Boss PS-2 opinions

by **71Smallbox** » 09 Feb 2017, 14:58

I was thinking about adding this to my collection, but first I'd like your overall impressions of it.
I'd like to know if the octave effect is polyphonic? I know Slowdive used this all over the place. Does it do that synthy high-octave sound that's on Souvlaki?
Any issues to look out for besides the earlier noise issue?
Thanks

71Smallbox

Re: Boss PS-2 opinions

by **Pepe** » 09 Feb 2017, 15:17

I did a demo of the PS-2 years ago: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9jM7fF3OOe4

Over at the ILoveFuzz forum it's one of the most favoured BOSS pedals. It has a lot of character and some use it for the lo-fi digital delay modes only. It works polyphonic as EVERY pitch shifter (octavers are a different thing) and the high pitched sounds are very artificial, as you can hear in my demo. The PS-2 offers a full octave up and a full octave down.

Pepe

Re: Boss PS-2 opinions

by **charmonder** » 09 Feb 2017, 17:43

I wonder , I think you are in luck if you are looking for that sound, maybe even the ps-3 because both have feedback on the octave up pitch shifter. Fwiw, the the swell/symphonic patches on digitech space station sound a whole lot like souvlaki space station! This might be a coincidence

charmonder

Re: Boss PS-2 opinions

by **Mark123** » 09 Feb 2017, 22:44

Certainly a nice pedal. Only one octave as far as I remember. PS-3 does two octaves, one up one down. But also twice as expensive.

Mark123

Re: Boss PS-2 opinions

by **Mosher Zone** » 10 Feb 2017, 13:26

It's a cool pedal that i wish i had kept hold of, i also liked the Lo-Fi Delays on it. The Pitch Shifting is a little finicky to get in tune but once you do it's pretty cool.

Mosher Zone

Re: Boss PS-2 opinions

by **visserman** » 13 Feb 2017, 17:18

The delay sounds are as good as the early DD's, you may not be looking for that but it may be a bonus. As Pitch Shifter, it is simple but you still need to think about what you play, no intelligent Pitch Shifting here, but thinking about what you play whilst you are playing may not be such a bad thing after all.....

visserman

Re: Boss PS-2 opinions

by **Pepe** » 13 Feb 2017, 17:41

I have to disagree a bit on the DD-part. The repeats of the PS-2 are a lot more dirty. A PS-2 in delay mode is not exactly like a long chip DD-2/3.

Pepe

Re: Boss PS-2 opinions

by **fuzzbuzzfuzz** » 14 Feb 2017, 14:31

A desert island pedal for me if only one BOSS was taking the trip. As others have mentioned it has a great lo fi delay that gets lovely and "BIT-ty", and 2 seconds! You can also use it as a loop/hold with a bit of lateral thinking. Easy to dial in the Octave and more raw than the PS-3. I've favoured it for faux-reverb too.

Remember there are two versions, early models had a particular hmmm hindrance, noise? I forget!
But yes get one, damn it get two!

fuzzbuzzfuzz

Re: Boss PS-2 opinions

by **71Smallbox** » 15 Feb 2017, 15:32

Was the noise issue resolved by 1990? What are the years to look out for, 87-?

71Smallbox

Re: Boss PS-2 opinions

by **Pepe** » 15 Feb 2017, 15:46

At the old BossArea site there was information about that:

"The earliest PS-2s suffered from high frequency noise. This was alleviated from serial number 845800 but earlier units can be modified to the later specification by changing 3 capacitors. Production was moved from Japan to Taiwan early 1992."

845800 is November 1987 - the second production month! So it's overall pretty unlikely that you're going to receive a model with the noise issue.

Pepe

Re: Boss PS-2 opinions

by **visserman** » 13 Mar 2017, 15:37

> *Pepe wrote:*
> *I have to disagree a bit on the DD-part. The repeats of the PS-2 are a lot more dirty. A PS-2 in delay mode is not exactly like a long chip DD-2/3.*

True, I had forgotten, it really is dirty, now that may be a good thing for some people. Pedal feels primitive! Like it a lot. The PS-3 feels too digital in some ways.

By using the Tuner you can get your Pitch Shift in near-perfect condition, Fantastic!!

visserman