Boss Distortion choices?

by **deancrean** » 20 Nov 2013, 17:29

Which one of the many Boss Distortion pedals would you choose to cover your higher gain slot under the conditions to follow? First of all it would be used through a 15 watt single channel tube amp going through a 2-12 celestion cab with 85 watt speakers with just a touch of gain, but a lot of volume in a band context! Next up it would not need to have a ton of gain on tap, because it would already be pushing a tube amp just at the point of breaking up. Would want the level to be able to exceed the volume running on the amp though. Must cut through in a band mix well, but also be able to pump out a good amount of low end without getting flubby. Don't want anything that gets fuzzy. Want it to be clear enough that when playing fuller chords the notes still have clarity. Bonus if it cleans up well when rolling back on the guitar volume. Would be pushing it more with a OD-3 with the gain down for boasting solo's which is my job in my band. Do not care which country it is made in or how old it is. Newer would be better so i can find one easy at a reasonable price. My bands style would be considered alt hard rock I guess, but we do not stay within any set genre. All opinion will be appreciated.

deancrean

Re: Boss Distortion choices?

by **charmonder** » 20 Nov 2013, 18:46

The last part of the equation is humbuckers or single coils?

My opinion, I would come at it the other way around, I like boosting into the OD-3. OD-2r->OD-3 has been a winning combo for me, I'm tempted to try OD-3->OD-3, or BD-2->OD-3.

PW-2 probably too much gain? too much bass?
What do you think of SD-2 crunch mode?

charmonder

Re: Boss Distortion choices?

by **Guga Ramone** » 20 Nov 2013, 19:27

Since you are playing through an already on the verge of break up tube amp, I guess an overdrive would do a better job? Maybe a DS-1?

I always played high gain pedals, but always plugged into a totally clean amp. In this situation, my choice is the MT-2, although I'd like to try the ST-2 and the ML-2.

Guga Ramone

Re: Boss Distortion choices?

by **Pepe** » 20 Nov 2013, 19:31

I discovered the HM-3 for that in the last two months. Great and versatile pedal with lots of low-end if you need it. Is capable of producing clear non-nuddy chords with drop D tuning. A very underestimated pedal!

Pepe

Re: Boss Distortion choices?

by **deancrean** » 20 Nov 2013, 19:35

In most of my guitars I use Dimarzio Rail pickups which would be considered humbuckers!

I do use the OD-3 in combination with either a SD-1 or SD-2 at times with pretty good results, but was looking into trying some of the other actuall distortion pedals to see what kind of results I could get with that.

Have a PW-2 as well and just not real happy with the sound I get out of it! Seems kind of fizzy or maybe gritty. Not really sure how to descibe it. Not clear at all with fuller chords which I use a fair amount. I did put it back on my board last night to give it another chance and will play with the dials a bit more and see what I can come up with.

I do like the crunch mode on the SD-2 a lot, but was just looking for another sound to add to the pallet.

deancrean

Re: Boss Distortion choices?

by **sclitheroe** » 20 Nov 2013, 19:35

> *Charmonder wrote:*
> *My opinion, I would come at it the other way around, I like boosting into the OD-3. OD-2r->OD-3 has been a winning combo for me, I'm tempted to try OD-3->OD-3, or BD-2->OD-3.*

I like how you think.

I recently discovered that boosting into the OD-3 is a pretty viable approach, and I've been thinking a lot about experimenting with a BD-2 into the OD-3. My rationale is that with that setup you might be able to get more crunch out of the best parts of the BD-2's gain structure, which is all around noon or below. I don't think going the other way (OD-3 or anything else into a BD-2) is as good as idea, since the BD-2 has the superb cleanup you want to retain, and also since it strikes me as a pretty low-headroom pedal (which is why the best tones from it are all at modest gains - it's too fuzzy/fizzy with the gain cranked)

sclitheroe

Re: Boss Distortion choices?

by **deancrean** » 20 Nov 2013, 19:39

Just got the HM-3 a few weeks ago! Pretty cool pedal, but again I find it maybe a little to fuzzy for what I am doing. Have not giving it a real fair chance yet though and have not taking it to band practice yet to really see how it will work in that context.

deancrean

Re: Boss Distortion choices?

by **Pepe** » 20 Nov 2013, 19:43

A DingoTone FDD then, maybe? If I understand it correctly, you are longing for distorted sounds, not overdriven ones, right?

