

# SNACKSHACK

## FX TYPE: Fuzz

Based on the D.A.M.® Meathead™

Enclosure Size: 1590A

Softie compatibility: none

© 2021 [madbeanpedals](#)



## Overview

The **Snack Shack** first showed up as a Giveaway PCB in 2018. While all the other Giveaway boards ended up being offered for sale as regular mbp projects at some point, I never got around to re-releasing this one. So, here is the 2021 version. It's the same circuit, but different form factor. While it remains a 1590A one knob fuzz, I had a bit of fun with it and designed the project to use a clear shaft pot this time. So, your bypass LED indicator goes right in the pot and lights up when the effect is switched on. Neat! Kinda.

The 2021 version also offers multi-pin parts for transistors. If you want to build a different fuzz than the Meathead™ with different transistors, no problem. Just sub in the values for your preferred Fuzz and behold the glory of a single volume control.

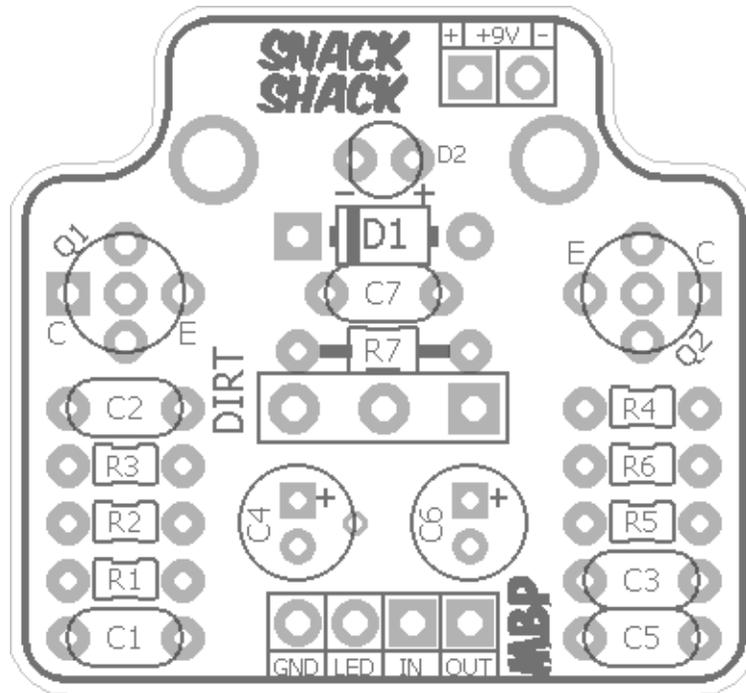
## Controls

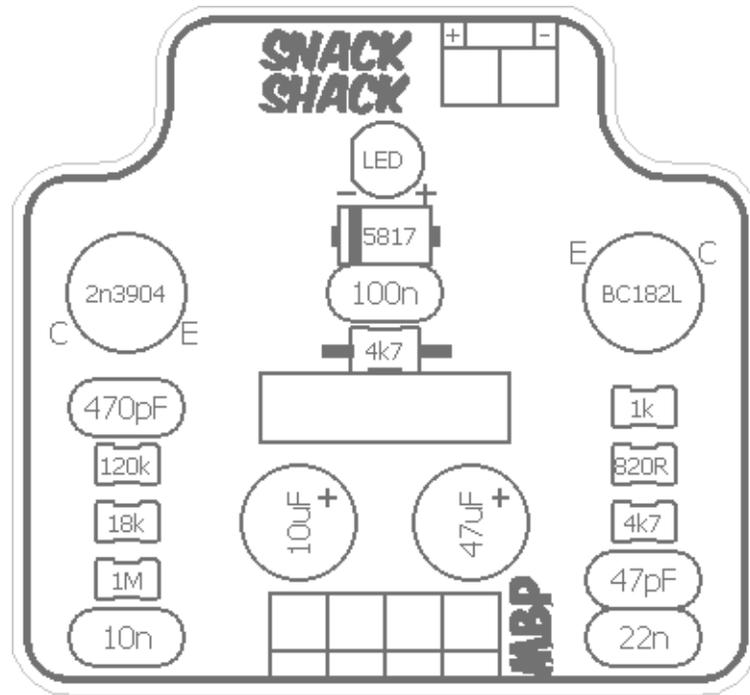
- **DIRT** - Effect output level.

