

BOSS MD-200

BOSS MD-200 Modulation Pedal User Manual

Comprehensive Guide for Operation and Maintenance

[Introduction](#)[Features](#)[Controls](#)[Setup](#)[Operation](#)[Maintenance](#)[Troubleshooting](#)[Specifications](#)[Support](#)

1. INTRODUCTION

The BOSS MD-200 Modulation Pedal is a compact, advanced effects unit designed for guitarists and other musicians seeking a wide array of high-quality modulation effects. Part of the 200 series, this pedal integrates sophisticated sound processing and versatile controls into a space-saving design. It features 32-bit AD/DA conversion, 32-bit internal processing, and a 96 kHz sampling rate, ensuring premium audio quality. The MD-200 offers intuitive grab-and-go controls, multi-function switches, and onboard memory for storing custom setups. It also supports external control via switches, an expression pedal, or MIDI, providing extensive integration possibilities for any rig.

2. KEY FEATURES

- **Modulation Effects Pedal:** Offers a comprehensive suite of modulation effects.
- **12 Modulation Modes:** Includes Overtone, Slicer, Auto Wah, Rotary, Tremolo, Vibrato, Chorus, CE-1 Chorus, Flanger, Phaser, Vintage Phaser, and Classic Vibe.
- **Premium Audio Quality:** Features 32-bit AD/DA, 32-bit internal processing, and 96 kHz sampling rate.
- **Intuitive Controls:** Grab-and-go knobs and multi-function switches for easy operation.
- **Onboard Memories:** Allows storage and instant recall of multiple custom setups.
- **Stereo I/O:** Supports stereo input and output for versatile signal routing.
- **MIDI I/O:** Provides MIDI In/Out for advanced control and integration with other MIDI-enabled devices.
- **Expression Pedal/Footswitch Input:** Dedicated input for external control.
- **Compact Size:** Designed to save space on your pedalboard.

3. CONTROLS AND CONNECTIONS

3.1 Front Panel Controls



Figure 1: Front Panel Layout of the MD-200. This image displays the pedal's top surface, featuring the digital display, various control knobs (Rate, Depth, E. Level, Param 1-3), the mode selector, Tap Division indicators, Memory indicators, and the two footswitches (ON/OFF and MEMORY/TAP).

- **Digital Display:** Shows the current patch number or parameter value.
- **RATE Knob:** Adjusts the speed of the modulation effect.
- **DEPTH Knob:** Controls the intensity or depth of the modulation.
- **E. LEVEL Knob:** Sets the overall effect level.
- **PARAM 1, 2, 3 Knobs:** These are multi-function parameters that change based on the selected modulation

mode, allowing for detailed sound shaping.

- **MODE Selector:** A rotary switch to select one of the 12 modulation types: Overtone, Slicer, Auto Wah, Rotary, Tremolo, Vibrato, Chorus, CE-1 Chorus, Flanger, Phaser, Vintage Phaser, and Classic Vibe.
- **TAP DIVISION Indicators:** LEDs indicating the selected tap tempo subdivision (quarter note, eighth note, triplet, etc.).
- **MEMORY Indicators (MAN, 1, 2, 3, 4):** LEDs showing the currently selected memory or manual mode.
- **ON/OFF Footswitch:** Toggles the effect on or off.
- **MEMORY/TAP Footswitch:** Used to select memories or set the tempo via tapping.

3.2 Rear Panel Connections



Figure 2: Rear Panel Connections of the MD-200. This image shows the back of the pedal, detailing the INPUT (A/MONO, B), OUTPUT (A/MONO, B), CTL 1,2/EXP, and DC IN jacks.

- **INPUT A/MONO Jack:** Main audio input. Use this for mono connection.
- **INPUT B Jack:** Second audio input for stereo operation.
- **OUTPUT A/MONO Jack:** Main audio output. Use this for mono connection.
- **OUTPUT B Jack:** Second audio output for stereo operation.
- **CTL 1,2/EXP Jack:** Connect an external footswitch (FS-5U, FS-6, FS-7) or an expression pedal (EV-30, FV-500L/H, Roland EV-5) for additional control.
- **DC IN Jack:** Connect a 9V DC power adapter (BOSS PSA series recommended).

3.3 Side Panel Connections



Figure 3: Side Panel Connections of the MD-200. This image shows the side of the pedal with the MIDI IN, MIDI OUT, and USB

- **MIDI IN Jack:** Connect to a MIDI device for external control.
- **MIDI OUT Jack:** Connect to other MIDI devices to transmit MIDI messages.
- **USB Port:** Used for connecting to a computer for firmware updates or editor software (if available).

4. SETUP GUIDE

4.1 Powering the Unit

The MD-200 can be powered by either a 9V DC power adapter or three AA batteries. A BOSS PSA series adapter is recommended for stable operation. When using batteries, ensure they are correctly inserted according to the polarity markings inside the battery compartment. The pedal comes with 3 AA batteries included.