Pepe

Re: Boss Distortion choices?

by **sclitheroe** » 20 Nov 2013, 20:23

FDD does sound like a good choice re-reading the original question - no fizzy's, no fuzzy's, doesn't have to be super-high gain, no volume loss (FDD has tons of volume on tap) and plenty of bass without flub.

Yup!

sclitheroe

Re: Boss Distortion choices?

by **charmonder** » 20 Nov 2013, 20:38

> *Sclitheroe wrote:*
> *I like how you think.*
>
> *I recently discovered that boosting into the OD-3 is a pretty viable approach, and I've been thinking a lot about experimenting with a BD-2 into the OD-3. My rationale is that with that setup you might be able to get more crunch out of the best parts of the BD-2's gain structure, which is all around noon or below. I don't think going the other way (OD-3 or anything else into a BD-2) is as good as idea, since the BD-2 has the superb cleanup you want to retain, and also since it strikes me as a pretty low-headroom pedal (which is why the best tones from it are all at modest gains - it's too fuzzy/fizzy with the gain cranked)*

Exactly! I haven't had the BD-2 for some years, but I remember it behaving just like that. Very nice sound to have first in the chain, but later in the chain could potentially get fizzy. Almost like using a fuzz face in that regard.

charmonder

Re: Boss Distortion choices?

by **deancrean** » 20 Nov 2013, 21:17

> *Pepe wrote:*
> *A DingoTone FDD then, maybe? If I understand it correctly, you are longing for distorted sounds, not overdriven ones, right?*

Never heard of this one before! Just went and checked it out online and the description sounds just like what I am looking for. Priced not to bad as well. Thanks for that info.

deancrean

Re: Boss Distortion choices?

by **Pepe** » 20 Nov 2013, 22:35

Our dear Laurie has designed this pedal. I have one and I am pretty pleased with it! A few of us have some DingoTone pedals and they are without exception superb. Laurie nailed just the right tone.

Pepe

Re: Boss Distortion choices?

by **BearBoy** » 20 Nov 2013, 23:40

Not got an FDD but have three other DingoTone pedals and they're all very good

BearBoy

Re: Boss Distortion choices?

by **deancrean** » 21 Nov 2013, 00:26

Very cool! Going to have to give them a try. Looks like they are being made right next door to me in Calgary to which is a bonus. Probably going to have to wait till after Christmas though. The kids always suck all the money out of me this time of the year.

deancrean

Re: Boss Distortion choices?

by **sclitheroe** » 21 Nov 2013, 03:37

Not to hijack the thread, but here's exactly what I was thinking:
http://www.premierguitar.com/articles/snowy_white_wailing_on_the_wall?page=5

http://www.premierguitar.com/Stream/StreamImage.aspx?Image_ID=D35D01EA-1AD9-4655-BB2F-25D35431FDB0&Image_Type=image

Looks like a BD-2 with gain around noon, into a OD-3 with gain around 1'oclock or so? I run my OD-3 much lower than that, but same principle. I confess to not knowing anything about this artist (it's a 5 page article, the pedalboard shot appears on page 5), but seeing that he's a blues guy, and played with Roger Waters on the Wall tour suggests I should look into his stuff!

sclitheroe

Re: Boss Distortion choices?

by **Pepe** » 21 Nov 2013, 08:44

*deancrean wrote:*Looks like they are being made right next door to me in Calgary to which is a bonus.
Oh! Another member from Calgary! Laurie lived there till he moved back to Australia a few months ago. Since Laurie has installed a great money-back warranty you might try out a few pedals and give them back *if you don't like them*. But that's quite unimpossible! They are rather addictive.

Pepe

Re: Boss Distortion choices?

by **Laurie** » 21 Nov 2013, 09:07

Just for clarity... I'm not entirely sure what policy the new owner of DIngoTone has about money-back. You should check with them.

Thanks for the kudos pepe. The truth be known all the designs relied heavily on testing and comments from the senior members of this forum. Any good tone in the pedals is due entirely to them...

Laurie

Re: Boss Distortion choices?

by **Pepe** » 21 Nov 2013, 09:46

Don't be so humble!

Pepe

Re: Boss Distortion choices?

by **Ptak** » 22 Nov 2013, 02:03

Whens the HM-3 demo coming out pepe? It's one of the few Boss pedals ive never tried!

Ptak

Re: Boss Distortion choices?

by **Pepe** » 22 Nov 2013, 09:57

We'll see! There will be a few KORG pedal demos first.

Pepe