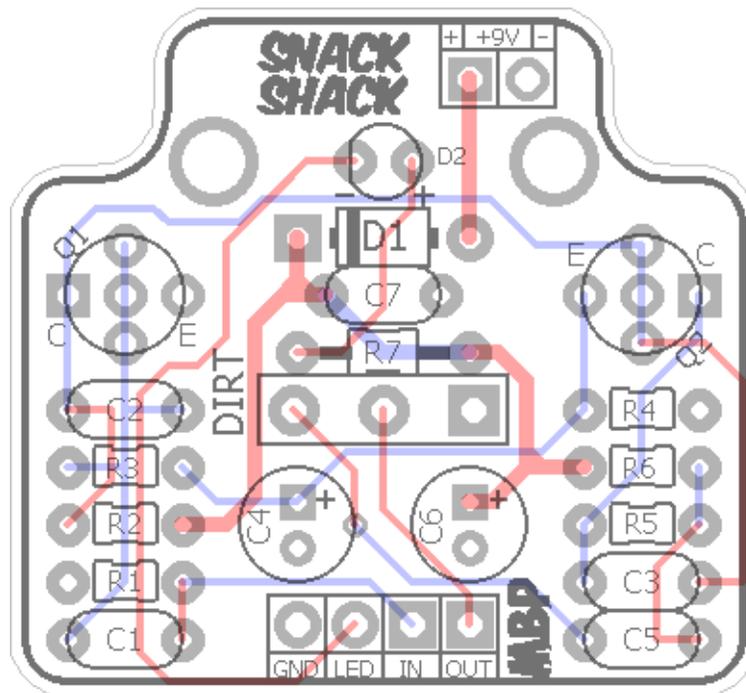
---

**Terms of Use:** You are free to use purchased **SnackShack** circuit boards for both DIY and small commercial operations. You may not offer **SnackShack** PCBs for resale or as part of a "kit" in a commercial fashion. Peer to peer re-sale is fine, though.

**Technical assistance** for your build(s) is available via the [madbeanpedals forum](#). Please go there rather than emailing me for assistance on [builds](#). This is because (1) I'm not always available to respond via email in a timely and continuous manner, and (2) posting technical problems and solutions in the forum creates a record from which other members may benefit.







Resistors		Caps		Diodes	
R1	1M	C1	10n	D1	1N5817
R2	18k	C2	470pF	D2	LED
R3	120k	C3	47pF	Transistors	
R4	1k	C4	10uF	Q1	2n3904
R5	4k7	C5	22n	Q2	BC182L
R6	820R	C6	47uF	Pots	
R7	4k7	C7	100n	DIRT	500kB

R1 is optional in this case and not used in the original D.A.M.® circuit. It's there if you want a pulldown resistor, or if you are building a different fuzz circuit that uses one.

Values	QTY	Type	Rating
820R	1	Metal / Carbon Film	1/8W
1k	1	Metal / Carbon Film	1/8W
4k7	2	Metal / Carbon Film	1/8W
18k	1	Metal / Carbon Film	1/8W
120k	1	Metal / Carbon Film	1/8W
1M	1	Metal / Carbon Film	1/8W
47pF	1	Ceramic / MLCC	16v min.
470pF	1	Ceramic / MLCC	16v min.
10n	1	Film	16v min.
22n	1	Film	16v min.
100n	1	Film	16v min.
10uF	1	Electrolytic	16v min.
47uF	1	Electrolytic	16v min.
1N5817	1		
LED	1	any color	3mm
2n3904	1		
BC182L	1		
500kB	1	Clear Shaft w/ bushing	14mm

**2n3904:**

<https://smallbear-electronics.mybigcommerce.com/transistor-2n3904/>

**BC182 (same as the “L” with different pinout):**

<https://smallbear-electronics.mybigcommerce.com/transistor-national-bc182/>

**Low-Profile Electrolytic caps:**

<https://smallbear-electronics.mybigcommerce.com/electrolytic-radial-low-profile-16v-1-f-100-f/>

**500kB pot:**

<https://smallbear-electronics.mybigcommerce.com/alpha-clear-shaft-pots-w-bushing/>

**Clear Shaft Knob (optional):**

<https://smallbear-electronics.mybigcommerce.com/pointer-w-index-clear-acrylic/>

**Thinline DC Jack:**

<http://smallbear-electronics.mybigcommerce.com/dc-power-jack-all-plastic-unswitched-2-1-mm/>

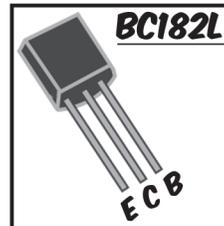
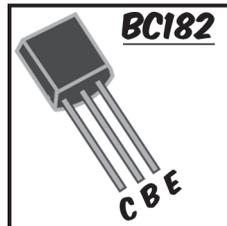
**Mono Jacks:**

