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› BOSS RC-5 Loop Station Compact Phrase Recorder Pedal User Manual

BOSS RC-5

BOSS RC-5 Loop Station Compact Phrase Recorder Pedal User Manual

Model: RC-5

INTRODUCTION

This manual provides comprehensive instructions for the setup, operation, maintenance, and troubleshooting of your BOSS RC-5 Loop Station Compact Phrase Recorder Pedal. Please read this manual thoroughly before using the unit to ensure proper and safe operation. Keep this manual in a safe place for future reference.

The BOSS RC-5 is an advanced compact looper designed for musicians seeking high-quality sound and extensive looping capabilities. It features 32-bit AD/DA and 32-bit floating-point processing, a backlit LCD for easy navigation, and versatile I/O options including TRS MIDI. With 99 phrase memories and over 50 rhythms, the RC-5 offers a powerful platform for creative looping.

WHAT'S IN THE BOX

Upon opening the package, verify that all components are present and in good condition:

- BOSS RC-5 Loop Station Pedal
- Alkaline Battery (9V)
- Owner's Manual (this document)

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RC-5 Loop Station

CAPTURE, PRACTICE AND PERFORM

The RC-5 offers **99 phrase memories**, storing loops with rhythms and kits. You can also backup via USB and import WAV files with BOSS Tone Studio for lesson material, jam tracks, or gig backing.



Image showing the BOSS RC-5 pedal, a 9V alkaline battery, and the owner's manual, representing the typical contents of the product box.

SETUP

Power Supply

The RC-5 can be powered by a 9V alkaline battery or an optional AC adapter (BOSS PSA series, sold separately). Ensure the power source matches the unit's requirements.

- **Battery Installation:** Open the battery compartment on the bottom of the unit. Connect a 9V alkaline battery to the snap connector and place it inside. Close the compartment securely.
- **AC Adapter Connection:** Connect the AC adapter to the DC IN jack on the rear panel. Use only a BOSS PSA series adapter to prevent malfunction and damage.

Connecting Your Equipment

Connect your instrument and amplifier/mixer to the RC-5 using standard 1/4-inch instrument cables. The RC-5 supports

both mono and stereo connections.



RC-5 Loop Station

YOUR ESSENTIAL

CREATIVE COMPANION

Advanced compact looper with excellent sound quality, 99 phrase memories, 57 rhythms, and MIDI control support.



Front view of the BOSS RC-5, highlighting the input and output jacks for connecting instruments and amplifiers.

- **Input A (MONO):** Connect your instrument (guitar, bass, keyboard, etc.) here. For mono operation, use this jack.
- **Input B:** Use this jack for stereo input alongside Input A.
- **Output A (MONO):** Connect to your amplifier or mixer. For mono output, use this jack.
- **Output B:** Use this jack for stereo output alongside Output A.
- **CTL 1, 2/EXP:** Connect an optional footswitch (FS-5U, FS-6, FS-7) or expression pedal (EV-30, FV-500L/H, Roland EV-5) for expanded control.
- **MIDI IN/OUT:** Connect to other MIDI devices for synchronization and control.
- **USB:** Connect to a computer for backing up phrase memories and importing/exporting WAV files using BOSS Tone Studio.

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RC-5 Loop Station

WINDOW TO YOUR WORLD

The RC-5 looper pedal boasts an **advanced interface** with an LCD that changes color to show recording, overdub, and playback statuses. Its multi-function knob allows easy navigation of rhythms, kits, and settings.

PLAY SCREEN

TURNING

Selects a memory (1-99) or adjusts the volume of the track.

PRESSING

Switches between selecting a memory and adjusting the volume of the track.

WHEN EDITING

TURNING

Selects a parameter or changes a value.

PRESSING

Specifies the parameter to edit. Alternatively, confirms an operation.

RHYTHM TEMPO

Press to specify the tempo (40.0–300.0) of the rhythm.

RHYTHM ON/OFF

The rhythm switches on (lit)/off (unlit)/ready to play rhythm (blink)c each time you press the button.

