

## Technical Specifications:

Size: 102 x 121 x 52 mm / 4" x 4.75" x 2"

Weight (incl. battery): 407g / 0.9lbs

Gain (@1kHz): 22dB, inverting.

Current draw: 4.0mA (1.5mA in Bypass mode) at 9V.

Made in Germany.

## Contact:

If you have any questions or comments about our products and services, or suggestions for improvements or additions, please let us know. We appreciate any feedback, suggestions, and concerns. Please use the contact form on our website [www.tortenmann.de](http://www.tortenmann.de) or write to [info@tortenmann.de](mailto:info@tortenmann.de).



## Battery Replacement:

1. Remove the four screws holding the bottom panel.
2. Lift the bottom panel.
3. Carefully disconnect the old battery from the clip and connect a new one of the same type. Be sure not to apply too much force to the connector clip and to the leads.
4. Put the battery back into the unit. Make sure that it fits tightly and no leads are being bent or squeezed when reattaching the bottom panel.
5. Tighten the mounting screws with moderate tension.

The TK-23 Kompressor is designed and manufactured with high quality materials and components, which can be recycled and reused. Please act according to your local rules and do not dispose old products with your normal household waste. All packaging consists of recycled paper and can be disposed via regular paper recycling. Batteries must be collected and disposed of separately from household waste.



## Warranty information:

Tortenmann products carry a 2 year warranty to the original owner with proof of purchase. The warranty covers damage by our errors only, and not any modification or repair done by anyone other than Tortenmann. Batteries are not covered.

Every unit is thoroughly tested and inspected prior to shipment. Still, if you experience any problems with your TK-23, do not hesitate to contact us via [service@tortenmann.de](mailto:service@tortenmann.de). Alternatively, contact the nearest Tortenmann dealer, who will probably be able to repair the unit or, in case of a defect covered by the warranty, will take charge of the shipping procedure.

# TK-23 Kompressor Operating Instructions

- Effective from serial #176 -



## Overview:

The TK-23 Kompressor is a powerful musical instrument effects unit that automatically reduces audio peaks and raises the level of soft passages. It is a unique design that employs the sonic benefits of an electro-optical gain control system surrounded by discrete germanium amplifier stages to yield a fast, but natural and sweet sounding compression effect.

A special feature of the TK-23 is the possibility to alter its response to strong transients by reducing its sensitivity to peaks without changing the attack time. This makes the TK-23 especially useful for highly dynamic, attack-rich instruments like electric guitars or basses.

Extreme dependability has been stressed in the design of the TK-23 Kompressor. Like all Tortenmann products, it is hand wired and assembled in Germany with only the highest quality components and with the greatest care. We are confident that the TK-23 will provide you with many years of satisfying and trouble-free use.

## Controls:

The “Threshold” control determines the amount of signal that is fed into the compressor control sidechain and by this it defines the level at which compression starts to be applied. For a maximum compression effect, it shall be adjusted such that the range of the highest sensitivity of the opto-element is fitted to the dynamic range of the signal. Naturally, the setting depends on the level of the input signal (with an electrical guitar directly connected to the TK-23, a good starting point is about 12 o’clock).

Turning the control counterclockwise limits compressor action more and more to signal peaks, leaving quiet passages unaffected (with the “Threshold” control fully counterclockwise, compression is turned off and the unit may be used as a simple booster).

On the other hand, turning the control too far clockwise again results in a reduced effect, because then the signal is constantly compressed, making it just quieter.

The “Dry Feed” control bypasses a predefined proportion of the signal around the gain reduction element, with the amount of bypass introduced being continuously adjustable. This results in a reduced attenuation of the respective (bypassed) proportion of the signal when compressing, corresponding to the subjective impression of mixing in transients from the dry signal. With this control, which may at first seem to have only a subtle effect, the sound of the attack of a note may be shaped without affecting the attack time of the compressor. The “zero” position of the control is fully counterclockwise.

The level of the gain make-up amplifier can be adjusted by means of the “Output” control.

The footswitch puts the unit into and out of the signal path, the status being indicated by the front panel lamp (off when in bypass mode).

## Connectors:

◀ Input: a mono TRS jack must be plugged in order to turn on the unit. To save battery power, always disconnect the “IN” jack when not in use.

The output connector is located on the opposite side of the unit and is not marked.

⚡ External power supply: accepts a standard 2.1mm barrel jack connector with a negative center pin. It may be used to connect a DC power supply of 9V.

