The Holy Trinity: VB-2, SP-1, SG-1

by **Joske_Turbo** » 16 May 2018, 14:37

Hello everybody

After years of being mainly a player my tendency to collect Boss pedals is quickly coming back over the last few months.
I'm still a student now and I never have much money, but in the long term I would love to get my hands on the three most rare Boss pedals, but at the moment I really can't see myself paying the ridiculous prices for them.
A question for you guys, just out of interest, as I know some of you are proud owners of these: how did you get them? Were you very lucky or did you pay the standard price? I'm curious to hear your stories!

Joske_Turbo

Re: The Holy Trinity: VB-2, SP-1, SG-1

by **tbader** » 17 May 2018, 04:01

I have and love the VB-2, but I would never pay anywhere close to asking prices for one.

I got really lucky when I found my VB-2. An online website had it incorrectly listed as a VB-2w at the used VB-2w price of $160. It had the box and manual, as well.

And, I have little interest in the SP-1 or SG-1...especially at those prices.

I'd pick the PQ-4 over the SP-1, and a volume pedal over the SG-1 any day of the week.

tbader

Re: The Holy Trinity: VB-2, SP-1, SG-1

by **tbader** » 17 May 2018, 04:04

Here's a pic, just for the fun of it.

tbader

Re: The Holy Trinity: VB-2, SP-1, SG-1

by **Mark123** » 17 May 2018, 07:30

To be so lucky to find one one for cheap (and actually get a hold of it) you'd have to be monitoring your local second hand list day and night. I once saw a vb-2 listed for 50 euros and offered 100 by email (don't start bidding online) and actually got it. Which was a miracle I think and the seller must have been a man of his word. In most cases I guess you won't get the pedal and it might be a frustrating affair.
I sold mine after a month or two for twice what I paid. I could have gotten more but it is now in the hands of a touring pro, and I like that (rather than in a drawer).
They're not the most useful of pedals, that's why they are rare. It'd be best to stay away from collecting, if you can

Mark123

Re: The Holy Trinity: VB-2, SP-1, SG-1

by **Pepe** » 17 May 2018, 07:48

I bought an AW-2 and a VB-2 for 60 EUR in total including shipping two years ago. The seller thought the VB-2 was defective - it wasn't. Very nice pedal with cool features, but I had no real use for it. So I sold it and I have no real interest in buying a VB-2w.

A friend of mine loaned me the SG-1 to do a (pretty popular) demo. For my normal guitar playing I have absolutely no use for an SG-1. I would never ever pay 300 EUR for such a pedal. Take an NF-1, mod it to SG-1 specs and you have an affordable Slow Gear model. It can be that easy - if you're not a collector.

The SP-1 is something that I might like to try as well, but just like tbader I think that the PQ-4 is superior to the rare red pedal.

Pepe

Re: The Holy Trinity: VB-2, SP-1, SG-1

by **The_Doc** » 17 May 2018, 13:44

I am lucky enough to have all three and each one came from members of this forum

It happened over a period of a couple of years and I guess I was fortunate to be in a position to buy them when they came up for sale. As always, the transactions were 100% perfect and I think I paid roughly market prices at that time. The sellers should answer that one really I guess

I never regretted adding them to the collection and I'm still on the lookout for a boxed SP-1 and VB-2 ... some chance !

The_Doc

Re: The Holy Trinity: VB-2, SP-1, SG-1

by **bossarea** » 17 May 2018, 15:25

I paid about $250-$300 each on Ebay. None of them had boxes or manual.
Kept them for about 10 years and sold them 2015/16 for about the same price as I bought them for.

bossarea

Re: The Holy Trinity: VB-2, SP-1, SG-1

by **visserman** » 22 May 2018, 14:07

Hmmm I think we hear similar things here: When you want any of those pedals you will have to fork out the asking price. Some may be lucky but most of us will agree that is what they had to do to get them.

Are they worth it? Of course not, they are simply pedals, but that is another matter.

Most of those pedals create sounds which you can find in other pedals as well. Most of my curiosity comes from that fact: Once You know, you will be able to create those sounds in other ways.

Personally I feel the VB-2 may be the most usable one, but anyone does have his own idea.

There is also the question: Are you a player or a collector, or a bit of both?
What I would suggest to anyone is: Find a friend who has one of those, and see if you can borrow it for a little while. Using it yourself is the best experience and will answer you the question whether you really like to own one for yourself or not.

visserman

Re: The Holy Trinity: VB-2, SP-1, SG-1

by **Markob** » 22 May 2018, 18:01

I could't agree more with visserman. Well said.

I'm a "bit of both" and agree that the VB-2 may be the most usable one of the three. Will the pedal sound as good as a vintage Fender harmonic, bias-modulated or photo-cell? Probabley not? Maybe? Ear of the beholder. I have Fender amps with each of these. I love them all for different reasons and have no real "need" for a VB-2. But I'd snatch one up in a minute if the time was right.

Markob

Re: The Holy Trinity: VB-2, SP-1, SG-1

by **Pepe** » 22 May 2018, 18:36

The VB-2 sounds so clean and clear as if it the signal went through the best digital sound processors. It has nothing in common with the vintage sound of the Fender circuits. For an early '80s and analog pedal it is purely overwhelming.

Pepe

Re: The Holy Trinity: VB-2, SP-1, SG-1

by **fuzzbuzzfuzz** » 24 May 2018, 00:59

All this VB-2 talk and I'll have to snag a WAZA!

