The Boss JB-2.

by **toyroomtim** » 08 Sep 2017, 08:04

This won't end well..

https://youtu.be/txuOROqif7Q

toyroomtim

Re: The Boss JB-2.

by **The_Doc** » 08 Sep 2017, 08:13

Never saw that one coming !

The_Doc

Re: The Boss JB-2.

by **Pepe** » 08 Sep 2017, 09:18

JHS gets a lot of hate over there at ilovefuzz for solid reasons. I couldn't explain it here without hurting the forum rules concerning religion, homophobia and politics. I really don't like and support this collaboration ...

And on top it looks SOOOO wrong!

Pepe

Re: The Boss JB-2.

by **BearBoy** » 08 Sep 2017, 09:57

Wow. Wasn't aware of any of that. You'd have thought Roland/Boss might have been a bit more cautious about who they collaborated with...

BearBoy

Re: The Boss JB-2.

by **Pepe** » 08 Sep 2017, 10:07

Well, if I'm allowed to share this link, this sums it up:

https://www.reddit.com/r/guitarpedals/comments/410a3q/probably_late_to_the_party_but_why_all_the_jhs/

Plus the JHS Angry Charlie that BOSS uses here in the JB-2 is said to be a direct clone of the MI Crunch Box.

Pepe

Re: The Boss JB-2.

by **BearBoy** » 08 Sep 2017, 10:28

Couple of places in the UK (GAK and Gear4Music) have it up on their sites for £179.

BearBoy

Re: The Boss JB-2.

by **toyroomtim** » 08 Sep 2017, 11:02

I was told $350AUD so that sounds about right.

toyroomtim

Re: The Boss JB-2.

by **BearBoy** » 08 Sep 2017, 11:14

Seems like a very versatile dirt pedal:

> *A total of six special modes means that these two overdrives can run in variety of ways to suit your style and rig;*
>
> *JHS Mode – The standard pedal turns the unit on or off and engages the Angry Charlie Circuit. Adding the remote switch means you can switch between the AC and BD circuits remotely*
> *BOSS Mode – The standard pedal turns the unit on and off and engages the BD-2 Circuit. Adding the remote switch means you can switch between BD and AC circuits remotely*
> *JHS/BOSS Mode – The Pedal is always on. The standard Boss foot switch then switches between the BD and AC circuits – The remote switch works as your on and off pedal*
> *J-B Mode – This runs the AC into the BD circuit. The standard Boss footswitch turns the unit on and off – Adding the remote switch switches between SERIES MODE and BD Mode*
> *B-J – This runs the BD into the AC circuit. The standard Boss foot switch turns the unit on and off – the remote switches between SERIES MODE and AC Mode*
> *PARALLEL – This runs both circuits in Parallel – This maintains the clarity of both circuits at the same time – the remote switch then drops out the BD circuits and gives you just the AC*

Taken from the GAK website.

BearBoy

Re: The Boss JB-2.

by **Laurie** » 08 Sep 2017, 13:21

An "Angry Driver"? Really?

Laurie

Re: The Boss JB-2.

by **Boogieman** » 08 Sep 2017, 17:57

> *Pepe wrote:*
> *JHS gets a lot of hate over there at ilovefuzz for solid reasons. I couldn't explain it here without hurting the forum rules concerning religion, homophobia and politics. I really don't like and support this collaboration ...*
>
> *And on top it looks SOOOO wrong!*

It is not just what have been mentioned above. As if it is not appalling already, there have been enough accusations of dodgy practices within his own pedal business that screams red flag to me. Just Google it for more on that.*

EDIT: *I have missed Pepe's Reddit link on his second post of this thread. The info on that link pretty much sums it up. Of course, there is more out there, for those who care to dig into it.

Boogieman

Re: The Boss JB-2.

by **charmonder** » 08 Sep 2017, 18:08

I feel like some evil genie granted my wish for a modern SD-2 pedal, including a regrettable twist.

I never got to the bottom of the JHS controversy, fwiw, the man himself denounces homophobia on his website. Otherwise, there does seem to be an originality issue with the designs. Also the downright corny ryan adams V.C.R, and the wildly overpriced (colour box).

They should have collaborated with Keeley.

charmonder

Re: The Boss JB-2.

by **Ashton** » 08 Sep 2017, 18:23

I remember in a few facebook groups (I think gear talk and or pedalboards of doom) earlier this year the JHS rumors popped up again

And he denied all the rumors, I'd assume if there was any truth to the rumors Boss would not work with them

Ashton

Re: The Boss JB-2.

by **Dirk** » 08 Sep 2017, 18:35

Interesting choice...

