off, pressing the patch UP pedal will change the number on the display (the number flashes), but until the user confirms the choice, the sound remains that of patch 1.



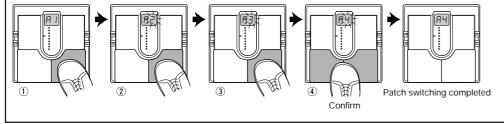
Confirming a patch When display indication flashes, pressing both patch pedals together confirms the patch and switches the output sound.

To turn Direct Load on or off, keep the STORE key depressed for at least 1 second. To confirm a choice after selecting a patch with Direct Load off, press both patch pedals simultaneously.



Press both pedals together

### Example: Switching from patch 1 to patch 4



## Editing Patches

The 504 comes with 24 predefined patches. However, the 504 offers many more possibilities for combining effects in innovative ways. To discover these possibilities, we recommend that you try changing the parameters (elements that make up patches) to create your own patches. This operation is called editing, and is done in the Edit mode.

To switch from normal Play mode to Edit mode, press the EDIT key briefly (for less than 1 second).

\* Note that if the EDIT key is held down for 1 second or longer, the Bank Hold mode will be activated.

Immediately after switching from Play mode to Edit

mode, the TYPE parameter cursor is flashing, and the TYPE setting is shown on the display. This indicates that the TYPE parameter is currently selected for editing.

In Edit mode, the EDIT key or PATCH UP/DOWN pedals are used to select the parameter for editing. The 504 has the following parameters:

- TYPE: Selects the preamp module type. Make the selection according to the connected type of guitar and the desired application.
- · LIMITER/EDGE: Depending on the setting of the TYPE parameter, this parameter enhances the edge of the guitar string sound or compresses the dynamic range.
- BODY & TOP: Emphasizes the lower frequency range (BODY) or upper frequency range (TOP), causing a voluminous sound or making the sound brighter and more distinct.
- AIR: Simulates sound as if captured with a microphone.
- · MODULATION: Lends a soft expansive feeling to the sound, using a chorus effect. Depending on the parameter setting, an octave-higher component can be added, to emulate the sound of a 12-string guitar.
- **Effect Parameters** 12

- · REVERB & DELAY: Adjusts the reverberation effect. Depending on the parameter setting, a mix of delay and reverb can be created to increase the depth of the sound.
- · De-AMP: Serves to control the frequency range that can be sonically unpleasant when reproducing the sound of an acoustic guitar over an electric guitar amplifier.
- · F.B.SUPPRESSOR: Reduces feedback which can occur easily when using an acoustic guitar during a live performance.
- · LEVEL: Adjusts the overall level of the patch.

Each push of the EDIT key moves the blinking parameter cursor indicator one step down. The TUNER indicator serves as parameter cursor for the LEVEL parameter. When the EDIT key is pressed while the lowest indicator (F.B.SUPPRESSOR) is flashing, the TUNER indicator starts flashing and the LEVEL parameter can be adjusted.

The parameter value is changed using the VALUE +/- keys. For details on parameters, please refer to section "12. Effect Parameters"

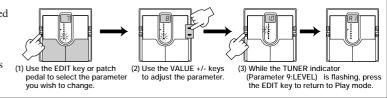
To terminate the Edit mode and return to the Play mode, press the EDIT key while the LEVEL parameter is selected (TUNER indicator is flashing). For information on how to store changed parameters, please refer to section "13. Storing Patches".

When the PATCH

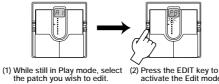
DOWN pedal is pressed instead of the EDIT key, the TYPE parameter is selected again and the unit does

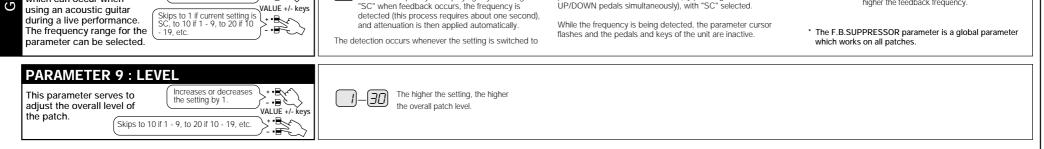
not return to the Play

mode.



