My all-Boss pedalboard is complete!

by **Clean Channel** » 22 Nov 2012, 06:07

My all-Boss pedalboard is complete!

The idea has been that I would slot ten Boss effects on to a Pedaltrain Jr, with the option of swapping other Boss effects into each slot as I see fit. I wanted to keep it as organized and efficient as possible, while still making it simple to swap in and out various effects.

For example, the last spot is currently occupied by the PN-2, which is great for in the studio or at home. I might however prefer to replace it with the RC-3 (which is loaded with all my favorite backing tracks) for jamming alone or with friends. Or while playing live I might fill that last slot with the TR-2 which isn't only a tremolo, but thanks to some JHS mods also works as a clean boost, which I would use for leads.

I also made the txt file to keep track of the various pedals (PSA vs ACA), which are daisy chained, a few suggested alternatives, and the mA draws.

The end result is great tones and amazing versatility, all in an easy to carry, grab-and-go package!

Tremolo/Pan
Delay
Dimension C
Vibrato
Touch Wah
Over Drive
Heavy Metal
HYPER FUZZ
Phaser
Delay
Slow Gear
Enhancer
Chorus
SUPER Chorus
Loop Station
Tremolo
Noise Gate
SUPER Phaser
Hi Band Flanger
Flanger
TURBO OverDrive
Over Drive
SUPER Distortion
Distortion
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Order on board:        Possible Alternatives:

01.  TW-1   6 mA ACA   SG-1
02.  PH-1  11 mA ACA*  PH-2
03.  FZ-2  16 mA PSA*  XT-2
04.  HM-2  10 mA ACA*  DS-1, DF-2, OD-1, OD-2
05.  OD-3   9 mA PSA*  XT-2
06.  VB-2  14 mA ACA   BF-2, HF-2, CE-2
07.  DC-2  30 mA PSA   CH-1
08.  PS-3  70 mA PSA   DSD3
09.  DM-2  11 mA ACA
10.  PN-2  20 mA PSA   TR-2, RC-3, EH-2, TU-3, RV-3

*sharing a PP2 outlet with other ACA or PSA pedal


All PSA units info:
CH-1  15 mA (modded by Tonewerkz for double depth and rate)
DC-2  30 mA
DSD3  55 mA
EH-2  24 mA
FZ-2  16 mA
OD-3   9 mA
PN-2  20 mA
PS-3  70 mA
RC-3  70 mA
RV-3  70 mA
TR-2  20 mA (modded by JHS for tempo LED, volume knob)
TU-3  30 mA
XT-2  15 mA