<http://smallbear-electronics.mybigcommerce.com/lumberg-1-4-compact-shrouded-mono-jack/>

<http://smallbear-electronics.mybigcommerce.com/1-4-in-mono-nys229/>

<https://smallbear-electronics.mybigcommerce.com/1-4-in-mono-enclosed-switchcraft-111x/>

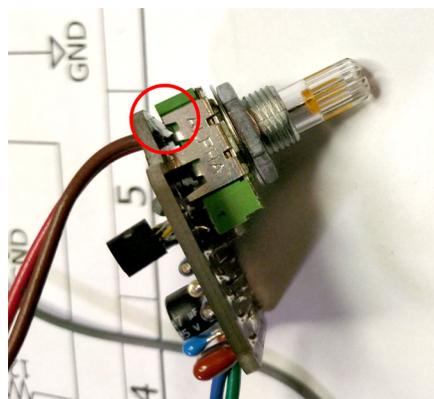
- The Meathead™ uses a BC182L for Q2 which are not widely available these days. You can sub the BC182 in its place. Both are the same spec, but with different pinouts. Note for the “L” version you’ll need to bend the leads to fit the pinout of Q2 on the PCB.

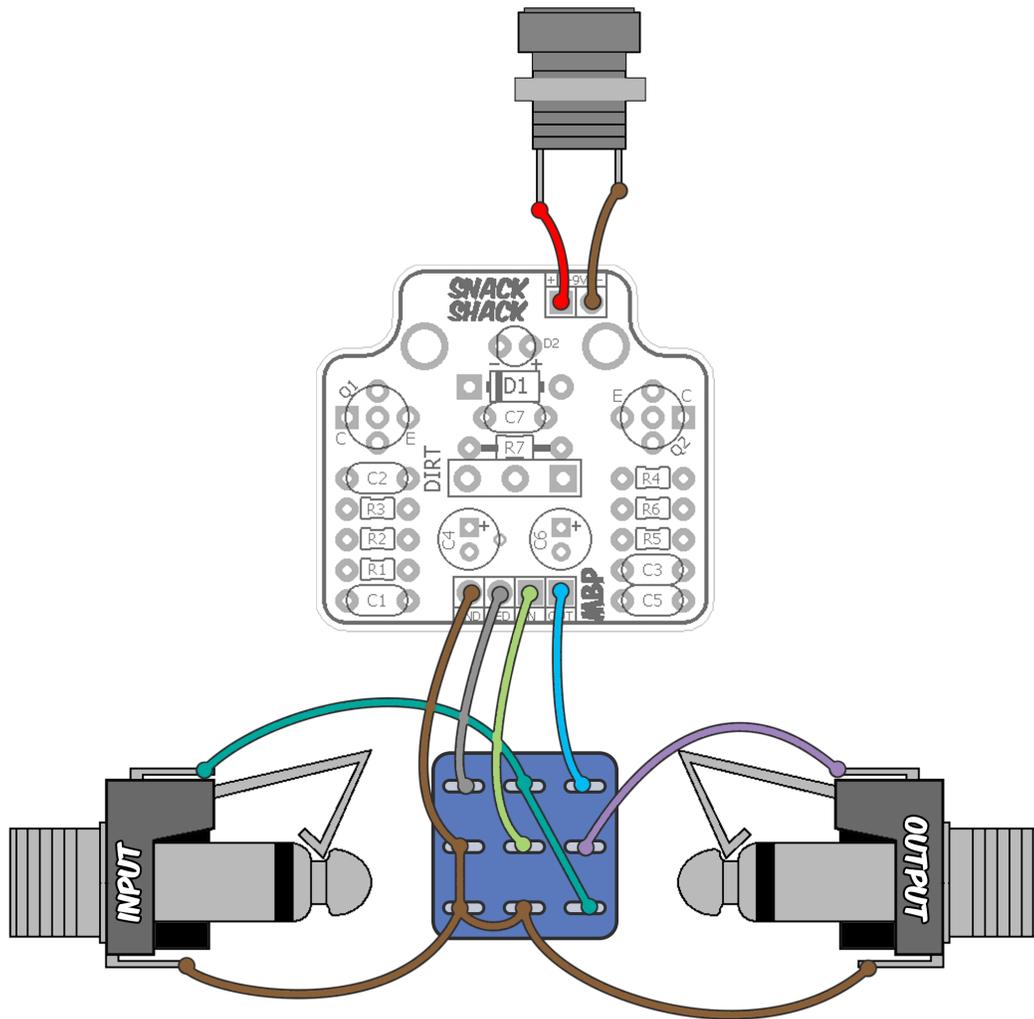


- On the SnackShack PCB, the three center pads are all connected to Base.

