Classic Dirt Pedals Most People Should Know

by **visserman** » 26 Jun 2014, 17:55

Okay forget "should know".....

Only a handful, but that is the idea.

Boss OD-1
Ibanez TS-808
Pro Co Rat (any version really)
MXR Dist +

I can think of a few others, but since I do not own them let me not mention them.

go for pedals you think are unique in sound, no matter what others feel about it. Go also for big names, no "minority pedals" really as anything is possible with them.
Many pedals are in some ways similar. Some of you may say MXR is general sounding one, to my ears it is good and maybe some of the others are based on this idea.
Boss DS-1 is very good, more versatile but the sound of the MXR is there, maybe MXR was first, who knows eh?, so I leave the DS-1 out!

visserman

Re: Classic Dirt Pedals Most People Should Know

by **BearBoy** » 26 Jun 2014, 19:52

EHX Big Muff

BearBoy

Re: Classic Dirt Pedals Most People Should Know

by **sclitheroe** » 27 Jun 2014, 00:39

Are you listing pedals everyone should recognize the tone of? Or that they should try or at least know of because they are recognized as being timeless/classic/benchmark standards?

Either way, the DS-1 should completely be on that list.

And the Fuzz Face.

sclitheroe

Re: Classic Dirt Pedals Most People Should Know

by **Jeremy** » 27 Jun 2014, 05:31

and then there's the variants and family trees, eg:

MXR D+ --> DOD 250 --> Voodoo Lab Overdrive --> Fulltone OCD

Jeremy

Re: Classic Dirt Pedals Most People Should Know

by **visserman** » 27 Jun 2014, 13:54

> *Sclitheroe wrote:*
> *Are you listing pedals everyone should recognize the tone of? Or that they should try or at least know of because they are recognized as being timeless/classic/benchmark standards?*
>
> *Either way, the DS-1 should completely be on that list.*
>
> *And the Fuzz Face.*

Pedals which have an all time, classic tone, and yes, hence people should try them.

Bearboy, the Muff is the one I have yet to try. I was thinking about that one in my first post.

Maybe this list could also function as a guide to the "pedals you want to keep" when you want to trim down on your dirt pedals.

visserman

Re: Classic Dirt Pedals Most People Should Know

by **Ricey** » 29 Jun 2014, 03:05

All the above, plus:
TS-9
BD-2
Tone Bender
HM-2
Marshall Guv'nor
SD-1
MT-2

Ricey

Re: Classic Dirt Pedals Most People Should Know

by **charmonder** » 29 Jun 2014, 03:32

agreed 100%!! tone bender for one, has just as much history as fuzz face if not more. Guvnor I think is lesser used but its really one of the most perfect distortion pedals ever designed. sadly the jacks were prone to failure so I don't think there are many original guvnors hanging around anymore.

charmonder

Re: Classic Dirt Pedals Most People Should Know

by **Ricey** » 29 Jun 2014, 16:31

I didn't know that about the Guv'nor jacks. Why are they so failure prone? Are they easily replaced?

Ricey

Re: Classic Dirt Pedals Most People Should Know

by **charmonder** » 15 Jul 2014, 02:39

guide to replacing the guvnor jack: http://www.effectsbay.com/2012/02/marshall-guvnor-repair/
as you can see there is a bit of desoldering involved, and even then the jacks are just at a certain angle that it's prone to breakage.

I'm not sure about the reissue GV-2, I'm sure it sounds good too but the danelectro daddy-O overdrive (big metal pedal, cream colored paint, buffered bypass) is extremely close to the same sound as the original guvnor! with the added bonus of a better bypass circuit and fraction of the price. I've read there are just a few mods that get it sounding 100% the same as the original guvnor.

charmonder

Re: Classic Dirt Pedals Most People Should Know

by **fenderjapan** » 15 Jul 2014, 18:52

Google search results... not suggesting this list is authoritative, just interesting to look at

"Boss MT-2" - 30,600,000 hits
"Boss DS-1" - 25,000,000 hits
"Boss SD-1" - 17,300,000 hits
"Pro Co Rat" - 11,500,000 hits
"Dod 250" - 8,990,000 hits

"Tube Screamer" - 2,890,000 hits
"Fuzz Face" - 2,670,000 hits
"Big Muff" - 1,270,000 hits

