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Roland ME-50

Boss ME-50 Multi-Effects Guitar Pedal

Model: ME-50 | Brand: Boss

1. OVERVIEW

The Boss ME-50 Multi-Effects Guitar Pedal is a comprehensive unit designed to provide guitarists with a wide array of effects in a single, user-friendly interface. It streamlines your setup by integrating various essential effects, eliminating the need for multiple individual pedals. This compact unit is suitable for both novice effects users and seasoned musicians looking for versatile tone-shaping capabilities.



Figure 1: Top view of the Boss ME-50 Multi-Effects Guitar Pedal, showcasing its intuitive layout of knobs and footswitches.

2. KEY FEATURES

- **Tone Modify Function:** Offers preset EQ settings for quick tone editing.
- **Comprehensive Effects:** Includes Compressor, Overdrive/Distortion, Modulation (Chorus, Phaser, Flanger, Harmonist, Tremolo, Pan, Vibrato, UNI-V, Rotary), Delay, and Reverb.
- **COSM Overdrive/Distortion:** Features killer COSM (Composite Object Sound Modeling) effects, including a unique "Square" synth sound.
- **User-Friendly Interface:** Dedicated knobs for each effect section eliminate the need for complex menu navigation.

- **Built-in Tuner:** Accessible via footswitches for convenient on-the-fly tuning.
- **Expression Pedal:** Provides real-time control over effects like Foot Volume, Wah, Resonance, Voice, Ring Modulator, and Octave Bend (+1 OCTAVE, -1 OCTAVE).
- **High-Quality Audio:** Features 24-bit processing and a 44.1 kHz sampling frequency for clear sound.
- **Durable Construction:** Housed in a rugged metal case designed for reliability.

3. SETUP

3.1 Power Connection

Connect the included BOSS PSA series AC Adaptor to the DC IN jack on the rear panel of the ME-50. Ensure the adaptor is securely plugged into a compatible power outlet. The unit requires 9 Volts DC power at 50 Milliamps.

3.2 Connecting to Guitar and Amplifier

Use standard 1/4-inch instrument cables for all audio connections.

1. Connect your guitar to the **INPUT** jack on the rear panel.
2. Connect the **GUITAR AMP L (MONO)** output jack to your guitar amplifier's input. For stereo output, connect both L and R output jacks to two separate amplifiers or a stereo input system.
3. The **PHONES** jack allows for headphone monitoring.
4. The **AUX IN** jack can be used to connect external audio devices for practice.



Figure 2: Rear panel of the Boss ME-50, showing input, output, and power connections.

4. OPERATING THE ME-50

The ME-50 features a straightforward, knob-based interface for intuitive control over its effects.



Figure 3: Close-up view of the Boss ME-50's control panel, highlighting the dedicated knobs for each effect section.

4.1 Tuner Function

To activate the built-in tuner, simultaneously press the **OD/DS** and **MOD** footswitches. The display will show the note being played, allowing for precise tuning. Press any footswitch again to exit tuner mode.

4.2 Effect Sections

Each effect section has dedicated knobs for quick adjustments. Turn the **TYPE** knob to select the desired effect variation within each section, then use the other knobs to fine-tune parameters.

- **Tone Modify:** Adjusts overall tonal characteristics.
- **Compressor/Noise Suppressor:** Controls dynamics and reduces unwanted noise.
- **Overdrive/Distortion:** Offers various drive types from subtle overdrive to heavy distortion.
- **Modulation:** Provides a range of time-based and pitch-based effects.
- **Delay:** Controls echo effects, including time, feedback, and level. Tap tempo is available for precise delay timing.
- **Reverb:** Adds spatial ambiance with different reverb types (Room, Hall, Plate, Spring).

4.3 Expression Pedal

The integrated expression pedal allows for real-time control over various parameters. Use the **PEDAL MODE SW** to select the desired function for the expression pedal:

- **Foot Volume:** Controls the overall output volume.
- **Wah:** Classic wah-wah effect.
- **Resonance:** Adjusts the resonance of certain effects.
- **Voice:** Modifies vocal-like characteristics.
- **Ring Modulator:** Creates metallic, bell-like tones.
- **Bend (+1 OCTAVE, -1 OCTAVE):** Shifts pitch up or down by an octave.



Figure 4: Angled view of the Boss ME-50, highlighting the expression pedal and its functions.

5. MAINTENANCE

To ensure the longevity and optimal performance of your Boss ME-50, follow these maintenance guidelines:

- **Cleaning:** Wipe the unit regularly with a soft, dry cloth. Avoid using abrasive cleaners, waxes, or solvents.
- **Storage:** Store the pedal in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight, extreme temperatures, and high humidity. When not in use for extended periods, disconnect the AC adaptor.
- **Handling:** While the ME-50 features a robust metal construction, avoid dropping the unit or subjecting it to excessive force.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your ME-50, try the following common troubleshooting steps:

- **No Sound:**
 - Ensure all cables (guitar, amplifier, power) are securely connected.
 - Verify the AC adaptor is functioning and plugged into a live outlet.
 - Check the volume levels on your guitar, ME-50, and amplifier.
 - Ensure the tuner is not active (press OD/DS and MOD footswitches simultaneously to toggle).
- **Distorted/Unwanted Sound:**
 - Adjust the gain/drive knobs in the Overdrive/Distortion section.
 - Check the Noise Suppressor (NS) threshold to eliminate hum or hiss.
 - Ensure proper impedance matching between your guitar, pedal, and amplifier.

- **Effects Not Engaging:**

- Verify that the individual effect sections are activated (indicated by their respective LEDs).
- Check the E.Level (Effect Level) knobs for each effect to ensure the effect signal is audible.

7. SPECIFICATIONS

Attribute	Value
Item Model Number	ME-50
Item Weight	8.3 pounds
Product Dimensions	18.4 x 12.7 x 5.9 inches
Sampling Frequency	44.1 kHz
Power Source	DC Power Supply (BOSS PSA series AC Adaptor included)
Voltage	9 Volts
Amperage	50 Milliamps
Hardware Interface	1/4-inch Audio
Signal Format	Analog

8. WARRANTY & SUPPORT

The Boss ME-50 Multi-Effects Guitar Pedal comes with a manufacturer's warranty covering defects in materials and workmanship. For detailed warranty information, product registration, or technical support, please refer to the official Roland (Boss) website or contact their customer service department. Keep your proof of purchase for warranty claims.

For further assistance, visit the [Roland Store on Amazon](#).