Red Llama

This is the Way Huge clone of Craig Anderton's original Tube Sound Overdrive. Use a CMOS chip to generate great overdrive sounds. In fact, the Way Huge version differs only marginally. A couple of things of interest in this schematic. First off, R1, D1, and C1 are not part of the circuit's sound at all: R1 and C1 filter the power supply to remove noisy if you are using a cheap AC adaptor, and D1 is a reverse-polarity protection diode to protect the 4049 chip in case you plug in an AC adaptor with the wrong polarity. This is a very common arrangement in stompboxes regardless of origin. Also, at first glance the schematic appears to show five separate integrated circuits. In actuality, there is only one, the five shown are schematic "shorthand" a way of clearly showing that the IC is actually made up of multiple stages.

 Mods!

- Want to build the circuit to Craig Anderton’s original Tube Sound Fuzz specifications? Replace C2 with a 100nF part, C3 with a 10pF part, C4 with a 47nF part, and C5 with a 10pF part. See if you can hear the difference. I couldn’t.
- Voltage Sag! Audio circuits based on this chip can get squishy and compressed when you lower the voltage. Try turning down the voltage a bit on the i/o breakout box to experiment.