Vintage models go for $300-$400 here (or up to 40,000 in yen), which is rather rich for my tastes. However that value hasn't increased due to the WAZA and used WAZA models are now commanding $140 or so. I'd love one despite gaining numerous vibrato pedals over the course of the last 6 months. Graham Coxon of Blur is an avowed user of the original.

At the moment I have a lovely blue dual speed SIB Vibromatic on board, smooth, solid, lovely tones....and blue

fuzzbuzzfuzz

Re: The Holy Trinity: VB-2, SP-1, SG-1

by **visserman** » 29 May 2018, 11:51

What you mentioned about price does not surprise me, there will always be a crowd who would want the original, hence price being fairly stable. I think it has been like that since people started to talk about the VB-2.

Is the vintage one very different from the WAZA? I do not know, maybe a bit similar as the reintroduction of sound of analogue delay, which can be found on various Boss delays such as DD-7. Compare this sound to a DM-2 and how do they differ? Vintage analogue delays have a much shorter delay time.Good thing about this is: You have a choice how long you would like that analogue delay to sound.

visserman

Re: The Holy Trinity: VB-2, SP-1, SG-1

by **visserman** » 29 May 2018, 11:54

> *Markob wrote:*
> *I could't agree more with visserman. Well said.*
>
> *I'm a "bit of both" and agree that the VB-2 may be the most usable one of the three. Will the pedal sound as good as a vintage Fender harmonic, bias-modulated or photo-cell? Probabley not? Maybe? Ear of the beholder. I have Fender amps with each of these. I love them all for different reasons and have no real "need" for a VB-2. But I'd snatch one up in a minute if the time was right.*

To hear a similar sound coming from different pedals/amps can be inspiring in itself. Once you have done the A/B test you may just enjoy the differences.
There are so many vibrato pedal, a lot of them sound so alike, some offer different features and other things and this may be just the thing which can inspire you at a particular moment in time.

Guess what about the Fender thing you mentioned: You try various Fender amps and their Vibrato and they all sound different as well.

visserman

Re: The Holy Trinity: VB-2, SP-1, SG-1

by **visserman** » 29 May 2018, 11:57

> *Pepe wrote:*
> *The VB-2 sounds so clean and clear as if it the signal went through the best digital sound processors. It has nothing in common with the vintage sound of the Fender circuits. For an early '80s and analog pedal it is purely overwhelming.*

Pepe have you done any A/B with older VB-2's and the WAZA one? What you mention may relate to the WAZA one.

Of course VB-2 does not sound like a Fender circuit, but the VB-2 does also not sound like some other vibrato pedals. Is it clean? It does have the Boss sound, I think we all know what that means here. Compare the Boss sound to Electro Harmonics and then the mention of "Clean" becomes ever clearer!

visserman

Re: The Holy Trinity: VB-2, SP-1, SG-1

by **Pepe** » 29 May 2018, 13:00

I haven't tried the Waza Craft model. But the original VB-2 sounds as if you would only use your guitar's vibrato arm. It doesn't alter the original sound and that's why I was stunned when I first tried it. It's the best and most useful vibrato pedal that I have come across.

http://www.youtube.com/v/br22Fjz2-7w

Worst vibrato pedal ever: Rocktron Vertigo Vibe. Skip that one!

Pepe

Re: The Holy Trinity: VB-2, SP-1, SG-1

by **StratmanSteve** » 01 Jun 2018, 22:43

Bought a brand new VB-2 back in the day. About 15 years ago, I loaned it to someone and never got it back. I know they have become valuable, but I never found a good use for it so I'm not heartbroken that it's gone.

Unlike others, I have a use for the SG-1, especially a Waza if it comes with the ability to create longer swells. Is an SG-1w coming?

StratmanSteve

Re: The Holy Trinity: VB-2, SP-1, SG-1

by **Pepe** » 01 Jun 2018, 22:52

> *StratmanSteve wrote:*
> *Unlike others, I have a use for the SG-1,* ***especially a Waza if it comes with the ability to create longer swells.*** *Is an SG-1w coming?*

This would be a great option. The swell time is way too short.

Pepe

Re: The Holy Trinity: VB-2, SP-1, SG-1

by **visserman** » 02 Jun 2018, 12:10

Okay Pepe I think I misunderstood your original post.

visserman

Re: The Holy Trinity: VB-2, SP-1, SG-1

by **bigtone** » 22 Jan 2019, 20:43

I found my really nice looking VB2 at a local music store a couple years ago. It was marked $175. That was lower than most out there and it was the only one I have seen locally in well over 10 years. I bought it just because it's rare and collectable and if I choose to sell it, I will not go backwards.

bigtone

Re: The Holy Trinity: VB-2, SP-1, SG-1

by **Pepe** » 25 Jan 2019, 17:25

Hey, bigtone! Nice to see you again. We've moved to this place a while ago:

www.bossareaforum.com/Forum

Pepe

Re: The Holy Trinity: VB-2, SP-1, SG-1

by **bigtone** » 04 Feb 2019, 19:34

HI!
I'll head over and register!

bigtone

Re: The Holy Trinity: VB-2, SP-1, SG-1

by **Pepe** » 06 Feb 2019, 23:54

Your account should be activated now.

Pepe

Re: The Holy Trinity: VB-2, SP-1, SG-1

by **Boogieman** » 20 Feb 2019, 09:28

> *Pepe wrote:*

This would be a great option. The swell time is way too short.

If Boss would release a Waza version of the the SG-1, I probably would buy one anyway.

Boogieman