Boss foot switches

by **DB Cooper** » 23 Dec 2011, 16:51

Tell me what use the Boss FS-5L and FS-5U will be for me? I have a U on the way ($10), and an opportunity to pick up a L ($18).

Are the foot switches very useful? Well-built? Are those good prices?

Thanks!

DB Cooper

Re: Boss foot switches

by **Arpeggiator** » 23 Dec 2011, 17:00

If you have a Boss Delay (DD-6 or 7), the FS-5U can't be beat. It's perfect for the tapping feature.

I have yet to get the latching version - I have the OD-2r and the SD-2.

They're sturdy in a BOSS kind of way - 'nuff said.

Arpeggiator

Re: Boss foot switches

by **natthu** » 23 Dec 2011, 17:09

Actually the FS-6 beats it....

You can use the FS-6 as two seperate FS-5 pedals (independently either U or L, it's selectable).... so you could use one side for a DD-7 tap and the other side for a remote switch for an OD-2r... Or you could use the FS-6 with the RC-3 and utilise both switches for different RC-3 functions (via a TRS cable)... The FS-6 can also be used in place of a standard 2-button amp foot switch. I use an FS-6 with my AC-15 to turn off the reverb and tremolo.... or you could use it with a VF-1 to toggle up and down presets. I've even used 2x FS-6 pedals with my Lexicon Vortex to access the 4 parameters you can cntrol with footswitches (you can't do that with 4x FS-5 units) They are pretty versatile.

natthu

Re: Boss foot switches

by **Arpeggiator** » 23 Dec 2011, 21:40

The FS-6 is a great concept, but the fact that it cannot be operated without batteries was a deal breaker for me...

Arpeggiator

Re: Boss foot switches

by **natthu** » 23 Dec 2011, 22:24

Okay... you've got me there. That is particularly annoying. The FS-6 can be modded to run on PSU power, which is better but not always convenient....

natthu

Re: Boss foot switches

by **DB Cooper** » 23 Dec 2011, 23:38

So, the FS-5L for $18...good price? They can be had new for ~$30. Do these run on PSA adapters?

DB Cooper

Re: Boss foot switches

by **natthu** » 23 Dec 2011, 23:44

FS-5 switches don't require power, just the FS-6 and AB-2 do.... and they both only take battery (unless you mod them).

natthu

Re: Boss foot switches

by **DB Cooper** » 24 Dec 2011, 02:39

Sweet!

DB Cooper

Re: Boss foot switches

by **strangekomet** » 24 Dec 2011, 03:18

> *natthu wrote:*
> *FS-5 switches don't require power, just the FS-6 and AB-2 do.... and they both only take battery (unless you mod them).*

they do take batteries, but thats only to power the led. they still work without them.

strangekomet

Re: Boss foot switches

by **Laurie** » 24 Dec 2011, 03:45

Make your own FS6...

Simple version: one metal box, one stereo jack, two NC footswitches... latching for "U", momentary for non-U. Three holes to drill in the box, 4 wires to solder.

Complex version: one metal box, one stereo jack, two SPDT footswitches (latching for "U", momentary for non-U). Add a DPDT toggle to switch between NC and NO.

DB - just the parts for the homemade one will cost more than you paid for the pedal. And it won't have a Boss logo on it.

Laurie

Re: Boss foot switches

by **DB Cooper** » 24 Dec 2011, 03:51

Thanks!

DB Cooper

Re: Boss foot switches

by **natthu** » 24 Dec 2011, 06:57

> *strangekomet wrote:*
> *they do take batteries, but thats only to power the led. they still work without them.*

My FS-6 won't operate the reverb and tremolo on my AC-15 if the batteries are flat (or if there is no battery).

I just did the experiment to check... No battery, no work....

natthu

Re: Boss foot switches

by **Laurie** » 24 Dec 2011, 07:10

I've been trying to find the schematic for an FS-6 to find out why... (I don't own one, if I did I'd just pull it apart and have a look). Hmmm... natthu can you do that? Internal pics?

Laurie

Re: Boss foot switches

by **natthu** » 24 Dec 2011, 07:20

Yep, but may not be for a day or two... we have interstate guests arriving soon (literally in minutes...)... I'll see if I have time right now...

natthu

Re: Boss foot switches

by **natthu** » 24 Dec 2011, 07:45

natthu

Re: Boss foot switches

by **natthu** » 24 Dec 2011, 07:46

I have higher res if need be or let me know if you want closeups of any parts...

natthu

Re: Boss foot switches

by **Laurie** » 24 Dec 2011, 07:51

Yeah... OK. That would do it. The switching is done by the electronics, the foot-switches just tigger the electronics.

Buy batteries... or make your own electro-mechanical version.

Parts for an FS-6 clone (hard-wired as either NC or NO):
2 x http://www.smallbearelec.com/Detail.bok?no=25
1 x http://www.smallbearelec.com/Detail.bok?no=568
1 x http://www.smallbearelec.com/Detail.bok?no=50

Laurie

Re: Boss foot switches

by **natthu** » 24 Dec 2011, 08:09

I use rechargeables, but I'm thinking of performing that mod to use a PSU

natthu

Re: Boss foot switches

by **Laurie** » 24 Dec 2011, 08:11

Yeah, wouldn't be hard. Two wires and a DC jack.

Laurie

Re: Boss foot switches

by **strangekomet** » 24 Dec 2011, 08:17

> *natthu wrote:*
> *My FS-6 won't operate the reverb and tremolo on my AC-15 if the batteries are flat (or if there is no battery).*
>
> *I just did the experiment to check... No battery, no work....*

i was refering to the fs-5's

strangekomet

Re: Boss foot switches

by **natthu** » 24 Dec 2011, 12:27

Damn you, English-Language!.... and your inherent ambiguities....

natthu

Re: Boss foot switches

by **strangekomet** » 24 Dec 2011, 13:09

ah, the confabulating confustications of contextual complexeties and obligatory obfuscations of syntaxical miscellanioustry... if only it were more simplistiscmic...

strangekomet

Re: Boss foot switches

by **natthu** » 24 Dec 2011, 14:12

Oh, I'm sorry, sir. I'm anispeptic, frasmotic, even compunctuous to have caused you such pericombobulation.

natthu

Re: Boss foot switches

by **strangekomet** » 24 Dec 2011, 14:32

ok, now we understand each other... i think

strangekomet

Re: Boss foot switches

by **Laurie** » 24 Dec 2011, 15:02

> *natthu wrote:*
> *Oh, I'm sorry, sir. I'm anispeptic, frasmotic, even compunctuous to have caused you such pericombobulation.*

Ah yes. Add to this House before he became House and you have comedic brilliance. Darling.

Laurie