4.2 Connecting Your Equipment

1. **Mono Connection:** Connect your instrument to the **INPUT A/MONO** jack. Connect the **OUTPUT A/MONO** jack to your amplifier or next effect pedal.
2. **Stereo Connection:** For stereo operation, connect your instrument's stereo output (or the output of a preceding stereo effect) to both **INPUT A/MONO** and **INPUT B** jacks. Connect **OUTPUT A/MONO** and **OUTPUT B** to your stereo amplifier setup or audio interface.
3. **External Control:** If using an external footswitch or expression pedal, connect it to the **CTL 1,2/EXP** jack. Refer to the external device's manual for proper configuration.
4. **MIDI Connection:** For MIDI control, connect a MIDI cable from your MIDI controller's MIDI OUT to the MD-200's **MIDI IN**. To control other MIDI devices from the MD-200, connect its **MIDI OUT** to the MIDI IN of the target device.
5. **USB Connection:** Connect the USB port to your computer using a standard USB cable for firmware updates or to use any dedicated editor software.

Always ensure all connections are secure before powering on the unit to prevent damage to the pedal or other equipment.

5. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

5.1 Basic Operation

- **Power On:** Once connected, press the ON/OFF footswitch to power on the unit. The display will light up.
- **Effect On/Off:** Press the **ON/OFF** footswitch to toggle the selected modulation effect on or off. The LED above the footswitch indicates the effect status.
- **Selecting Modes:** Turn the **MODE** selector knob to choose from the 12 available modulation types. The display may show the mode name or a corresponding number.
- **Adjusting Parameters:** Use the **RATE**, **DEPTH**, **E. LEVEL**, and **PARAM 1, 2, 3** knobs to fine-tune the sound of the selected effect. The function of PARAM 1-3 will change depending on the chosen mode.

5.2 Memory Functions

- **Selecting Memories:** The MD-200 has four user memories (1-4) and a manual mode (MAN). Press the **MEMORY/TAP** footswitch to cycle through these memories. The corresponding LED will light up.
- **Saving a Memory:**

- a. Adjust the knobs to create your desired sound.
- b. Press and hold the **MEMORY/TAP** footswitch until the memory LEDs begin to blink.
- c. While blinking, press the **MEMORY/TAP** footswitch repeatedly to select the memory location (1-4) where you want to save the setting.
- d. Press and hold the **MEMORY/TAP** footswitch again until the LEDs stop blinking to confirm the save.

5.3 Tap Tempo

For effects that utilize tempo (e.g., Tremolo, Slicer), you can set the tempo by tapping the **MEMORY/TAP** footswitch two or more times in rhythm. The Tap Division LEDs will indicate the current subdivision.

6. MAINTENANCE

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to wipe down the pedal. Avoid abrasive cleaners, waxes, or solvents.
- **Battery Replacement:** If using batteries, replace them when the power indicator dims or the pedal behaves erratically. Always replace all three batteries at once with new ones of the same type.
- **Storage:** When not in use for extended periods, remove the batteries to prevent leakage and store the pedal in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures.
- **Firmware Updates:** Periodically check the official BOSS website for any available firmware updates for the MD-200 to ensure optimal performance and access to new features.

7. TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
No sound or weak sound.	Incorrect cable connections, dead batteries, power adapter issue, effect level too low.	◦ Check all audio cables are securely connected to the correct input/output jacks. ◦ Replace batteries or ensure the power adapter is properly connected and functioning. ◦ Increase the E. LEVEL knob. ◦ Ensure the effect is turned ON (ON/OFF footswitch LED is lit).
Effect is not changing or responding to knob adjustments.	Pedal is in a locked state, or a parameter is at its extreme.	◦ Ensure no external MIDI or expression pedal is overriding the internal controls. ◦ Check if the pedal is in a "manual" mode where knob positions directly reflect the sound. ◦ Try resetting the pedal (refer to the full manual for factory reset procedures).
Footswitches are unresponsive.	Power issue, internal malfunction.	◦ Verify power supply. ◦ If problem persists, contact BOSS customer support.

8. SPECIFICATIONS

- **Model:** MD-200
- **Brand:** BOSS
- **Item Weight:** 1.75 pounds (0.79 kg)
- **Product Dimensions:** 8 x 6.85 x 4.4 inches (20.32 x 17.40 x 11.18 cm)
- **Power Supply:** 9V DC (BOSS PSA series recommended) or 3 AA batteries (included)
- **Hardware Interface:** USB
- **Signal Format:** Analog
- **Color:** Blue
- **Date First Available:** June 21, 2019

9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For detailed warranty information, please refer to the warranty card included with your product or visit the official BOSS website. If you encounter any issues not covered in this manual or require technical assistance, please contact BOSS customer support through their official website or authorized service centers. Keep your purchase receipt as proof of purchase for warranty claims.

Official BOSS Website: www.boss.info