Boss SD-1

by **Johnnyseven** » 26 Sep 2013, 11:19

What are people's views on this pedal?

Also, it's been around for eons so does it have a load of variations - and are some variation better than others?

Johnnyseven

Re: Boss SD-1

by **Laurie** » 26 Sep 2013, 12:05

Skip it. Find an SD-2.

Laurie

Re: Boss SD-1

by **Johnnyseven** » 26 Sep 2013, 14:38

I've not heard much about the SD2. But reading up on it just now, people report the the 2nd channel is ace but the first is a bit rubbish - is this correct?

Johnnyseven

Re: Boss SD-1

by **Pepe** » 26 Sep 2013, 14:52

The first channel is not rubbish at all. If you tame the highs, it's a cool crunch. The only comparison I can give is that it sounds very much like the crunch channel of the Marshall MG100DFX. And I always liked that channel.

Pepe

Re: Boss SD-1

by **Clean Channel** » 26 Sep 2013, 14:59

I own most of the Boss dirt pedals, but have never tried an SD-2. It's waaay up on my list of to-get Boss pedals.

Clean Channel

Re: Boss SD-1

by **BearBoy** » 26 Sep 2013, 15:57

I really like my SD-2. Use the lead channel more than the crunch though.

It's always surprised me that Boss have never released any other two channel overdrive/distortion pedals.

BearBoy

Re: Boss SD-1

by **Dirk** » 26 Sep 2013, 17:48

The crunch channel works as a great OD as well to push an already distorting tube amp into 80's heavy metal territory.

Dirk

Re: Boss SD-1

by **sclitheroe** » 26 Sep 2013, 19:18

> *Laurie wrote:*
> *Skip it. Find an SD-2.*

Harsh!

sclitheroe

Re: Boss SD-1

by **DarrinPA** » 26 Sep 2013, 20:41

I like the SD-1. I also have a modded version that sounds amazing. I think the pedal is worth it for the price, especially used. I'd like to by a SD-2, and I would assume it's worthy of all the praise. I found a good deal once but missed it, but I still keep an eye out for it.

DarrinPA

Re: Boss SD-1

by **Laurie** » 26 Sep 2013, 22:25

> *Sclitheroe wrote:*
> *Harsh!*
>
> 😄

Not in my world. I've never been able to bond with an SD-1. The closest I've come is one that I did the "lovepedal" mod on. It's "OK" but not great:

Laurie

Re: Boss SD-1

by **Laurie** » 26 Sep 2013, 22:27

If an SD-1 is really your thing, then there is only one version of the schematic. It's been the same since inception.

Opinions vary, but the MIJ version arguably sounds "better".

Laurie

Re: Boss SD-1

by **sclitheroe** » 26 Sep 2013, 22:42

How about the OD-1 then? Or does the SD-2 still win out?

sclitheroe

Re: Boss SD-1

by **Laurie** » 26 Sep 2013, 22:47

Vintage OD-1 and SD-2 are both "on my cool wall".

Laurie

Re: Boss SD-1

by **Pepe** » 27 Sep 2013, 00:04

The OD-2R is also a fine BOSS pedal. Very OD-1'ish in "Mode I" IMHO.

Pepe

Re: Boss SD-1

by **Clean Channel** » 27 Sep 2013, 02:35

I dig the OD-2r as well.

Also, thanks to this thread, SD-2 incoming...

Clean Channel

Re: Boss SD-1

by **Laurie** » 27 Sep 2013, 03:00

I'd like to say I'm sorry... but I'm not

Laurie

Re: Boss SD-1

by **Clean Channel** » 27 Sep 2013, 04:45

I owe a lot of my Boss addiction to you!

Recently I've been absolutely in love with the CE-2 you hooked me up with (long dash, silver screw, of course!).

Clean Channel

Re: Boss SD-1

by **Laurie** » 27 Sep 2013, 04:51

If you have a second one, or a CE-5... split the signal and run through one pedal into one amp and the other pedal in a second amp to give stereo chorus with no connection between the two LFOs.

Like a DC-2 on steroids...

Laurie

Re: Boss SD-1

by **Clean Channel** » 27 Sep 2013, 04:59

Alright! A CE-5 or 2nd CE-2 have now jumped up the Boss-to-get list.

Clean Channel

Re: Boss SD-1

by **Laurie** » 27 Sep 2013, 07:04

I used to run a pair of analogue CE-5's. The only reason I changed was I was fortunate enough to get a ModFactor for the right price.

