Which BOSS pedals work well with bass?

by **DB Cooper** » 03 Feb 2012, 13:50

I play in a garage band on Thursday nights (I play acoustic because when I joined there were already a couple electric players waaaay better than me), and the guys know I'm into pedals. Last night the bass player asked me if I had any bass pedals. I told him no, but that there were some pedals that had a bass input along with the guitar input. I promised to bring a few pedals for him to mess around with next week.

Well, all I could find was the BF-3. Are there other Boss guitar pedals that work well with bass?

Thanks!

DB Cooper

Re: Which BOSS pedals work well with bass?

by **natthu** » 03 Feb 2012, 14:00

Most of the current range (that I have tried) work fine, although if there is a bass pedal equivalent (such as the CEB-3 instead of the CE-3) then obviously the bass version has been optimised for low end and is likely to sound better.
The ones with dedicated bass inputs are usually good too. However, IMHO the AW-3 sounds like arse with bass.... and guitar for that matter.

The OC-2 works pretty well with bass... even the DS-1 can sound okay if you tweak it right. You should just take a couple of different pedals each week for him and try them all out. You may find a surprising candidate for bass pedal status....
I know it works the other way too, the CE-2B is great for guitar and I'm a fan of using a GEB-7 in a guitar chain.... it gives you a great lower growl when distorted.

natthu

Re: Which BOSS pedals work well with bass?

by **DB Cooper** » 03 Feb 2012, 14:07

Cool - thanks Nat. He's an older guy (mid-60s rocker) who has played bass for about 20 years after playing electric and acoustic guitar, but he has never tried anything but bass straight into his amp, and he is curious as to what pedals might do with his sound. I'll do that - make a little board up with about three pedals and take a few different ones each time.

DB Cooper

Re: Which BOSS pedals work well with bass?

by **natthu** » 03 Feb 2012, 14:14

Wow!... never tried pedals.... Maybe start with a compressor if you have one. I haven't tried any Boss comps with my bass rig recently, but you should be able to get some cool squish or even just beef the tone up a touch.

natthu

Re: Which BOSS pedals work well with bass?

by **Dirk** » 03 Feb 2012, 17:36

As for guitar pedals, both the CS-2 and CS-3 work really well with bass.
I also had good results with the BF-2, CE-2 and any of the DD delays.
And my absolute favourite, the PH-1r, which is an awesome bass phaser.

As for dedicated bass pedals, I feel the older brown pedals are well suited for bass players who like old fashioned (70's-80's) sounds, while the newer series are better suited for players with a more modern sound.

Dirk

Re: Which BOSS pedals work well with bass?

by **nathanscribe** » 03 Feb 2012, 18:02

Dirt pedals I've found are pretty picky about bass or keyboard use - but certainly the ODB-3 does the job. Some pretty good bottom end stuff in that one. I recently got a PQ-3b, and it was a minor revelation. I'd expected to be disappointed, but it's a corker. The CE-2b is a no-brainer, and the OC-2 does a nice job of subbing up the lows.

nathanscribe

Re: Which BOSS pedals work well with bass?

by **Guga Ramone** » 03 Feb 2012, 23:22

GE-7 can make wonders if your amp doesn't have a good EQ.
ODB-3 give a nice growl to full out fuzz (don't let the name "overdrive" fool you). Or a simple clean boost, depending on the setting.
MT-2 has a very powerfull EQ too and can give a lot of edge to your sound.
CS-3 works very well but, as other guitars specific pedals, cuts some low end.
Try everything you can. Don't be afraid just because it is not a "bass specific" model.

Guga Ramone

Re: Which BOSS pedals work well with bass?

by **natthu** » 04 Feb 2012, 01:41

> *nathanscribe wrote:*
> *I recently got a PQ-3b, and it was a minor revelation. I'd expected to be disappointed, but it's a corker.*

I know, right!? I think the PQ-3B may be the single most powerful (and useful) pedal for shaping your bass tone... it really is awesome.
It's particularly good if you are having trouble cutting throught the mix, which is common if you're just playing bass plugged straight into an amp.

natthu

Re: Which BOSS pedals work well with bass?

by **DB Cooper** » 04 Feb 2012, 03:09

OK...so try everything, why not? I guess one of my concerns what that putting a bass signal through a guitar pedal might in some way cause the pedal harm. But it seems like those fears were ill-conceived and unsound, right?

DB Cooper

Re: Which BOSS pedals work well with bass?

by **Zerksies** » 04 Feb 2012, 03:33

Playing a bass through a guitar pedal won't hurt a thing. Certain pedals will work and other won't. it just depends on what frequency range the pedal is capable of working in.

Zerksies

Re: Which BOSS pedals work well with bass?

by **verivorax** » 04 Feb 2012, 04:11

The TW-1 and FT-2 both work with bass as well. I think the TW-1 might thin the sound out a LOT if you don't compensate with other pedals..

verivorax

Re: Which BOSS pedals work well with bass?

by **jungleboy867** » 05 Feb 2012, 05:25

I find using a PS6 with a bass quite lush sounding. The harmony and sbend settings sound terrible (they are not meant for bass) but the detune setting gives a chorus that sounds very nice with a bass

jungleboy867

Re: Which BOSS pedals work well with bass?

by **natthu** » 05 Feb 2012, 07:37

I might just have to try that out... cheers for the tip

natthu

Re: Which BOSS pedals work well with bass?

by **Dirk** » 05 Feb 2012, 10:46

Also the octave down on the PS-6 is pretty stable with bass.
Somehow, on the harmony modes it's more stable then on the pitch shift mode.

Dirk

Re: Which BOSS pedals work well with bass?

by **DOUBBLEDEYED** » 05 Feb 2012, 18:01

HI
GOOD DAY TO ALL OF YOU
I THINK FBM-1 WILL ALSO WORK
BASSMAN AMP IS FOR BASE GUITAR.
GOD BLESS

DOUBBLEDEYED

Re: Which BOSS pedals work well with bass?

by **ChristoMephisto** » 19 Feb 2012, 13:50

The LM2 Limiter and the EH2 Enhancer are great with a bass
as well as the FZ2 Hyper Fuzz with the Gain setting

ChristoMephisto

Re: Which BOSS pedals work well with bass?

by **Hauk** » 20 Feb 2012, 14:33

Hello

Try the BD-2 for overdrive, and the MD-2 for distortion.
I like the ODB-3 as well, but i can only get it to sound good with active pickups.

I finaly found you guys, I have been waiting for the Bossarea forum to get back online. I do not post much but there is always something interesting to read.

Hauk

Re: Which BOSS pedals work well with bass?

by **DB Cooper** » 20 Feb 2012, 21:04

Welcome back!

DB Cooper

Re: Which BOSS pedals work well with bass?

by **nathanscribe** » 20 Feb 2012, 21:51

> *Hauk wrote:*
> *Try the BD-2 for overdrive, and the MD-2 for distortion.*

Really? Hmm. Never considered those. Sigh, another couple of things to try out...

I've used the ODB-3 with a (passive) jazz bass and a (passive) P, with decent results - I wouldn't say myself that it needed active p/ups. I suppose it depends, like everything else.

nathanscribe