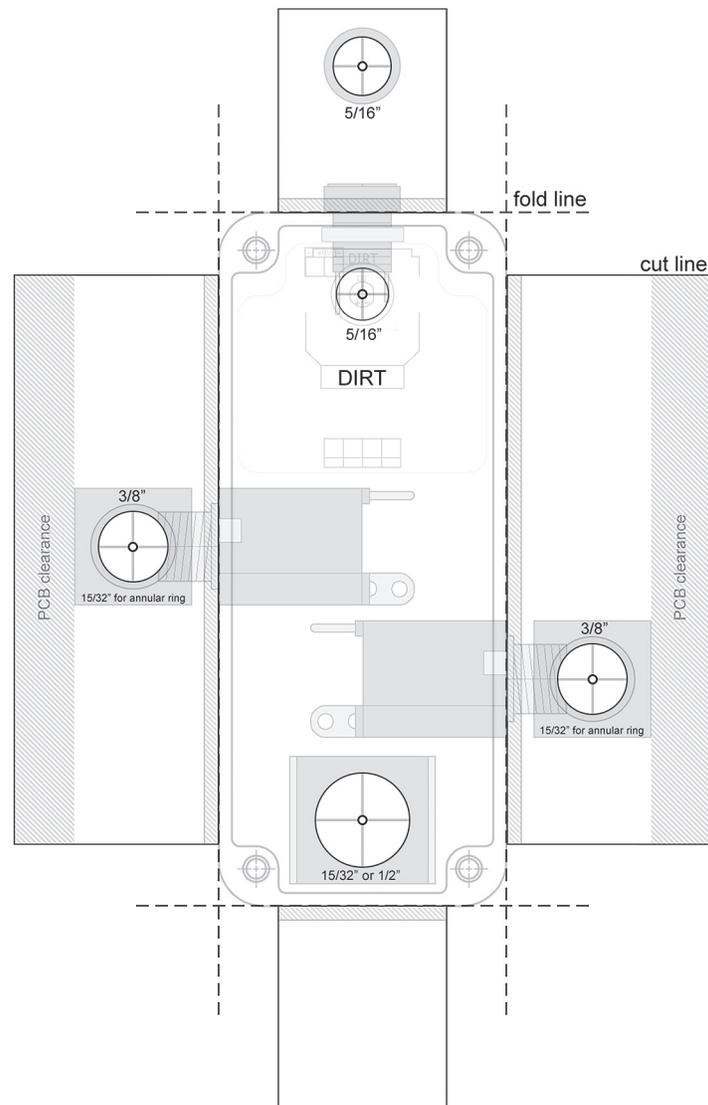


- Built to spec, the SnackShack actually has quite a bit of output. Great if you want to blast off every time you turn it on but unity is around the first 1/4 turn of the Dirt pot. **If you want more range, use a 500kA instead of 500kB.** This will push unity a bit further up the dial. Or, you can reduce R6 from 820R to something smaller, like 470R.
- You can build any garden variety silicon fuzz using the SnackShack, if you like. Just sub in the changed values, preferred transistors, etc. Omit any parts not used (for example, C2 and C3 may not be present in many fuzz circuits).
- I made a small error on the layout: one of the tabs on the 14mm pot could come into contact with the power wires. It's a simple fix. First trim the portion of the overhanging tab on the 14mm pot as shown in the red circle below. Solder your wires for the + and - (red and brown on my wiring diagram). Place your LED loose in the spot above D1 (it goes on the bottom of the board). Then attach the 14mm pot to the PCB and solder it in place. Move the LED into position within the pot and solder it into place (don't force the LED all the way to the end of the clear shaft or it might get caught when turning the pot). You can also solder the LED so it's flush to the PCB.





**Note:** Drill Guides are approximate and may require tweaking depending on the types of jacks, switches and pots you use.



- You can use almost any style of 1/4" jack in this build (open frame, plastic enclosed, Lumberg, etc). However, I don't recommend the Marshall style since they are bulkier.
- Use the "Thinline" style DC jack linked in the Parts Guide for this build.
- I recommend *not* using the mbp 3PDT#2 bypass PCB for this build.

**Q1 2n3904**

C	1.56
B	0.64
E	0

**Q2 BC182L**

C	4.08
B	1.56
E	0.93

- 9.42vDC One Spot
- Current Draw: 2mA

