

The Definitive LEGACY manual for the BPMC Premium Cable.

By the Big Pauper for BPMC. In production from 2013-2025.

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Stats: All units are native 110v. They can operate on AC/DC from 9v-12v.

IF POWERING YOUR UNIT OUTSIDE OF THE US MAKE SURE THE POWER SUPPLY IS RATED 110V-240V.

BPMC CAN NOT BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPROPERLY POWERING THIS UNIT.

As of 2024: The Premium Cable became the Video Percussion Computer

Please Note: This manual covers the operation of the last known Premium Cable assembled. There have been many revisions of the PC over the years and there are thus many subtle differences in design and features. Around April 2018 there was a pretty major revision featuring the addition of a CV input and a cap upgrade to one of the connections.

Some of the differences include backwards knob polarity (on 2013-2015 models with the grey faceplate), slightly different effects, an on/off switch for the neon knob (on the top of the unit), no CV input, slightly different touch contact operation.

TUNE-UPS: AS LONG AS BPMC IS STILL ACTIVE DO NOT HESITATE TO ENQUIRE ABOUT A TUNE-UP IF YOUR PREMIUM CABLE HAS ANY ISSUES. SHIPPING AND HOURLY RATES DO APPLY.

General Operation Notes:

The Premium Cable IS NTSC/PAL compatible. That said, you cannot cross formats. Some effects may also vary based on format used.

S-Video has not been utilized in the design of this unit. A difference in effect between composite i/o and s-video i/o may occur.

For best results use with a CRT TV. LCD screens, computer capture devices & projectors will give you drop-out without the use of time base correction. A TBC (depending on the make and model) may display black (or worse... color bars) rather than give you a cool effect. Your display always decides the way compromised signals are displayed. This device was designed first and foremost on a CRT.

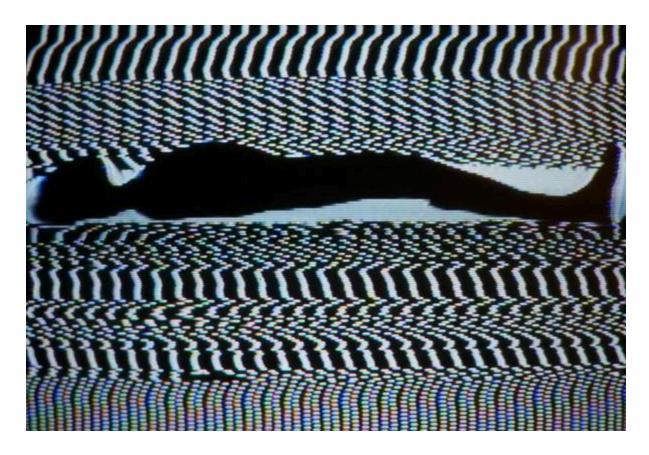
While more common on the Basic Cable the occasional scene-transitional circuit "jump" is a normal byproduct of the modification process. It often occurs amidst fade or cut to black scene transitions. This is due to bypassing the circuit's original functionality. Just the nature of the beast as I always say. Aaaaooooooooooooooo! Why is this not an issue on every Premium Cable? The circuit the Premium is based on exists in many revisions and some revisions are more susceptible to this issue than others.

Modifying the Premium Cable circuit gives rise to the color green. I take a number of measures to counteract that. Some knob resistance values are wider than users might prefer (with the effects occurring in the 80-100% range) but this is done intentionally. Wider pot values keep the signal as clean as it can be.

The Premium Cable does not care whether you are using NTSC or PAL as long as you do not cross-formats. You only need a format converter if crossing format. The Premium Cable has never been tested with Secam.

THE VERY BASICS FOR THE NEWBIES:

A couple things for you, dear new user. The PC needs a source. It does not generate or "synthesize" anything on it's own. It is a video effects processor and not a synthesizer. Plug any RCA output from a source such as a camcorder, a VCR or a DVD player (etc) into the RCA jack marked input on the PC. Now plug the output to an input on your CRT TV and be sure the TV's input is selected. Lastly, a CRT TV cannot be a source. Not even a CRT/VCR combount.



Using the Premium Cable:

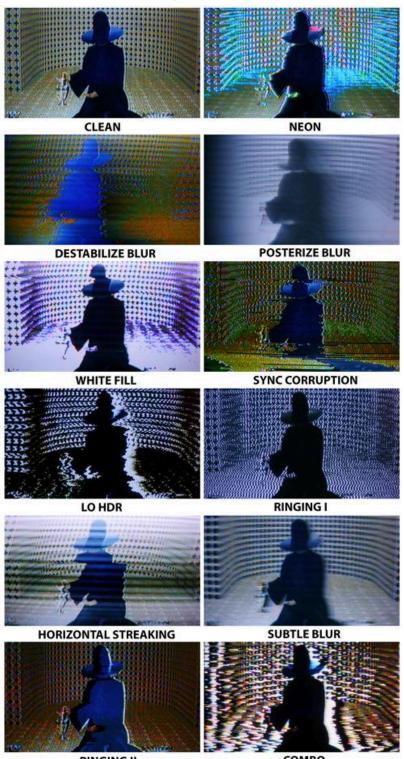
Knobs: Each knob effect, for the most part, stands alone on it's own as a solid look. Some knob effects may leave you scratching your head wondering "why did he wire this up? This effect is pretty subtle!" Some knobs when combined with other knobs unlock especially nasty looks. So while they may not be super dope on their own they may work best in combination with other knobs. Do not be shy about seeking out radical combos and incrementally feeding in other knobs.