Dirk

Re: The Boss JB-2.

by **sclitheroe** » 08 Sep 2017, 23:47

Suffice it to say Boss was more than a little tone deaf in their partner selection.

Edit: or maybe not, it’s very hard to form a fair assessment, and obviously irrelevant to the performance of the product.

Regardless, the switching is pretty interesting technology - how do you suppose they’ve implemented that functionality using a single knob? I’m guessing there must be a tiny digital switching/routing system built in, which could be applied to all kinds of future pedals. Parallel mode seems intriguing, and hard to achieve for most pedal users without some serious switching gear.

Maybe there’s something to this...

sclitheroe

Re: The Boss JB-2.

by **Laurie** » 11 Sep 2017, 04:21

I find it fascinating that a board like this one with long-term Boss evangelists never sees anyone from Boss.

And then Boss lays an egg like this.

Fascinating (said in the manner of Mr. Spock).

Check out the comment section here to see reactions to this thing:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=txuOROqif7Q

Don't care about JHS's politics at all. But, no. I'm not a fan. Of the pedal, or Boss' approach.

Or maybe, like sclitheroe says... maybe I'm out-of-step and there is something to this. No. Still not a fan. Even after saying that.

Laurie

Re: The Boss JB-2.

by **charmonder** » 11 Sep 2017, 14:41

> *sclitheroe wrote:*
> *Regardless, the switching is pretty interesting technology - how do you suppose they've implemented that functionality using a single knob? I'm guessing there must be a tiny digital switching/routing system built in, which could be applied to all kinds of future pedals. Parallel mode seems intriguing, and hard to achieve for most pedal users without some serious switching gear.*

Actually, it could be all analog check out the schematics for the LS-2, it's a neat little puzzle to look at.

charmonder

Re: The Boss JB-2.

by **sclitheroe** » 11 Sep 2017, 15:01

> *Laurie wrote:*
> Check out the comment section here to see reactions to this thing:
> https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=txuOROqif7Q

YouTube comments in my experience are a cesspool (second perhaps only to CBC story comments). What's interesting to me is thegearpage.net commentary to date - it falls into one of two broad camps, one of which surprised me. The first camp is largely upset with JHS, which we've already more or less decided here we aren't wading into. There is another camp though, that seems genuinely interested in the pedal - either for the switching options, the idea of getting two pedals in one (value), or the general appeal of the Boss enclosure and build quality.

There's also a sentiment over at TGP in general, it would look like, suggesting that Boss is trendy right now.

So the question, given the confluence of recent Boss news (WazaCraft, althought not that recent, DS-1 anniversary edition, the traffic light set, their 40th anniversary events, this new release, etc) - is Boss generating a small resurgence in the popularity of the brand through marketing and new product, or are they being somewhat hamfisted in their attempts to ride a wave that was not of their own making, and struggling a bit to find their way?

I remain very cautiously intrigued by the Angry Driver, if only because:
- parallel mode interests me as something I've not experienced before (I'm interested in what high gain, at low mix levels, might sound like behind the BD-2 tonality)
- what a "boutique" brand sounds like behind Boss buffering and switching
- with a name as bad as Angry Driver, it might go down in history as another PW-2, which I loved if only for its goofiness

But more broadly, my opinion of Boss right now varies like the tide - sometimes I think they are out to lunch and have seriously lost their way. Other times, they come across as uniquely themselves, and just as quirky as they've always been. The JB-2 cuts right down the middle of those two sentiments for me, which is maybe why I find it appealing. It could be a trainwreck, or it could be kinda neat, or maybe both simultaneously.

One thing for sure - YouTube demos of it are extremely frustrating to watch; there's a lot of modes and a lot of options within each working the concentric knobs. Playing with one might be the only real way to know for sure what it's about.

sclitheroe

Re: The Boss JB-2.

by **Pieces Of The Night** » 11 Sep 2017, 16:53

The approach to this is classic Boss. They are known for doing things out of left field and this is way out of left field. Was anyone anywhere actually expecting something like this?

Pieces Of The Night

Re: The Boss JB-2.

by **fuzzbuzzfuzz** » 12 Sep 2017, 01:33

A very curious addition.

I recall (having) the Muffaletta from JHS (arrived in a trade) and it had a rotary switch that somehow accessed all the different Muff types (diodes/circuitry) etc with one (slightly wobbly) twist. I believe they developed that mechanism with another company.

I suspect JHS's history is less known outside of the English conversing internet/forum folk, worldwide its a brand in a shop and sound/looks/price point counts. In Japan they are another high priced yet interesting boutique brand with a bit of momentum building. Japan has a very strong love affair recently with cross pollinating companies, artists and products, with a A X B tag appearing on almost everything. So with that in mind its a smart move for the home base linking the "standard" with the "boutique cool".