MEMORY

Lets you make settings related to loop playback and recording, rhythm settings, and memory name settings.

SETUP

Lets you make settings that affect the entire RC-5 (the function of a footswitch or expression pedal connected to this unit, and system settings).



Rear view of the BOSS RC-5, illustrating the MIDI IN/OUT, DC IN, and USB ports for advanced connectivity.

OPERATING THE RC-5

Basic Looping Operations

The RC-5's primary function is to record, playback, and overdub loops. The pedal switch controls these core functions.

- **Recording:** Press the pedal switch once to start recording. The LCD will indicate recording status.
- **Playback:** Press the pedal switch again to stop recording and begin playback of the recorded loop.
- **Overdubbing:** While a loop is playing, press the pedal switch once to enter overdub mode. Any new input will be added to the loop. Press again to stop overdubbing and return to playback.
- **Stop:** Double-press the pedal switch quickly to stop playback or recording.
- **Undo/Redo:** Hold the pedal switch for two seconds to undo the last recording/overdub. Hold again to redo.

Navigating the Interface

The RC-5 features a backlit LCD and a multi-function knob for navigating settings and parameters.





Top view of the BOSS RC-5, detailing the LCD screen, MEMORY/LOOP LEVEL knob, and RHYTHM, SETUP, MEMORY, TEMPO, ON/OFF, and WRITE buttons.

- **MEMORY/LOOP LEVEL Knob:**

- *Turning:* Selects a memory (1-99) or adjusts the volume of the track.
- *Pressing:* Switches between selecting a memory and adjusting the volume of the track.

- **RHYTHM Button:** Press to access rhythm settings.
- **SETUP Button:** Press to access system settings and assign functions to external controls.
- **MEMORY Button:** Press to access memory-related settings (save, load, delete).
- **TEMPO Button:** Press to specify the tempo of the rhythm (40.0–300.0 BPM).
- **ON/OFF Button:** Toggles the rhythm on or off. The button blinks to indicate the rhythm is playing.
- **WRITE Button:** Press to save your current loop and settings to a memory location.