From Premium Cable to Premium Cable I do layout the controls in an un-uniform manner. This varies from build to build. That said, the top left knob is always the analog Neon knob and two of the three far right knobs are always the edge feedback (ringing) knobs which are often your key to unlocking more complex looks.

Blank screen: The combination of some knobs or the overall combination of 3 or more knobs may produce a blank screen. This is normal. Just pull back on a knob until your image is restored.

To utilize the body contacts simply touch one contact lightly with your thumb. They are pretty sensitive and different knob settings in conjunction with the contacts often create slight

variations of the initial contact based sync corruption effect. This effect is guaranteed to give you drop-out if you are using anything but a CRT TV as your display. If you are having trouble achieving this effect please understand that the effect can vary based on the CRT you are using and your own personal conductivity.



RINGING II

сомво

Notes About Knob Combinations:

More complex looks reveal themselves as you seek combinations. I will say that a lot of my favorite looks reveal themselves when seeking combos utilizing the ringing knobs. Ringing II and Lo HDR for instance unlock the chunkier edge feedback the kids go so coocoo for these days. Some of the lighter effects like the subtle blur and the destabilization blur really shine as variable combination knobs. Some knob effects will override other effects and like I said you can get too deep in and just produce black (especially when utilizing the CV input) so there is not always a need to dig too deep.

Notes about controls:

Power button: The Premium Cable automatically powers on upon plugging it in. If it does not you have the ONE very rare circuit revision that does not boot up without pressing the round black push button on top of the unit. To leave it plugged in and turn it off you may hit the large black button on the top of the unit to power it off. Note that the Premium Cable in this state still creates a power draw of 10-30ma so I highly recommend you unplug the unit when not using it for extended periods of time. It should also be noted that depending on your circuit revision the power button function may vary slightly. On most revisions it is a clean power on/off. On some it is simply a circuit reset which is rarely, if ever needed.

SVIDEO: If your Premium unit has Svideo ins and outs note that they have not been tested. I do not promote the Svideo functionality because I never use Svideo for anything. I find the noticeable difference in quality it provides nominal and thus pretty much dismissable.

Camcorder Control: The Camera Control input is functionality left over from the original circuit. It does not in fact do anything in our given analog glitch context.

Titler Control (CV input): On Premium Cables built post April 2018 (and upgraded models) the titler control is your CV input. More on that below.

CV control:

The CV control feature taps in to a point shared by 5 of the 10 knobs. These would be the neon, white fill, sync corruption, horizontal streaking & the subtle blur effects. Feed the CV input a simple audio rate oscillator and turn up one of the above mentioned knobs to see the effect turn on and off. Not all effects will resemble their original look entirely. I notice that the white fill for instance goes black when turned all the way up. High freq oscillations and ramps tend to send your signal scrolling off in to oblivion. The CV functionality has been given to you in what I regard the most meaningful way I could serve it up and it is now up to you to seek out the good shit. Personally, in my own experimentation, I've gotten a lot of mileage out of working with the Premium Cable and my LZX system. By putting the Premium Cable after the Visual Cortex and feeding the PC CV outputs from various points in my patches I've discovered a lot of interesting looks. There is a lot more to say about CV and the PC but the key here is to experiment cause it's the wild wild west.

Example: Blend an Oscillator output and a Ramp from Visual Cortex using Passage. Get it looking just right via Liquid TV. Now instead of routing that directly to Visual Cortex send the output to the CV input on the Premium Cable and turn up the neon knob to see the blended output filtered through the PC.

CV & Voltage Rates:

The Premium Cable CV input does not favor the 0-1V video rate standard set by LZX. Audio rate 0-5V does seem to visualize the best. Experiment with the LZX Bridge utility module if you care to see the difference between working with a boosted and non-boosted signal. Do not exceed voltage rates of 10V. Voltages exceeding 10V could potentially damage the unit.

Mixer Feedback Processing:

Looking for more mind-melting visual goodness? Consider tossing the Premium cable in a mixer feedback loop. Have a spare video mixer lying around? The Premium does a really good job at re-shaping mixer-feedback in interesting and unpredictable ways. To do this obtain a 2 channel video mixer with 2 video outputs (that's most of them). Plug a source in to channel A (camera, DVD etc) and video output one to your CRT TV. Now plug your second video output into the video input on the Premium Cable. Plug the Premium Cable's output into channel B on the video mixer and E-X-P-E-R-I-M-E-N-T!!!

User Warranty:

Got an issue with your Premium Cable? Drop me a line, we can work something out if BPMC is still up and running. Parts on repairs rarely exceed a couple of bucks and worst case scenario you need your circuit replaced which would cost between 60USD -90USD. In the case that I am dead (or no longer doing BPMC... so dead to da world) you are on your own but hopefully by then I will have posted a complete mod guide online so you can fix it yourself.

In conclusion....

Thanks so much and have fun. If anything needs more clarification, elaboration or correction do not hesitate to hit me up at http://bpmcglitch.com

Cheers,

Big Pauper.