Another smaller example is the "Stafford X Maxon" efforts which only appear here. They do a funky "Astro Tone" delay based on the AD-80, a "Char" signature Distortion and others.

The odd thing for me about the JB-2 is the knobs, they just look somehow wrong on a BOSS!

fuzzbuzzfuzz

Re: The Boss JB-2.

by **sclitheroe** » 12 Sep 2017, 03:15

> *fuzzbuzzfuzz wrote:*
> *In Japan they are another high priced yet interesting boutique brand with a bit of momentum building. Japan has a very strong love affair recently with cross pollinating companies, artists and products, with a A X B tag appearing on almost everything. So with that in mind its a smart move for the home base linking the "standard" with the "boutique cool".*
>
> *Another smaller example is the "Stafford X Maxon" efforts which only appear here. They do a funky "Astro Tone" delay based on the AD-80, a "Char" signature Distortion and others.*

That's pretty interesting, thanks for the insight!

sclitheroe

Re: The Boss JB-2.

by **DarrinPA** » 12 Sep 2017, 07:11

That mode knob is something Boss has needed for years, and I'm a bit surprised that they weren't the pioneers. This pedal doesn't interest me BUT it gives me hope for cool new pedals like a LS-3 that could combine *many* different possibilities. Imagine JB-2 style distortions in each LS-3 loop, that's a huge amount of possibilities.

I was just messing around with my LS-2 pedal last night and was using parallel distortion, it's very useful. As Charmonder said: If this was a new SD-2 (SD-3) I would be preordering one right now.

DarrinPA

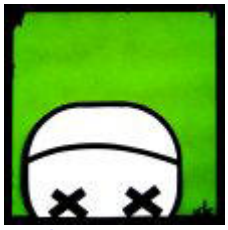
Re: The Boss JB-2.

by **natthu** » 12 Sep 2017, 07:39

> *DarrinPA wrote:*
> *...using parallel distortion, it's very useful...*

That's basically what I use my LS-2 for. You can get some really full bodied distortion this way.

I would be interested in an LS-3, but what would they change from the LS-2?... another loop?



natthu

Re: The Boss JB-2.

by **DarrinPA** » 12 Sep 2017, 08:03

If they used the JB-2 mode switch - it allows the two separate loops to be parallel or series or jumping from either of those modes to a single channel. The LS-2 can't do series, and running parallel doesn't let you jump back to one channel - only bypass.

EDIT - Also yes, adding body to distortion is the main thing I noticed when messing with parallel modes on the LS-2. Even leaving one channel clean gives me nice low end when mixed with distortion.

DarrinPA

Re: The Boss JB-2.

by **Gasgano** » 12 Sep 2017, 13:34

> *fuzzbuzzfuzz wrote:*
> *Japan has a very strong love affair recently with cross pollinating companies, artists and products, with a A X B tag appearing on almost everything. So with that in mind its a smart move for the home base linking the "standard" with the "boutique cool".*

Well this explains that. You're right we would not understand that choice at all, but knowing the cross-pollinating tendancy in Japan, it changes the whole view of the thing. This is much needed insight!

Gasgano

Re: The Boss JB-2.

by **fuzzbuzzfuzz** » 13 Sep 2017, 01:27

Here is the example I mentioned by Stafford X Maxon.

It's also worth noting that retailers here in Japan sell a range of BOSS pedals modified by other companies alongside the BOSS units on display (and of course the EHX modded by JHS too). So for example I could choose between numerous different BD-2s, the WEED version, the Soul Power version, plus the JHS and Keeley and more. Those mod/builders have quite a following and the concept of direct collaboration would therefore not be alien to customers. A walk into any Tokyo based store is absolutely mind blowing

fuzzbuzzfuzz

Re: The Boss JB-2.

by **sclitheroe** » 13 Sep 2017, 02:26

What's the Soul Power BD-2? Sounds intriguing :)
Edit: oh my goodness, just googled it....what has been seen cannot be unseen

sclitheroe

Re: The Boss JB-2.

by **fuzzbuzzfuzz** » 13 Sep 2017, 03:09

Hahaha! Indeed!