PARAMETER 1 : TYPE	PRE AMP for ACOUSTIC Guitar	SIMULATOR for ELECTRIC Guitar		
	When using an acoustic guitar, select one of the settings na, Md, ry, br. These settings control the dedicated acoustic guitar preamplifier, each giving a different sound character. Choose the setting that is best matched to your playing style.	When using an electric guitar, select one of the settings nr, Jb, PE, Gt. These settings control the acoustic guitar simulator which makes an electric guitar sound like an acoustic guitar. Each setting gives a different sound character.		
When using an acoustic guitar, this parameter serves for making preamplifier settings. When using an electric guitar, the	na (natural): Md (mild): ry (rhythm): br (bright):	nr (normal): Jb (jumbo): PE (piezo): Gt (gut):		
parameter serves for making acoustic guitar simulator settings.           Pressing one of the VALUE +/- keys           increases or decreases the setting           by one step.           VALUE +/- keys	Natural sound suitable for almost any genre and playing style.	Simulates the sound of a traditional acoustic guitar. guitar.		
PARAMETER 2 : LIMITER / EDGE Depending on the setting of the TYPE parameter, this parameter either controls the dynamic range or the sharpness of the sound	When one of the settings na, Md, ry, br (for acoustic guitar) is selected for the TYPE parameter, the LIMITER/EDGE parameter works as a limiter that compresses the dynamic range.  Controls the limiter intensity. Larger values result in stronger limiter effect (more narrow dynamic range).  The limiter can be adjusted also when the TYPE parameter is off.	When one of the settings nr, Jb, PE, Gt (for electric guitar) is selected for the TYPE parameter, the LIMITER/EDGE parameter works as an EDGE effect that enhances the sharpness of the guitar string sound.		
sound.       Increases or decreases         This parameter adjusts the lower frequency range (BODY) or upper frequency range (TOP).       Increases or decreases         Skips to t1 if current setting is b1       VALUE +/- keys         Skips to t1 if t1 - t9.       + • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	Increasing the BODY value results in a more voluminous sound, and increasing the TOP value makes the sound brighter and more distinct.	* The effect of the BODY & TOP parameter differs, depending on whether a setting for acoustic guitar (na, Md, ry, br) or electric guitar (nr, Jb, PE, Gt) is selected for the TYPE parameter. the upper frequency range (TOP). alues result in brighter sound. Simultaneously adjusts the lower frequency range (TOP). Higher values result in a more pronounced effect.		
PARAMETER 4 : AIR This parameter imitates the way a guitar sounds when picked up by a microphone. Skips to 10 if current setting is 1 - 9.	The parameter lets you create an airy, expansive sound even during line recording. Adjusts the simulated mike position. Higher values move the simulated microphone further away from the guitar.			
PARAMETER 5 : MODULATION This parameter lends a wide, spacious feeling to the sound. Skips to c1 if current setting is C1 - C9, to t1 if c1 - c9, etc.	The parameter creates a wide sound stage by adding a chorus effect.         Some settings result in a 12-string guitar sound.         Image: Im	<ul> <li>Simulates the sound of a 12-string guitar. Higher values increase the intensity of the effect.</li> <li>Creates a doubling effect as if two similar instruments were played at the same time. Higher values result in a stronger shift between effect sound and original sound.</li> </ul>		
PARAMETER 6 : REVERB & DELAY         This parameter adds reverb and delay to the original sound.         Skips to S1 if current setting is L1 - L9, to d1 if S1 - S9, etc.	The parameter controls simulated reverberation and echo (delay).         Some settings allow use of both effects together.         Image: Image	Creates a delay effect. Higher values result in longer echo intervals.		
PARAMETER 7 : De-AMP This parameter serves to control the frequency range that can be sonically unpleasant when reproducing the sound of an acoustic guitar over an electric guitar amplifier.	depending on the amplifier and pickup type, certain frequency ranges can sound unpleasant or grating to the ear. By adjusting the De-AMP parameter, this phenomenon can be reduced The following three setting	nding frequencies likely to occur uitar amplifier. Higher values result pression. The frequency range * The De-AMP parameter is a global parameter which		
PARAMETER 8 : F.B. SUPPRESSOR         This parameter serves for suppressing feedback which can occur when         Increases or decreases the setting by 1.	Feedback is reduced by attenuating a selectable frequency range (feedback frequency The frequency range can be selected either automatically or manually.           Image: This setting serves to automatically detect the feedback frequency while playing. By selecting         "SC" from the "1"setting, parameter is turned from	). or if the F.B.SUPPRESSOR off to on (by pressing the PATCH Allows manually adjusting the feedback suppression range. The higher the setting, the		







