SD-1 v OD-3

by **twizzle** » 10 Oct 2013, 15:34

Can someone tell me the differences between these two pedals. Viewed a few Youtube videos but different people playing different tunes, so can't really judge.

twizzle

Re: SD-1 v OD-3

by **zombiwoof** » 10 Oct 2013, 16:38

I think the OD-3 is the most transparent OD pedal that Boss has made, I was pleasantly surprised with mine. Never bonded with the SD-1, but I think it is amp-dependent. To me, the OD-3 is an "improved" BD-2, without the fizziness and lack of bass (which is why so many people mod their BD-2's).
Al

zombiwoof

Re: SD-1 v OD-3

by **Clean Channel** » 10 Oct 2013, 16:54

Sorry zombiewoof, but I gotta disagree. To my ear, I don't find the OD-3 very transparent at all. The BD-2 on the other hand can be very transparent.

In terms of comparing:
-SD-1 has a mid hump
-SD-1 is better as a dirty boost
-OD-3 works more as a OD into a clean amp
-OD-3 the dirt is thicker, more complex/layered sounding

Clean Channel

Re: SD-1 v OD-3

by **Pieces Of The Night** » 10 Oct 2013, 16:56

I would say the sd-1 is more of a 70's overdrive sound and the od-3 is a little bit of a cleaner overdrive sound

Pieces Of The Night

Re: SD-1 v OD-3

by **deancrean** » 10 Oct 2013, 17:23

I use both on my board for different purposes! I will second zombiewoof on his opinion on the OD-3 being the most transparent of the Boss overdrives and also agree with it being an improvment on the BD-2. Just my opinion and not trying to discount others. The SD-1 has more of a mid hump and can help cut through a band mix well. I like them both, but if I could only have one I would go with the OD-3. I would also take the SD-2 over the SD-1 which I also have on my board.

deancrean

Re: SD-1 v OD-3

by **Clean Channel** » 10 Oct 2013, 17:36

Honestly guys, I always considered it to be common knowledge that the OD-3 is not a transparent OD. But hey, everyone can hear things differently, so to each his own!

Clean Channel

Re: SD-1 v OD-3

by **twizzle** » 10 Oct 2013, 17:48

Interesting. At the moment i only use the SD-1 to fill in the mids on the BD-2 and give it a little boost. May have to borrow a OD-3 from the shop to see if i can tell the difference.

twizzle

Re: SD-1 v OD-3

by **sclitheroe** » 10 Oct 2013, 18:42

Yeah it's definitely not transparent in my books either.

It's a pretty compressed overdrive tone in my opinion, compared to the SD-1. I also consider it smoother than the SD-1, which is interesting considering the SD-1 is supposed to be smooth via asymmetric clipping (maybe smooth compared to other tubescreamer type OD's, I guess). The OD-3 has tons more bass than SD-1 of course as well.

Some people have described the OD-3 as an upgraded/next-gen BD-2, and I bought one expecting it to be something like that, and I don't really think it is. What it is, is a pedal that has many of the qualities of the BD-2 in a much more refined way, and with none of the shortcomings of the BD-2 such as the insane tone control and terrible note decay. It's an upgrade from a BD-2, but not a replacement, if that makes any sense (it probably doesn't haha). If you google around for "site:tdpri.com od-3", you'll run into tons of great posts by a chap named ".11 Gauge" who knows a lot about the BD-2 circuit and the OD-3.

There's totally a place for both at the end of the day - I like the OD-3 for general purpose crunch, and the SD-1 in front of it (in front of any dirt pedal really) as a "more" pedal. If I could have only one, it would be the OD-3 because the SD-1 is less flexible (you sacrifice a lot of bass with the SD-1, there's really only one tone there on tap), but they go well together.

sclitheroe

Re: SD-1 v OD-3

by **DarrinPA** » 10 Oct 2013, 20:54

Although they are sort of similiar I think comparing them is difficult. I like both pedals, but I find that they have completely different uses. I'd run a OD-3 as a main drive pedal. An unmodded SD-1 is more of a boost only for me. If I do run it as my main drive it's for situations that I need minimuim gain and clarity for rooms that sound muddy.

DarrinPA

Re: SD-1 v OD-3

by **twizzle** » 10 Oct 2013, 21:18

Think the only way to get to hear what it sounds like is to rig up some pedals at work on Saturday

twizzle

Re: SD-1 v OD-3

by **sclitheroe** » 13 Oct 2013, 15:06

So I found a really nice application of the OD-3 that demonstrates a difference between the two pedals, and is something you probably wouldn't want to use the SD-1 for. Right now, I'm using it at zero drive (yes, zero), volume to unity, and tone to taste. This give me the slightest bit of grit that is very volume and touch sensitive, makes the pedal close to transparent, and stacks beautifully. I'm not using it as a boost in this application, it's strictly to add that tiny bit of grit. If you tried the same thing with the SD-1 (which does make a good booster), you'd be suffering from the loss of bass that comes with the mid-humped tone profile on the pedal.

sclitheroe

Re: SD-1 v OD-3

by **twizzle** » 13 Oct 2013, 15:30

I trying both pedals at work yesterday, both as boosters for a BD-2 and then as stand alone O/D. Although the OB-3 seemed to produce a little more gain but i didn't like the tone of it as much as the SD-1. So i think the SD-1 will be staying on my board a little longer. Thank you all for your thoughts on the pedals.

twizzle