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### BOSS SD-1

## BOSS SD-1 Super Overdrive Pedal Instruction Manual

Model: SD-1

### 1. INTRODUCTION

The BOSS SD-1 Super Overdrive pedal is a legendary guitar effects unit known for its rich, smooth, and highly musical overdrive tones. Since its release in 1981, it has been a foundational gain pedal for guitarists across various musical genres. The SD-1 features a revolutionary asymmetrical clipping circuit, derived from the original OD-1 Overdrive, which produces tube-like overdrive characteristics. This manual provides detailed instructions for setting up, operating, maintaining, and troubleshooting your SD-1 pedal.





Figure 1: BOSS SD-1 Super Overdrive Pedal

## 2. KEY FEATURES

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- Legendary BOSS overdrive pedal with genre-defining sound and feel.
- Unique asymmetrical clipping circuit produces tube-like overdrive characteristics.
- Stacks well with boost, overdrive, and distortion pedals.
- Dynamic tone options from crisp rhythms to soaring leads.
- Easy-to-use controls for intuitive sound shaping.
- Durable metal construction for reliable performance.

## 3. CONTROLS AND CONNECTIONS

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The SD-1 pedal features a straightforward control layout for easy operation. Familiarize yourself with the following components:



Figure 2: SD-1 Control Layout

- **LEVEL Knob:** Adjusts the overall output volume of the pedal.
- **TONE Knob:** Controls the tonal character, from mellow to bright.
- **DRIVE Knob:** Adjusts the amount of overdrive/gain applied to the signal.
- **INPUT Jack:** Connect your guitar or the output of a preceding effect pedal here.
- **OUTPUT Jack:** Connect to your amplifier or the input of the next effect pedal in your chain.
- **DC IN Jack:** Connect a 9V DC power adapter (PSA series recommended, not included).
- **CHECK Indicator:** Lights up when the effect is active. Also indicates battery status (dimming indicates low battery).
- **Pedal Switch:** Toggles the effect on/off.

## 4. SETUP AND CONNECTION

1. **Power Supply:** The SD-1 can be powered by either an alkaline 9V battery (included) or an optional PSA-series AC adapter (not included).
  - To install a battery, loosen the thumbscrew on the pedal switch, open the pedal, and connect the 9V battery. Close the pedal securely.
  - When using an AC adapter, connect it to the DC IN jack. Always use a BOSS PSA-series adapter to prevent malfunction.
  - To conserve battery life, always unplug the input cable from the INPUT jack when the pedal is not in use.
2. **Connect Your Instrument:** Plug your guitar into the INPUT jack of the SD-1.
3. **Connect to Amplifier:** Connect the OUTPUT jack of the SD-1 to your guitar amplifier's input.
4. **Effect Chain:** If using multiple pedals, connect the SD-1 in your desired order within the effect chain. Overdrive pedals are typically placed early in the chain, often before distortion pedals.

## 5. OPERATING THE SD-1

The SD-1 offers a wide range of overdrive tones. Experiment with the controls to find your desired sound.

- **Engaging the Effect:** Press the pedal switch to toggle the overdrive effect on or off. The CHECK indicator will light up when the effect is active.
- **DRIVE Control:**
  - Turn clockwise for more gain and a heavier overdrive sound.
  - Turn counter-clockwise for less gain and a cleaner, more subtle boost.
- **TONE Control:**
  - Turn clockwise to increase treble frequencies for a brighter, more cutting tone.
  - Turn counter-clockwise to decrease treble frequencies for a warmer, smoother tone.
- **LEVEL Control:**
  - Adjusts the overall output volume of the pedal. Use this to balance the volume between the effected and unaffected signal, or to boost your amplifier.

### Sound Demonstration Videos:

#### BOSS SD-1 Overdrive Pedal Overview and Demo

Your browser does not support the video tag.

This video provides a comprehensive overview and sound demonstration of the BOSS SD-1 Super Overdrive pedal, showcasing its various tonal capabilities.

#### Everything you need to know about the Boss SD-1 pedal

Your browser does not support the video tag.

A detailed video explaining the features and functionalities of the BOSS SD-1 pedal, offering insights into its use and sound characteristics.

## 6. MAINTENANCE

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- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to clean the pedal. Avoid abrasive cleaners or solvents.
- **Storage:** Store the pedal in a dry, cool place away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures.
- **Battery Replacement:** Replace the 9V battery when the CHECK indicator dims or the sound becomes weak.
- **Unplugging:** Always unplug the input cable when the pedal is not in use to prevent battery drain.