"Mxr Distortion +" - 267,000 hits
"Klon Centaur" - 135,000 hits

"Tube Driver" yields 106,000,000 hits, likely due to things other than pedals

fenderjapan

Re: Classic Dirt Pedals Most People Should Know

by **sclitheroe** » 15 Jul 2014, 19:01

The disparity in hits for DS-1 vs Big Muff is a little shocking to me. I know the DS-1 is a huge seller, but I would have thought the Muff would be right up there. But it's not even close.

sclitheroe

Re: Classic Dirt Pedals Most People Should Know

by **fenderjapan** » 15 Jul 2014, 19:12

There may be some google-fu with knowing how to type things in that would lead to more meaningful results. People often refer to the Big Muff as just the Muff, but Muff yields a billion unrelated results. Boss DS-1 there is no mistaking and there are few alternate names.

fenderjapan

Re: Classic Dirt Pedals Most People Should Know

by **Pepe** » 15 Jul 2014, 20:13

> *Fenderjapan wrote:*
> *"Tube Screamer" - 2,890,000 hits*

Is "Tubescreamer" as one word in that number already?

Pepe

Re: Classic Dirt Pedals Most People Should Know

by **Pieces Of The Night** » 15 Jul 2014, 20:33

dod super distortion 56k hits and i think many of them are due to distortion being in the name. It's not a great pedal but very lo-fi sounding.

Pieces Of The Night

Re: Classic Dirt Pedals Most People Should Know

by **fenderjapan** » 16 Jul 2014, 19:47

> *Pepe wrote:*
> *Is "Tubescreamer" as one word in that number already?*

No, the numbers are for the exact phrase typed in the quotes but not including the quotes...

"Tubescreamer" yields 1,490,000 results. Google does automatically include results for the two words split in half as long as the words are next to each other, whereas searching "Tube Screamer" includes more combinations "I had a tube and it was a real screamer"

Perhaps searching "Tubescreamer" yields more accurate results.

Now a caveat is that i did not include the actual quotes when i searched... if you put the actual quotes in the search it only takes the literal phrase you have typed in. Searching "Boss DS-1" (without quotes) includes results such as "My favorite pedal is the DS-1 by Boss" whereas searching with quotes would not include those results

fenderjapan

Re: Classic Dirt Pedals Most People Should Know

by **fenderjapan** » 16 Jul 2014, 19:52

> *Pieces Of The Night wrote:*
> *dod super distortion 56k hits and i think many of them are due to distortion being in the name. It's not a great pedal but very lo-fi sounding.*

Also if someone was using a Dimarzio Super Distortion with their DOD 250 this would be included in the results unless you used quotations

Sorry if I derailed this thread with my search engine science

fenderjapan

Re: Classic Dirt Pedals Most People Should Know

by **Pieces Of The Night** » 16 Jul 2014, 19:59

If you use quotes the number drops by almost half to 27,700 It's not a very popular pedal. Most Dod's are like that outside of the 250

Pieces Of The Night

Re: Classic Dirt Pedals Most People Should Know

by **sclitheroe** » 17 Jul 2014, 01:42

Even more interesting in our unscientific survey - searching for Boss BD-2 yields 31,000,000 hits, making it more popular than any of the pedals listed so far.

sclitheroe

Re: Classic Dirt Pedals Most People Should Know

by **Pepe** » 17 Jul 2014, 07:09

Is "BD-2" also an abbreviation of a computer game? If you search for "boss" at YouTube, you get a list of tons of game walkthrough videos.

Pepe

Re: Classic Dirt Pedals Most People Should Know

by **fenderjapan** » 24 Jul 2014, 05:35

interesting i didnt even think to put the blues driver in there but it appears as though its comparable to many of the other boss pedals in hits.

another thing to take into account with hits is the sheer number of dealers that carry some of these pedals, boss for example

fenderjapan

Re: Classic Dirt Pedals Most People Should Know

by **StratmanSteve** » 18 Aug 2014, 00:45

How about the Fender Blender?

StratmanSteve

Re: Classic Dirt Pedals Most People Should Know

by **bigtone** » 03 Sep 2014, 19:50

Speaking of Lineage, the **Fuzz Face** is at the root of the Fuzz family tree, just as the Dist +/DS-1 is the Distortion tree and the TS-9/SD-1 the OD tree. (The Big Muff is planted somewhere in between the fuzz and distortion trees, 😂)
It's wild that there are sooooo many variations/derivatives of really just a handful of dirt pedal designs.

bigtone

Re: Classic Dirt Pedals Most People Should Know

by **Monotremata** » 14 Oct 2014, 06:44

Actually the Big Muff belongs in the Fuzz Face/Tonebender lineage, and I'd put the Tone Bender as the root. The Muff circuit was essentially the same as one of the later (the three knob I think?) Tone Benders. I think the FF itself was a variant on the Mk2 TB. I think the Maestro was first either way..