I vaguely watched his YouTube videos year ago (always a long set of "errr, errr, errr") as he demonstrated what one might consider ludicrously over modded BOSS mutations, and thought little more of it. More fool me, as he now has his own line of original pedals, plus the BOSS mods in stores nationwide!

fuzzbuzzfuzz

Re: The Boss JB-2.

by **fuzzbuzzfuzz** » 13 Sep 2017, 03:20

Come on, you know you love it!

fuzzbuzzfuzz

Re: The Boss JB-2.

by **sclitheroe** » 13 Sep 2017, 15:11

Burgs has a decent demo up:

https://youtu.be/h7pKokFeEGw

sclitheroe

Re: The Boss JB-2.

by **fuzzbuzzfuzz** » 15 Sep 2017, 07:46

Oddly enough I've just picked up a pedal with pretty much the same concept behind it - albeit 25-30 years prior!

fuzzbuzzfuzz

Re: The Boss JB-2.

by **sclitheroe** » 15 Sep 2017, 12:06

I um....might have done something rash after practicing last night...

sclitheroe

Re: The Boss JB-2.

by **BearBoy** » 15 Sep 2017, 12:33

BearBoy

Re: The Boss JB-2.

by **sclitheroe** » 15 Sep 2017, 15:38

Does being a BD-2 completist count as justification? I have my original, from the year they began manufacture, plus a BD-2w, so to keep the collection intact I require this new BD-2 variant, right? RIGHT?

sclitheroe

Re: The Boss JB-2.

by **Gasgano** » 15 Sep 2017, 15:40

OOOOHHHH YOU DID NOT!

Gasgano

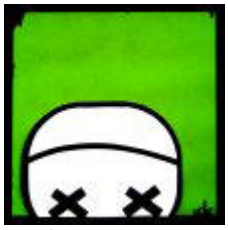
Re: The Boss JB-2.

by **natthu** » 16 Sep 2017, 03:10

> *sclitheroe wrote:*
> *Does being a BD-2 completist count as justification?...*

I count the mere fact that you want one (regardless of reason) as justification. No need to razzle dazzle me with your collection*

*although, feel free to post a pic of them all together - I would like to see that.



natthu

Re: The Boss JB-2.

by **Laurie** » 16 Sep 2017, 05:18

> *Sclitheroe wrote:*
> *I um....might have done something rash after practicing last night...*

There's an ointment for that rash...

Laurie

Re: The Boss JB-2.

by **Hexade** » 27 Sep 2017, 01:13

Would have been WAY cooler and less controversial if they had collaborated with someone like Devi Ever to make a proper fuzz pedal!

Hexade

Re: The Boss JB-2.

by **skugga** » 27 Sep 2017, 01:21

After her massive failed Kickstarter I couldn't see that happening.

In that vein though Dwarfcraft would have be a good bet. A bit of crazy mixed with some sensible from the Roland side.

Or Malekko who Roland have already collaborated with for modular gear. If they combined a 616 delay with a Boss Chorus I'd probably get whiplash trying to order it so fast.

skugga

Re: The Boss JB-2.

by **fuzzbuzzfuzz** » 27 Sep 2017, 03:37

Yes, indeed, big Malekko fan here, perhaps a Bit Crushing Delay or something radical?

fuzzbuzzfuzz

Re: The Boss JB-2.

by **sclitheroe** » 09 Oct 2017, 16:28

Obligatory ProGuitarShop demo by Andy:
https://youtu.be/lA-_C5sS7Nk

That Pedal Show also has a 51 minute (!) demo of the JB-2.
https://youtu.be/3xtjl1agDm4

I haven't watched it yet, but they run through a ton of information, including comparisons of the Angry Charlie side to the standalone version, and comparisons to the Marshall Guv'nor, which is the Angry Charlie's lineage.

That last point (that the AC comes from a Guv'nor) is interesting, and shows how nuanced internet outrage can be - when the JB-2 was released, there were a lot of comments on how the AC was a rip-off of the MI Crunchbox (I think that was the one)...which itself, it would seem, is a Guv'nor circuit tweak. Just more proof that there's nothing new under the sun in the stompbox world

Anyways, one would hope that the two links above give anyone everything they would need to know about the JB-2

sclitheroe

Re: The Boss JB-2.

by **fuzzbuzzfuzz** » 12 Oct 2017, 03:04

I think that the internet backlash (fickle in it's judgement nevertheless) was more in regards to the lifting of designs wholesale, repackaging and then claims of originality/development regarding "their" design in the music press etc. I suppose it comes down to evolution vs wholesale cloning, and bad feeling tends to arise when the smaller builders whose original innovations are incorporated into an updated design are "ripped off" wholesale by larger companies who then charge a great deal more. This of course is murky waters, fluctuating ideas of ethics, hypocrisy and hearsay, and a massive can of worms. In the boutique world particularly consumers tend to buy into an ethos as well as a product, passions thus flare. Nowadays with several of the larger players offering versions of popular circuits it's hard to see the wood from the trees.

fuzzbuzzfuzz