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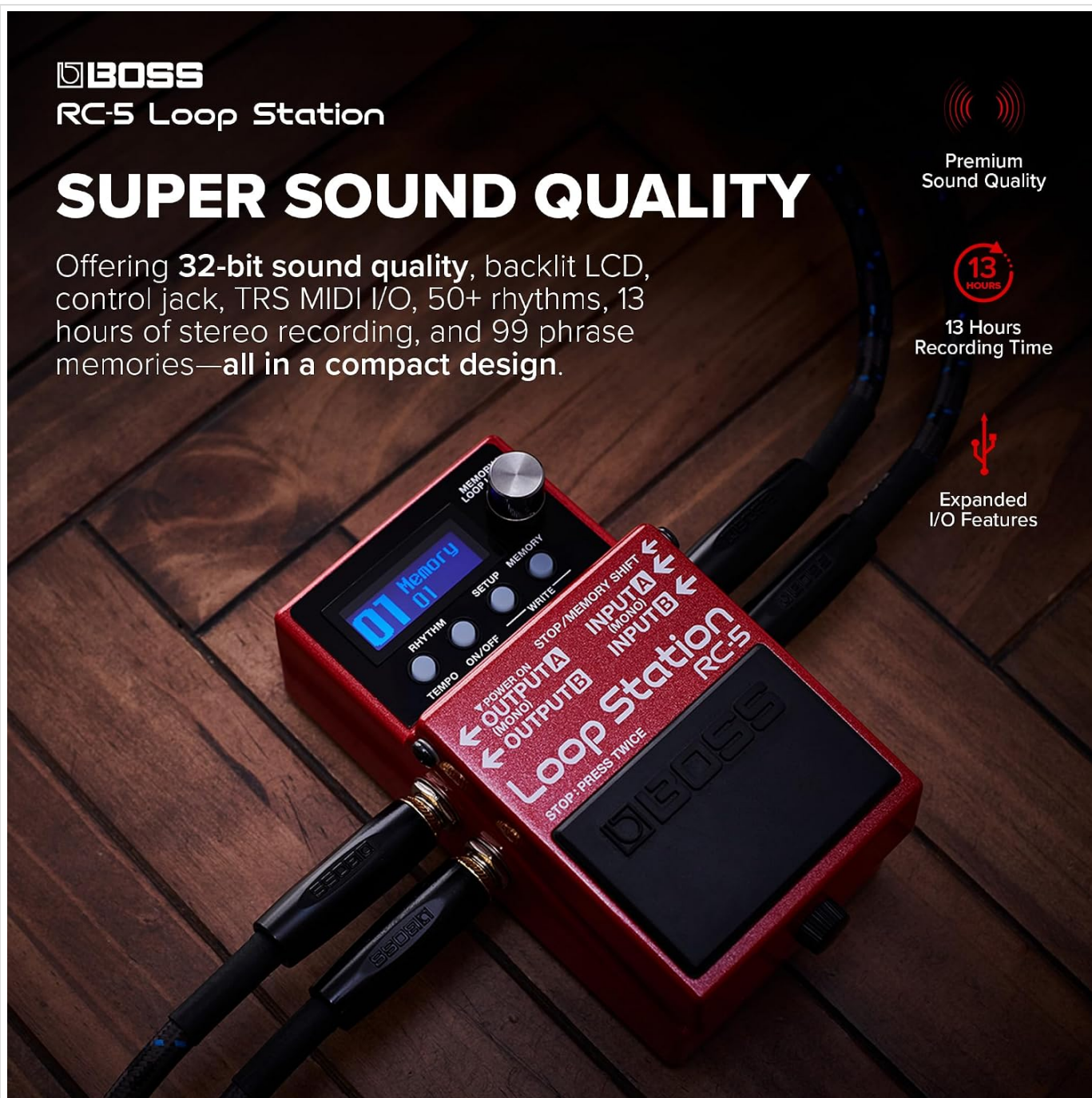
SUPER SOUND QUALITY

Offering **32-bit sound quality**, backlit LCD, control jack, TRS MIDI I/O, 50+ rhythms, 13 hours of stereo recording, and 99 phrase memories—all in a compact design.


Premium
Sound Quality


13 Hours
Recording Time


Expanded
I/O Features



Side view of the BOSS RC-5, showing the input and output jacks, which are crucial for connecting the pedal within an audio signal chain.

Phrase Memories and Rhythms

The RC-5 offers 99 phrase memories for storing loops and settings, along with 57 preset rhythms and seven drum kits.

- **Saving a Phrase:** After creating a loop, press the WRITE button, use the MEMORY/LOOP LEVEL knob to select a memory number, and press WRITE again to confirm.
- **Recalling a Phrase:** Turn the MEMORY/LOOP LEVEL knob to select the desired memory.
- **Using Rhythms:** Press the RHYTHM button to select a rhythm type and kit. Use the TEMPO button to adjust the tempo. Press ON/OFF to start/stop the rhythm.

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RC-5 Loop Station

WHAT'S **IN THE BOX**

- RC-5
- Alkaline Battery (9V)
- Owner's Manual



The BOSS RC-5 pedal integrated into a musical setup, connected to a guitar and an amplifier, demonstrating its typical use.

BOSS Tone Studio Integration

Connect the RC-5 to your computer via USB to use BOSS Tone Studio. This software allows you to backup phrase memories, import WAV files for lesson material or backing tracks, and export your recorded loops.

MAINTENANCE

Proper maintenance ensures the longevity and optimal performance of your RC-5 Loop Station.

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to wipe the unit. Avoid abrasive cleaners, waxes, or solvents.
- **Storage:** When not in use for extended periods, remove the battery to prevent leakage. Store the unit in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures.
- **Connections:** Regularly check all cable connections for wear and tear. Ensure jacks are free of dust and debris.
- **Firmware Updates:** Periodically check the BOSS website for firmware updates. Keeping your unit's firmware up-to-date can improve performance and add new features.

TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your RC-5, refer to the following common problems and solutions before contacting support.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
No sound or low volume	Incorrect cable connections; low battery; incorrect input/output levels.	Check all cables are securely connected to the correct jacks. Replace the battery or use an AC adapter. Adjust the MEMORY/LOOP LEVEL knob and check input levels on your instrument/amplifier.
Loop does not record	Input signal too low; unit in playback mode; memory full.	Ensure your instrument is producing a strong signal. Press the pedal switch to enter record mode. Check available memory slots; delete old loops if necessary.
Rhythm not playing	Rhythm is off; volume too low; incorrect tempo setting.	Press the RHYTHM ON/OFF button. Increase the rhythm volume in the rhythm settings. Adjust the TEMPO.
Unit does not power on	Dead battery; AC adapter not connected properly or faulty.	Replace the battery. Ensure the AC adapter is fully plugged into both the unit and a working power outlet. Use only a BOSS PSA series adapter.

If the problem persists after trying these solutions, please refer to the official BOSS support resources or contact customer service.

SPECIFICATIONS

Key technical specifications for the BOSS RC-5 Loop Station:

- **Model:** RC-5
- **Sampling Frequency:** 44.1 kHz
- **AD/DA Conversion:** 32 bits
- **Processing:** 32-bit floating point
- **Recording Time:** Approximately 13 hours (stereo)
- **Phrase Memories:** 99
- **Rhythm Types:** 57 preset rhythms
- **Drum Kits:** 7
- **Nominal Input Level:** INPUT A/B: -10 dBu
- **Input Impedance:** INPUT A/B: 1 M ohm
- **Nominal Output Level:** OUTPUT A/B: -10 dBu
- **Output Impedance:** OUTPUT A/B: 1 k ohm
- **Recommended Load Impedance:** 10 k ohms or greater
- **Controls:** MEMORY/LOOP LEVEL knob, RHYTHM button, SETUP button, MEMORY button, TEMPO button, ON/OFF button, WRITE button, Pedal switch
- **Indicators:** REC/PLAY, RHYTHM, TEMPO, ON/OFF, WRITE
- **Display:** Graphic LCD (96 x 32 dots, backlit LCD)

- **Connectors:** INPUT A/B jacks (1/4-inch phone type), OUTPUT A/B jacks (1/4-inch phone type), CTL 1, 2/EXP jack (1/4-inch TRS phone type), MIDI (IN, OUT) connectors (stereo miniature phone type), DC IN jack, USB port (USB Micro-B type)
- **Power Supply:** Alkaline battery (9V, 6LR61 or 6LF22) or AC adapter (PSA series, sold separately)
- **Current Draw:** 170 mA (approx.)
- **Expected Battery Life:** Approximately 2 hours (Alkaline)
- **Dimensions (W x D x H):** 73 mm x 129 mm x 56 mm (2-7/8 x 5-1/8 x 2-1/4 inches)
- **Weight (including battery):** 400 g (15 oz)
- **Accessories:** Owner's Manual, Alkaline battery (9V)
- **Options (sold separately):** AC adapter (PSA series), Footswitch (FS-5U, FS-6, FS-7), Expression pedal (EV-30, FV-500L, FV-500H, Roland EV-5), TRS/MIDI connecting cable (BMIDI-5-35)

* $0\text{ dBu} = 0.775\text{ Vrms}$

* *The specifications are subject to change without notice.*

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For warranty information, please refer to the warranty card included with your product or visit the official BOSS website. BOSS provides comprehensive customer support for its products.

- **Online Support:** Visit the [BOSS Global Support website](#) for FAQs, knowledge base articles, and software downloads.
- **Product Registration:** Register your product online to receive updates and support.
- **Service Centers:** Locate authorized service centers for repairs and technical assistance.

For the most up-to-date information and support resources, always refer to the official BOSS website.