## 7. TROUBLESHOOTING

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- **No Sound:**
  - Check all cable connections (guitar, pedal, amplifier).
  - Ensure the power supply (battery or AC adapter) is correctly connected and functional.
  - If using a battery, check its charge level and replace if necessary.
- **Weak or Distorted Sound (unexpectedly):**
  - Check battery charge.
  - Verify cable integrity.
  - Ensure LEVEL, TONE, and DRIVE knobs are set appropriately.
- **Unwanted Noise:**



- Ensure all cables are properly shielded and in good condition.
- Try using a different power outlet or AC adapter to rule out power supply issues.
- Keep the pedal away from sources of electromagnetic interference (e.g., fluorescent lights, power transformers).


## 8. SPECIFICATIONS






Attribute	Value
Model Number	SD-1
Item Weight	0.9 Pounds (14.4 ounces)
Product Dimensions	3.8"L x 2.65"W x 6"H
Body Material	Metal
Color	Yellow
Power Source	Electric (9V Battery or AC Adapter)
Battery Type	1 AA batteries required (included)
Signal Format	Analog
Hardware Interface	1/4-inch Audio

## 9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For warranty information and product support, please refer to the documentation included with your purchase or visit the official BOSS website. You can also contact BOSS customer service for assistance with any issues not covered in this manual.

### Related Documents - SD-1

 <p>PX-1</p>	<p><a href="#">BOSS PX-1 Plugout FX Compact Effects Pedal User Manual</a></p> <p>Comprehensive user manual for the BOSS PX-1 Plugout FX compact effects pedal. Learn about its features, connections, operation, effect loading via Bluetooth and USB, Roland Cloud integration, effect algorithms (OD-1, SP-1, PH-1, SG-1, CS-1, TW-1, SD-1, DS-1, CE-2, BF-2, PN-2, OC-2, PS-2, VB-2, DD-2, DF-2), troubleshooting, and specifications.</p>
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 <p>BOSS GT-10 GUITAR EFFECTS PROCESSOR TRAINING GUIDE</p> <p>CONTENTS</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. FEATURES</li><li>2. LATCH, ONE, GAIN, STEREO, and 1/2 Tone</li><li>3. LATCH, TWO, GAIN, STEREO</li><li>4. FIVE FEATURES TO KNOW AND SHOW</li><li>5. ACCESSORIES</li></ol>	<p><a href="#">BOSS GT-10 Guitar Effects Processor Training Guide - Features, Demo, and Operation</a></p> <p>Comprehensive training guide for the BOSS GT-10 Guitar Effects Processor, covering its features, quick demo setup, advanced functions like EZ-Tone and loop recording, and essential accessories. Learn how to get the most out of this powerful multi-effects unit.</p>
 <p>BOSS</p> <p>PX-1</p> <p>Owner's Manual</p>	<p><a href="#">BOSS PX-1 Plugout FX Owner's Manual</a></p> <p>Comprehensive owner's manual for the BOSS PX-1 Plugout FX guitar effect pedal, detailing setup, operation, effect algorithms, and specifications.</p>
 <p>BOSS</p> <p>PX-1</p> <p>Manual de l'utilisateur</p>	<p><a href="#">BOSS PX-1 Plugout FX Guitar Effects Pedal User Manual</a></p> <p>Comprehensive user manual for the BOSS PX-1 Plugout FX guitar effects pedal, detailing setup, operation, effect algorithms, external pedal connections, troubleshooting, and specifications.</p>
 <p>BOSS HYBRID DRIVE OD-200</p> <p>Owner's Manual</p>	<p><a href="#">BOSS OD-200 HYBRID DRIVE Owner's Manual</a></p> <p>Comprehensive guide to the BOSS OD-200 HYBRID DRIVE guitar effects pedal, covering features, operation, sound modes, connectivity, and safety information.</p>
 <p>BOSS</p> <p>ME-6 GUITAR MULTIPLE EFFECTS</p>	<p><a href="#">BOSS ME-6 Guitar Multiple Effects Owner's Manual</a></p> <p>Comprehensive owner's manual for the BOSS ME-6 Guitar Multiple Effects processor. Learn about its features, panel layout, connection methods, play modes, manual mode operations, editing and storing patches, effect parameters (Compressor, Overdrive, EQ, Delay, etc.), troubleshooting, and factory specifications. Includes detailed instructions for guitarists.</p>