Roland GR55

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Roland GR55

by jungleboy867 » 19 Jan 2012, 02:57

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-udcCGcIrIQ

I am thinking so hard about getting this. 9005 would be way more than I've ever spent on any musical gear at a time. I also have a bunch of questions about it. Does anybody own one of these?

jungleboy867
Posts: 256
Joined: 30 Nov 2011, 22:15
Location: Maryland, USA

Re: Roland GR55

by Right Foot » 19 Jan 2012, 03:16

I have one and I love it! I can answer most of your questions and the one I can't I'll point you in the right direction. If you are not shy about COSM or turning your guitar into a syth then go for it. It will be worth it.

Right Foot
Posts: 54
Joined: 27 Nov 2011, 07:27
Location: Grand Rapids, Michigan

Re: Roland GR55

by jungleboy867 » 19 Jan 2012, 03:25

Great, Thanks a lot Rightfoot!

- Is the pickup that it comes with battery powered?
- In order to use the pedal, do you HAVE to have the pickup?
- Could I use this as a pedal in my pedalboard while still having all my other pedals work normally?
- Can you save your favorite presets somewhere where you can always instantly access them with your foot?
- Can you scroll through various other presets just with your foot?
-Withe the extra pickup in your guitar, can you still use your original guitar pickups without having to uplug anything?
-how do you plug in the pickup? does it have a 1/4 inch output that can go to your amp or other pedals?

These are my main questions, I'd certainly appreciate if you could answer them.

jungleboy867
Posts: 256
Joined: 30 Nov 2011, 22:15
Location: Maryland, USA

Re: Roland GR55

by Right Foot » 19 Jan 2012, 06:04

The pickup that comes with it is not battery powered and you must have that pickup to use the pedal. It a a pickup that basically has a seperate humbucker for each string so each string may be isolated. If you do get one be careful to buy a unit that comes with the pickup. The units that are $100 cheaper are less expensive because they don't come with a GK-3 pickup, which normaly run about $100.

There are a few ways you can keep your normal pedalboard in conjunction with this but those require some explaining. So the short answer is yes.

Yes there are over 100 presets that you may customize and store in the pedal. Also you can store these custom patches on your computer as well. All the patches stored in the pedal can be accessed by your foot if you must go that rout but requires a lot of tap dancing.

You can scroll through them with your foot but not the way you would probably want.

You are still able to use your original magnetic pickups. The picture below shows how.

P1070100.JPG (171.02 KiB) Viewed 1823 times

A short little 1/4" jack goes from the guitar output to an input on the GK-3. Then a 13pin cable much like a midi cable goes from the GK-3 to the GR-55. A 13 pin cable does come with the GK-3 pickup if you get the unit that comes with the pickup. From there the GR-55 has a dedicated guitar output that can be set up to only send out the sound of your magnetic pickups or a variety of other options. There is also a 1/4" headphone jack and stereo outs. Plus Midi in and out and a usb connection.

Right Foot
Posts: 54
Joined: 27 Nov 2011, 07:27
Location: Grand Rapids, Michigan

Re: Roland GR55

by Right Foot » 19 Jan 2012, 06:20

This guy give a good little review. If you are wondering what some of the syth effects sound like he has some great walk through videos.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TqR2qWU5VyU

@ 8:06 the alternate tuning ideas start coming out.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u_wGiBgQ ... re=related

Right Foot
Posts: 54
Joined: 27 Nov 2011, 07:27
Location: Grand Rapids, Michigan

Re: Roland GR55

by jungleboy867 » 20 Jan 2012, 00:41

Wow, thanks a lot Rightfoot, I am now pretty tempted to get one.....though of course, I have to spend the next few months getting some money together. I'm guessing that I will plug my guitar into it, and have it output into the rest of my pedals via gutiar out, and finally to my amp. If I have anymore questions, hopefully you will still be around

PS thats a really cool looking guitar you have in that picture

jungleboy867
Posts: 256
Joined: 30 Nov 2011, 22:15
Location: Maryland, USA

Re: Roland GR55

by Right Foot » 21 Jan 2012, 06:48

Thanks for the compliment. And if you want to do some more in depth searching, this site is the bees knees...

http://www.vguitarforums.com/smf/index.php

But be warned there is some hardcore nerd language, no offense to anyone.

Right Foot
Posts: 54
Joined: 27 Nov 2011, 07:27
Location: Grand Rapids, Michigan

Re: Roland GR55

by Franzoni » 21 Jan 2012, 12:41

I also thought about getting into guitar synths over the years but when I look at vids like this I can see that even though some of the sounds are great I would never really use one to it's full potential....i really would only want one for actual synth type sounds or some of the Pat Metheny type trumpet sounds.. and i find with a chorus,long multi tap delay and a bit of reverb with volume swells i can get those big synth pad sounds and with the whammy effect in the pod set to a fixed position I can come close to the Metheny stuff again with some guitar effects layered on it.....the organ stuff i have covered with my Dynacord Leslie unit....plus I've read on the net that the newer GK-3 has fitting/tracking problems compared to the older GK-2.....

Franzoni
Posts: 891
Joined: 25 Nov 2011, 22:49
Location: Dublin,Ireland

Re: Roland GR55

by jungleboy867 » 17 Feb 2012, 05:07

so Rightfoot.....fastforewarding about a month later, I have finally gotten one. I have played with it for about an hour. It works and the pickup is on my les paul, but the high and low e strings have trouble tracking. The other strings work perfect. any ideas?

jungleboy867
Posts: 256
Joined: 30 Nov 2011, 22:15
Location: Maryland, USA

Re: Roland GR55

by Right Foot » 18 Feb 2012, 08:37

Wow congrats. Make sure the pick up is installed correctly. You want those little magnets as close to the strings you can get without them ever touching. Also there is a way to set the sensitivity of each string for the GR-55 itself. I forget how to get to it but that is probably where you will fix the problem. Sometimes the sensitivity of a string is too high and gives you some unwanted tracking. I know the manual looks intimidating but get into it. Also there is some editing software that gumtown made for it over at Vguitar forums. Once you start getting into creating custom patches it is well worth the download. http://www.vguitarforums.com/smf/index.php?topic=2951.0

Right Foot
Posts: 54
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