### Selection of parameters to change

As described in 11. Editing Patches, parameters to be edited are selected by repeatedly pressing the EDIT key, but you can also use the patch pedals for this purpo

Press the PATCH UP pedal (right patch pedal) to move the parameter

cursor from the bottom up. Press the PATCH DOWN pedal (left patch pedal) to move the parameter cursor from the top down

### **Switching parameters on and off**

Except for LEVEL, any selected parameter can be turned on or off by use the shortcut function. The pressing the PATCH UP/DOWN pedals simultaneously. The on/off both VALUE keys together. condition can also be stored as part of the patch.

### • To switch a parameter on or off:

turned on again either by pressing the PATCH UP/DOWN pedals

simultaneously once more, or by pressing one of the VALUE +/- keys. The parameter setting that was active before will be reestablished.

When the F.B.SUPPRESSOR parameter is set to "SC", turning the parameter off and on again will cause the automatic feedback frequency detection to be performed once more. The frequency setting therefore

may be different after the parameter is turned on again

### 3 Parameter setting shortcuts

Normally, parameter values are set by tapping the VALUE + or VALUE key once for each increment or decrement. For quick operation, you can use the shortcut function. This is activated in the Edit mode by pressing

• For example, if the LEVEL parameter is set to "20" and you want to change

 To switch a parameter on or off:
 For example, if the LEVEL parameter is set to "20" and you want to change it to "29", you would have to press the VALUE + key 9 times. Instead, you can achieve the same effect by using the shortcut function: press the VALUE +/- keys together, which will change the value to "30" and then press the VALUE -/- key once to arrive at "29".

## 1 Using the F.B.SUPPRESSOR

### (1) Detecting feedback frequency automatically in Edit mode

Select a different setting for F.B.SUPPRESSOR and then select "SC", o. turn the parameter off and then on again while "SC" is selected.

### (2) Adjusting feedback frequency manually in Edit mode

If feedback attenuation in "SC" mode is not satisfactory, try setting the F.B.SUPPRESSOR parameter manually to a value between 1 and 30 to

find the setting which yields optimum suppression

### (3) Detecting feedback frequency automatically in Play mode

In order to be able to automatically detect the feedback frequency while playing the guitar, you must first set the F.B.SUPPRESSOR parameter to "SC". In Play mode, you can then turn the parameter off and on again by pressing the foot switch FS01 twice. The feedback frequency will be detected automatically, and suppression will be active.

During the detection interval (about one second), do not turn down the

- guitar volume or change other settings.
- If the F.B.SUPPRESSOR parameter is set to 1 30, switching the
- parameter off and on again will not cause automatic feedback frequency detection

In either case, the F.B.SUPPRESSOR parameter setting will be stored when the currently selected patch is stored.



With the 504 you are also able to set the master level that governs the overall output level.

The master level is adjusted in Play mode. Hold the VALUE +/- keys down simultaneously for at least 1 second. The current master level will be displayed for 1 second.

While the level is being displayed, use the VALUE +/- keys to change it. The setting range is 0-50. (Default value = 40)

The unit does not store the setting for the master level. Each time the power is turned on it has to be set again

## **13** Storing Patches

If you have edited (altered) a patch and turn the 504 off without storing the patch, the patch will revert to its old setting. To store an edited patch, use the following simple procedure.

Storing can be carried out in both Play mode and Edit mode.

After you have edited the patch, press the STORE key. If the unit is currently in Play mode, release the key before 1 second has elapsed, otherwise the Direct Load function will be activated.

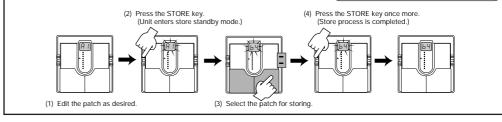
The display starts to flash. This condition is called the store

standby condition. If you wish, you can abandon the store procedure at this point by pressing the EDIT key. If you press the STORE key once more, the contents of the patch are updated.

You can also change the patch number before storing, so that the edited patch will be stored in a different number.