Monotremata

Re: Classic Dirt Pedals Most People Should Know

by **Mosher Zone** » 18 Oct 2014, 11:15

Classics I own:
HM-2
Pro Co Rat

Classics I used to own:
DS-1
Ibanez Super Tube Screamer
SD-1

An honourable mention goes to the Tech 21 XXL, that was a unique pedal that I haven't seen about that much, should have kept mine.

And my current pedal for the last 4 years Line 6 Uber Metal.

Mosher Zone

Re: Classic Dirt Pedals Most People Should Know

by **Pepe** » 18 Oct 2014, 12:00

I like the selection of Classics that you kept!

Pepe

Re: Classic Dirt Pedals Most People Should Know

by **Mosher Zone** » 18 Oct 2014, 12:21

I could never bring myself to part with any of those no matter how much money I needed to pick up other stuff.

Mosher Zone

Re: Classic Dirt Pedals Most People Should Know

by **Guga Ramone** » 18 Oct 2014, 20:25

Judging by your name (Mosher Zone) and your pedals selection (Uber Metal and HM-2) I can see that you like Entombed and the Sunlight Studio Buzzsaw tone, right? hehehe Have you compared the HM-2 and the Rat side by side? I own a Rat and have owned the HM-2 but never both at the same time to do the comparison. If memory serves me well, they have something in common, right?

Cheers, mate!

Guga Ramone

Re: Classic Dirt Pedals Most People Should Know

by **Mosher Zone** » 18 Oct 2014, 20:56

I agree, they do have a lot in common but I find the HM-2 smoother & all round more metally if that makes sense. One thing that the Rat does that I haven't heard any other pedal do is when you max out the drive & dig in real hard it almost cuts out, gives a real speaker tearing sludgy sound.

Always fancied the dual rack version, R2DU, Someday.
Mosher Zone

Re: Classic Dirt Pedals Most People Should Know

by **Guga Ramone** » 19 Oct 2014, 16:52

Nice, makes me want to get another HM-2 to compare. I never perceived this "cut out" on the Rat. On the DS-1, yes. It normally happens when my pickup is to close to the strings and send a signal that is too hot for the op amp of the circuit to manage. Since I lowered the pickups a little, this "sag" stopped. I will play more with the pickup height and the Rat to see if I can hear this on this pedal too.

Guga Ramone

Re: Classic Dirt Pedals Most People Should Know

by **Mosher Zone** » 19 Oct 2014, 17:14

I never noticed it on the DS-1 when I had it. The thing I'm talking about with the rat isn't a bad thing, it must be what you said about the signal being to hot for it handle, I use Duncan Distortions but I don't have them that close to the strings.

This is kinda what I mean, check out the beginning & the middle when the guitar goes by itself.
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tqFq9bRiD5c

Mosher Zone

Re: Classic Dirt Pedals Most People Should Know

by **Guga Ramone** » 19 Oct 2014, 21:58

Yeah, i messed around with the pickup height on my Squier Jagmaster (JB on the bridge) and got this sag when it was closer to the strings. Another pedal that makes this is the MXR Custom 78 Badass Distortion, which is a

modded DS-1. Particularly, I don't like this effect, but that Foo Fighters song is awesome, even with this "strange" sound. Hehehe

Guga Ramone

Re: Classic Dirt Pedals Most People Should Know

by **Mosher Zone** » 20 Oct 2014, 00:26

Yeah, it's a great tune.

Mosher Zone

Re: Classic Dirt Pedals Most People Should Know

by **visserman** » 07 Nov 2014, 12:58

> *bigtone wrote:*
> *Speaking of Lineage, the **Fuzz Face** is at the root of the Fuzz family tree, just as the Dist +/DS-1 is the Distortion tree and the TS-9/SD-1 the OD tree. (The Big Muff is planted somewhere in between the fuzz and distortion trees,)*
> *It's wild that there are sooooo many variations/derivatives of really just a handful of dirt pedal designs.*

I like how you look at them as families, and true, there are only a handful of dirt designs and plenty of variations, same with amps!!!! and guitars.....

visserman

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