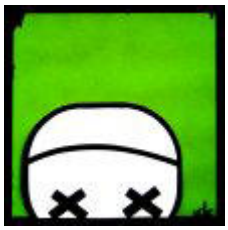
Laurie

Re: Boss SD-1

by **natthu** » 27 Sep 2013, 10:52

> *Laurie wrote:*
> *Vintage OD-1 and SD-2 are both "on my cool wall".*

I'm interested to see your "cool wall"... What other stuff is on it?


natthu

Re: Boss SD-1

by **Johnnyseven** » 27 Sep 2013, 12:18

> *Laurie wrote:*
> *If an SD-1 is really your thing, then there is only one version of the schematic. It's been the same since inception.*
>
> *Opinions vary, but the MIJ version arguably sounds "better".*

How can it sound better if the schematic is the same?

Johnnyseven

Re: Boss SD-1

by **Clean Channel** » 27 Sep 2013, 12:31

One possible reason is components. Many of the early 80s SD-1s were built using the same very-sought-after transistors found in vintage Tube Screamers.

Back then they went through periods of using different chips, trannys, etc. I read one guy who owned three from different years in the 80s, and they all sounded different from one another. He went into detail about what components were in each, and what combination of components he decided was his personal favorite.

Clean Channel

Re: Boss SD-1

by **Laurie** » 27 Sep 2013, 13:30

You'll be surprised at the passion you'll find if you google this... Lots of good information, but also lots of utter bullcrap.

Laurie

Re: Boss SD-1

by **deancrean** » 27 Sep 2013, 17:35

I also prefer the SD-2 over the SD-1! As well as the OD-3 which is my favorite overdrive pedal out there.

deancrean

Re: Boss SD-1

by **sclitheroe** » 27 Sep 2013, 20:14

I'm really warming up to the OD-3 now that I've got the '59 Bassman. Mind you, that thing is making quite a few pedals sound great as I explore what it can do and get it dialed in.

sclitheroe

Re: Boss SD-1

by **howareyou10** » 28 Oct 2013, 01:29

You can do alot with an sd 1. Using it as a boost and a little crunch gives it a better vibe. Ive searched all over for an overdrive pedal that didnt have a lot of dirt to it. I realized that it was the sd 1 isnt as bad as people say it is.

howareyou10

Re: Boss SD-1

by **twizzle** » 28 Oct 2013, 14:29

As my first proper pedal project i fitted the Monte Allums GT kit to my SD-1. I liked the standard one as a booster or for low overdrive but with the mod kit it seems to gain a little more sparkle in one position and in the other it's more "fatter" It also boosts the gain side more quite nice too. Well worth the £19.00. Well was worth it till my bother nicked it last week.

twizzle

Re: Boss SD-1

by **RandomP** » 03 Nov 2013, 19:34

> *Sclitheroe wrote:*
> *Harsh!*

That's a good description of the SD-1 😉

RandomP

Re: Boss SD-1

by **fuzzbuzzfuzz** » 04 Nov 2013, 14:02

Curious,

I have an 83-84' MIJ SD-1, my snag with it - whilst it sounds good albeit in the treble/mid range - the unity volume is at about 3/4s dialed on the volume and cranked to max it barely give a significant enough boost for my liking. Good for a Marshall stack to push it a tad, but I like a real kick. How's everyone else`s? When do you hit unity and hows the boost?

I`m considering an OD-1 for its unique sparkle (and cool points lol) and, whilst a tad bland, the versatility and crunch of the OD-3 did impress in shop, Marshall in a box!

Anyway SD-1 whats the lowdown as a boost?

My favorite clip of the SD-1 in action btw - (You can see it at 2:44 on the floor)

fuzzbuzzfuzz

Re: Boss SD-1

by **ironman28** » 07 Dec 2013, 20:15

> *Laurie wrote:*
> *Skip it. Find an SD-2.*

there is a reason the SD-2 is no longer made.
I prefer my MIJ SD-1 to the MIT ones even with the Keeley mods. I can't tell you it sounds "better" but there is a difference.
The SD-1 along with the TS-9 are probably the most copied circuits in FX technology. (maybe the FF too)
I wouldn't use the SD-1 as a foundational tone but it does play nice with other boosts, OD and distortions.

ironman28

Re: Boss SD-1

by **Clean Channel** » 07 Dec 2013, 23:24

SD-2 is now my fav Boss OD, one of the best Boss pedals ever made IMO! (And at this point I have pretty much every dirt pedal they've ever built)

Clean Channel