All ACA units info:
BF-2  15 mA
CE-2   9 mA
DF-2  10 mA
DM-2  11 mA
DS-1   4 mA
HF-2  15 mA
HM-2  10 mA
NF-1   4 mA
OD-1   3 mA
OD-2  10 mA
PH-1   7 mA
PH-1r 11 mA
PH-2  20 mA
SG-1   4 mA
TW-1   6 mA
```

And just for reference, here's my other way-too-huge-and-complicated (and I love it!) main board:

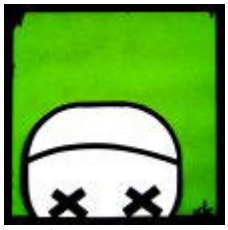
Clean Channel

Re: My all-Boss pedalboard is complete!

by **natthu** » 22 Nov 2012, 07:56

Nice!.... great collection of pedals on that board. Bonus points from my OCD for being neat

I have a couple of PedalTrain boards, I find them easy to organise (which pleases my OCD)... I also went to the trouble of fitting a patchbay to the bottom of one of mine, I find it helps increase tidiness and lessens the wear on your pedal's sockets...


natthu

Re: My all-Boss pedalboard is complete!

by **Clean Channel** » 22 Nov 2012, 08:01

Wow, looks great natthu!

I gotta say though, that pic makes me really want to check out the business side of that board as well!

Clean Channel

Re: My all-Boss pedalboard is complete!

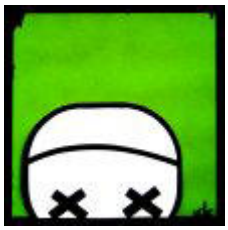
by **natthu** » 22 Nov 2012, 08:21

Cheers

Unfortunately that pic was taken a long time ago. The patchbay and PSU are still the same, but my boards have changed a lot since then. I used to have an unruly tangle of 3 PBs (hence the patchbay) with a lot of big complicated pedals....
But at the moment the one pictured just has expression pedals on it (two of the patches on the bay are wired for stereo)... and not much aside from my GR-55 is on my bigger board. My other boards are all empty and packed away

I haven't had to take pedals out of my house for any reason lately, and I haven't done any recording recently.... so I just sort of use a pedal or two at a time, most of them are sitting in shelving for easy access swapping out...

I need to overhaul my boards.... but I'll post pics when that happens


natthu

Re: My all-Boss pedalboard is complete!

by **Pepe** » 22 Nov 2012, 08:42

Great Board, Clean Channel! This one should make some guys really envious! I'm glad that I currently own four of your shown pedals, so I'm not drooling all over my keyboard now!

Is there a reason why you put the VB-2 (may I call you bastard, because you have one?) after your dirt section? I had thought that it was best sounding when it's positioned at the beginning (right after the Touch Wah).

Pepe

Re: My all-Boss pedalboard is complete!

by **RandomP** » 22 Nov 2012, 13:12

Pretty board - liking the rare pedals

RandomP

Re: My all-Boss pedalboard is complete!

by **Cavefish34** » 22 Nov 2012, 14:28

very nice CleanChannel... I like the way you think... all neat and organized.. cool setup

Cavefish34

Re: My all-Boss pedalboard is complete!

by **Clean Channel** » 22 Nov 2012, 14:55

Thanks guys!! It's something I've wanted to put together for a while, and in terms of tone and versatility, the finished product has exceeded my expectations!

Pepe: Hmm, I didn't know people liked their VB-2s before dirt. I've always put my vibrato pedals along with my chorus pedals, after dirt and before delay. I think of them as typically stuck together, like in a DMM or a CE-1 where they are both accessible from the same unit. Is it the VB-2 specifically that you prefer before dirt, or all vibrato pedals? Regardless, I'll give it a shot and see how it goes!

Just as a side note, I did need to decide which of the two, Vibrato and Chorus, would go first. I put the VB2 first as I thought it would sound cool going into a gentle chorus sound, which it does!

Clean Channel

Re: My all-Boss pedalboard is complete!

by **Pepe** » 22 Nov 2012, 16:40

I have never had access to a VB-2. Sadly. But I thought that it might sound "more real" if you put it before the dirt pedals. Like the natural vibrato that you can create with your fingers - this comes before the dirt, obviously. 😉

Pepe

Re: My all-Boss pedalboard is complete!

by **Laurie** » 22 Nov 2012, 16:43

> *Pepe wrote:*
> *this comes before the dirt, obviously.* 😉

Depends whether you've washed your hands?

On a more serious note... great looking board!

Laurie

Re: My all-Boss pedalboard is complete!

by **Pepe** » 22 Nov 2012, 16:44

😊

Pepe

Re: My all-Boss pedalboard is complete!

by **Clean Channel** » 22 Nov 2012, 16:52

> *Pepe wrote:*
> *I have never had access to a VB-2. Sadly. But I thought that it might sound "more real" if you put it before the dirt pedals. Like the natural vibrato that you can create with your fingers - this comes before the dirt, obviously.*

Good point! Or similarly like the vibrato from one can produce via trem arm on a guitar. I never really made that connection in terms of vibrato pedal placement, but makes perfect sense!

Another way to perhaps consider it is: since I have the option of creating vibrato manually at the instrument, having a second source of vibrato after dirt opens up even more tonal possibilities.

That said, I'll try it before dirt and see how I like it!

> *Laurie wrote:*
> *Depends whether you've washed your hands?*
>
> On a more serious note... great looking board!

And thanks!

Clean Channel

Re: My all-Boss pedalboard is complete!

by **Dirk** » 25 Nov 2012, 11:28

Nice board, CC.

Dirk

Re: My all-Boss pedalboard is complete!

by **sclitheroe** » 25 Nov 2012, 21:49

Awesome. I love the labelling and current consumption charting

How does the board sound with that many buffered pedals on board?

-Scott

sclitheroe

Re: My all-Boss pedalboard is complete!

by **Clean Channel** » 26 Nov 2012, 01:12

Thanks Dirk and Scott!

Regarding tone loss, I wondered what would happen as well.

The first thing I did when I built the board was plug it in and play for a good long while. Aside from (obviously) wanting to have a blast seeing how the pedals work together, I wanted to see if I could sense any tone loss without a direct A/B. All sounded good to me!

Then I put entire board in a single bypass loop to see if there was any noticeable tone loss when directly compared to a bypassed signal. The truth is that there's a *very slight* but definitely perceivable loss of volume and high end. It becomes even less significant when I turn up the amp slightly to compensate for the volume drop. Again, I can't emphasize enough how minor and insignificant it was. If I'd never done the test using the bypass loop A/B, I'd have never thought there was any difference.

I built this board for quick gigs, jamming with buddies, and for personal fun. When I do use these pedals to record, it will be easy to pull off the ones I need to mitigate any signal loss.

I should also add that I'm no stranger to tone suck. My big board is loaded with true-bypass pedals. I've gone the whole true-bypass-boutique-only route, and all that led to was tone suck! I've since added an independent buffer and a true-bypass strip, splitting up the pedals into groups. The fact is, if I run all the loops at once without the buffer the signal becomes completely unusable.

So, long story short, I'm completely over the whole true-bypass or nothing mentality. I've never felt that a few Boss pedals in my signal has ever had any negative affect on my tone, and I'm happy to report that even ten of them in chain is totally and completely acceptable!

Clean Channel

Re: My all-Boss pedalboard is complete!

by **tomasanibal** » 21 Dec 2012, 13:57

Congrats Sr!!! very nice pups! at my 50 years, I can't take a decision to build a main pedalboard

tomasanibal

Re: My all-Boss pedalboard is complete!

by **Clean Channel** » 21 Dec 2012, 16:21

Fair enough! I saw all of your various Boss pedalboards, and with a collection like that, I can see why you're having trouble sticking to just one!

Clean Channel

Re: My all-Boss pedalboard is complete!

by **Dirk** » 21 Dec 2012, 19:47

> *Clean Channel wrote:*
> *Again, I can't emphasize enough how minor and insignificant it was.*

Right, I currently have 5 buffered and 3 TB pedals on my guitar board without any noticable loss whatsoever.
I've been trying to use the HZD as a buffer just to see if it made any difference, but it doesn't.
I personally think the entire "problem" was hyped up on forums way too much.
However, until you've owned an old Morley PWB or similar, *then* you haven't experienced tone loss!

Dirk

Re: My all-Boss pedalboard is complete!

by **gurran1928** » 30 Dec 2012, 12:51

like a Colorsound wah?

gurran1928