In this case, the original patch that was used as a starting point for editing will not be changed. When a patch is stored, the current settings of the global parameters (De-AMP, F.B.SUPPRESSOR) are also stored. If the parameter settings were changed and the unit is turned off without storing the patch, the parameters will revert to the old settings.

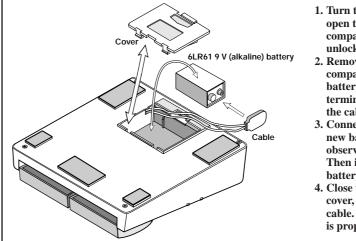
NOTE



## **14** Replacing the Battery

If the tuning indicator flashes while the unit is being powered from the battery, the battery is exhausted and should be replaced as described below.

Use only a 6LR61 9 V (alkaline) battery. Using another kind of battery will result in shorter operation.



- 1. Turn the 504 upside down and open the cover of the battery compartment. (Push the catch to unlock the cover, then lift it up.)
- 2. Remove the battery from the compartment and disconnect the battery cable. (Grasp the terminal strip and do not pull at the cable.)
- 3. Connect the battery cable to the new battery, taking care to observe correct polarity (+/-). Then insert the battery into the battery compartment.
- 4. Close the battery compartment cover, taking care not to pinch the cable. (Make sure that the cover is properly locked.)

## **15** Returning Patches to Factory Settings

The 504 comes with 24 predefined patches that have been programmed at the factory. Also after you have edited and stored your own patches, you can return to the factory default settings at any time. This process is called "recalling". Returning all 24 patches to the original contents and resetting the Bank Hold and Direct Load functions is called "all initialize".

The Recall mode is separate from the Play mode and Edit mode. You cannot switch directly to Recall mode from these modes. The Recall mode can only be activated by turning the unit on in a special way, as described below.

- 1. Turn the unit off by disconnecting the AC adapter or the guitar input cable.
- 2. Keep the STORE key depressed and turn the unit on.
- 3. The indication "AL" flashes on the display.
- 4. To perform "all initialize", press the STORE key once more in this condition. The flashing rate increases and the initialization procedure is carried out. When it is completed, the unit automatically enters the Play mode.
- 5. When wishing to recall only a particular patch, select the patch number in step 3, using the same procedure as for normal patch selection.
- 6. When the desired patch has been selected, press the STORE key. The flashing rate increases and the contents of the selected patch are recalled.
- 7. Recalling of individual patches can be carried out continuously. When you wish to terminate the process, press the EDIT key. The unit then returns to the Play mode. Turning the unit off also terminates the recall condition.

## **16** Specifications

Effects:	26 effects					
	• TYPE PRE AMP (for ACOUSTIC GUITAR)					
	ACOUSTIC	SIMULATOR ( for	ELECTRIC GUITAR )			
	• LIMITER (TYPE:PRE AMP,TYPE OFF) EDGE (TYPE:ACOUSTIC SIMULATOR)					
	<ul> <li>BODY&amp;TOP</li> </ul>	•AIR	<ul> <li>MODULATION</li> </ul>			
	<ul> <li>REVERB&amp;DELAY</li> </ul>	•De-AMP	<ul> <li>F.B. SUPPRESSOR</li> </ul>			
	Maximum simultaneous	effects:8				
Banks and Patches:	6 banks X 4 patches = 24 patches (edit + store possible)					
Analog/Digital Conversion:	18 bit,128 times oversampling					
Digital/Analog Conversion:	16 bit, linear					
Sampling Frequency:	31.25 kHz					
Inputs:	HIGH input (standard n	nonaural phone jack	<ol> <li>Input impedance: 470kilohm</li> </ol>			
	Rated input level: Electric Guitars with single-coil pick ups					
	Acoustic Guitars with magnetic pick ups					
	LOW input (standard n					
	Rated input level: Electric Guitars with hum-bucking typ active type					
	Electric Acoustic Guitar					
Output:	Combined line/headphone output(standerd stereo phone jack)					
			npedance: 10 kilohms or more			
Control Input:	For optional FP01 or FS01					
Display:	2-digit,7-segment LED,tuning indicator,parameter cursor indicator					
Power Requirements:	Optional AC adapter 9 VDC,300mA (ZOOM AD-0006)					
		.61 9V (alkaline) ba				
			continuous operation			
Dimensions:	147(W) X 157(D) X 49(H) mm					
Weight:	480 g (without batteries)					