Boss CS-2

by iSoft » 26 Oct 2015, 16:29

Hi everyone,

U just have a question about this wonderful compressor.
I've just ordered a Boss CS-2 with serial number "881907".
I checked on BossArea and see that this serial number was built in March 1988, or, as BossArea says, the CS-2 has only been made from 1981 to 1986.

Can someone explain me the deal ?

Thanks !

iSoft

Re: Boss CS-2

by **Joske_Turbo** » 26 Oct 2015, 16:42

Hi iSoft, welcome to the forum!

To answer your question: I believe the production span on Bossarea are the dates Boss themselves provide, but those aren't always correct, so it's quite common to come across a pedal that was built after the final production year. I'm not 100% sure on this but someone will correct me if needed

Joske_Turbo

Re: Boss CS-2

by **Dirk** » 26 Oct 2015, 16:43

Nice exemplar you have there, looks minty!

The production date of '88 is probably correct.
We've seen other pedals with dates far in excess of 2 years.
The production years on Bossarea.com come from the Boss book, but we found out throughout the years that there's a lot of inconsistency with it. The serial number decoder is pretty trustworthy, up until 95% maybe. There are some numbers it just can't decode either.

Dirk

Re: Boss CS-2

by **iSoft** » 26 Oct 2015, 22:39

Hi and thanks for your fast answers
Yeah, i found it in Holland, nearly Mint ! really great exemplar

Thanks for this, didn't know why the years were not matching but now I understand
I have another CS-2 from 84, when it will arrive, i'll let you know if they sound exactly the same or if there are notable differences

iSoft

Re: Boss CS-2

by **Pieces Of The Night** » 27 Oct 2015, 02:06

I think the thing with the Boss book dates have to do with the years the pedals were marketed not necessarily their production years. Like the ce-2 it in the book it lists it as being ended in 85 or 86 (i forget which) but we know it was still sold through the late 80's and has mit versions of it even though most Boss promotional material from those time periods omit it. Like you said the dates from bossarea are from the book i think over the years have been confirmed wrong

Pieces Of The Night

Re: Boss CS-2

by **dogload** » 29 Oct 2015, 10:29

This may be a stupid question, and probably difficult to answer objectively, but WHY is the CS-2 so highly regarded? And how come they are suddenly so expensive/ desirable?

I've had one for 15 years or so, and although I've had it on my board I hardly ever switched it on, as I always find it to be a little bit 'meh'. Not very exciting or lively. I know it's a compressor so isn't meant to be too interesting, but the CS-1 is so much more fun - you know it's doing something when you step on it! And again I know compressors are supposed to be 'transparent' but the CS-2... I don't know.

Am I missing something?

dogload

Re: Boss CS-2

by **zentropa** » 29 Oct 2015, 19:27

Hrm, I wouldn't say they are suddenly expensive as they seemed to have a pretty quick rise in price about 10 years ago and they seem to be fairly stable to that line (~$60-80 for a beat one, $80-120 for a clean one). As for why they are at that price point I think there are a few factors:
-The CS-3 seems to be fairly despised overall for being too squished.
-The CS-2 seems to boost some desirable frequencies.
-I'm guessing someone famous started using one (this at least explains why CS-2's are more valuable than CS-1's).

zentropa

Re: Boss CS-2

by **Mark123** » 29 Oct 2015, 23:09

I think it is a very good, mild compressor, especially for always-on purposes. The downside is that of all the boss pedals that i have tested it degrades the guitar tone the most. I stopped using it for that reason, otherwise it would be my compressor of choice. I like the CS-1 a lot but for occassional use only. Especially in the treble mode, perfect for single note rhythmic lines. Mostly use the CS-3 though which just does what i think a comprssor should do. As long as the sustain knob is kept below noon. Can be dialled in close to my CS-1 setting as well. I do like all of them in fact.

Mark123

Re: Boss CS-2

by **dogload** » 30 Oct 2015, 11:30

Must be I've only just noticed the price of CS-2s then. I always just looked for CS-1s but I was very surprised to see how much they were commanding on Ebay.

dogload

Re: Boss CS-2

by **Dirk** » 30 Oct 2015, 17:25

> *zentropa wrote:*
> *I'm guessing someone famous started using one.*

David Gilmour and Juan Alderete are the ones I can think of.

Dirk

Re: Boss CS-2

by **Pieces Of The Night** » 30 Oct 2015, 19:23

Gilmour was one of the ones I first though of but I think he retired it around 2001/02. Since then he's been using: Demeter Compulator,MXR Dynacomp, and a Effectrode PC-2A Compressor

Pieces Of The Night