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BOSS SD-1

BOSS SD-1 Super OverDrive Pedal Instruction Manual

INTRODUCTION

This manual provides comprehensive instructions for the BOSS SD-1 Super OverDrive Pedal. The SD-1 is a classic overdrive pedal known for its unique asymmetrical clipping circuit, which produces tube-like overdrive characteristics. It delivers mild-to-moderate drive tones with a focused midrange and tight low end, making it ideal for use with clean and slightly driven amplifiers, and for adding tightness and definition to high-gain amp tones. This pedal also stacks well with other boost, overdrive, and distortion pedals.

WHAT'S IN THE BOX

- BOSS SD-1 Super OverDrive Pedal
- Power adapter
- 10-foot instrument cable
- 6-inch Patch/Pedal cable
- 3-pack of BOSS celluloid guitar picks



The BOSS SD-1 Super OverDrive pedal and its included accessories.

PRODUCT FEATURES

- Unique asymmetrical clipping circuit produces tube-like overdrive characteristics.
- Mild-to-moderate drive tones with focused midrange and tight low end.
- Ideal for use with clean and slightly driven amps. Also works great for bringing tightness and definition to high-gain amp tones.
- Stacks well with boost, overdrive, and distortion pedals.



FEATURES

- Genre-defining BOSS overdrive sound
- Unique asymmetrical clipping circuit produces tube-like overdrive characteristics
- Mild-to-moderate drive tones with focused midrange and tight low end
- Ideal for use with clean and slightly driven amps
- Also works great for bringing tightness and definition to high-gain amp tones
- Stacks well with boost, overdrive, and distortion pedals

Key features of the BOSS SD-1 Super OverDrive pedal.

CONTROLS AND FUNCTIONS

The BOSS SD-1 Super OverDrive pedal features three primary control knobs and a pedal switch for intuitive sound shaping:

- **LEVEL Knob:** Adjusts the overall output volume of the pedal.
- **TONE Knob:** Controls the tonal character, allowing adjustment from sharp to mellow sounds.
- **DRIVE Knob:** Sets the amount of overdrive/distortion.
- **PEDAL Switch:** Engages or bypasses the overdrive effect.



TONE knob

Lets you adjust how sharp or mellow your sound is.

DIST knob

Adds clear, gritty gain for sharp tones.

LEVEL knob

Sets output volume match clean tone or boost for solos.

PEDAL switch

Tap to toggle distortion effect

BOSS's Legendary Super Overdrive Sound

Labeled controls of the BOSS SD-1 Super OverDrive pedal.

SETUP

Follow these steps to set up your BOSS SD-1 Super OverDrive Pedal:

1. **Power Connection:** Connect the provided power adapter to the DC IN jack of the pedal and to a standard AC outlet. Alternatively, the pedal can be powered by a 9V battery (not included).
2. **Instrument Connection:** Connect your guitar or other instrument to the INPUT jack using an instrument cable.
3. **Amplifier Connection:** Connect the OUTPUT jack of the pedal to your amplifier's input using an instrument cable.
4. **Pedal Chain:** For optimal results when stacking with other pedals, experiment with the SD-1's position in your signal chain. It generally performs well before other distortion pedals or into a slightly overdriven amplifier.

OPERATING THE PEDAL

The SD-1 is designed to provide a natural, tube-like overdrive. Experiment with the control knobs to achieve your desired sound.

Basic Overdrive Settings:

- **Mild Boost:** Set DRIVE low (around 9 o'clock), LEVEL to match or slightly boost your clean signal, and TONE to taste (start at 12 o'clock). This can push your amp into natural breakup.
- **Classic Overdrive:** Set DRIVE around 12 o'clock, LEVEL to desired volume, and TONE to brighten or darken the sound. This provides the signature SD-1 crunch.
- **Lead Boost:** Set DRIVE low, LEVEL high, and TONE slightly above 12 o'clock to cut through the mix for solos.

Video demonstrating the features and sound of the BOSS SD-1 pedal. This video provides an in-depth look at its capabilities and historical context.

Video offering an honest review and demonstration of the BOSS SD-1 Super OverDrive pedal, showcasing its sound and versatility.

SPECIFICATIONS

| | |
|---|---|
| Item Weight | 12.6 ounces |
| Product Dimensions | 5.08 x 2.87 x 2.32 inches |
| Item Model Number | AUS-SD1-COMBO-DLX-V2 |
| Power Source | Adapter (9V DC) |
| Current Draw | 10 mA |
| Expected Battery Life (continuous use) | Carbon: Approx. 60 hours, Alkaline: Approx. 90 hours (These figures will vary depending on actual conditions of use.) |
| Connectors | INPUT jack: 1/4-inch phone type, OUTPUT jack: 1/4-inch phone type, DC IN jack |
| Nominal Input Level | -20 dBu |
| Input Impedance | 1 M ohm |
| Nominal Output Level | -20 dBu |
| Output Impedance | 1 k ohm |
| Recommended Load Impedance | 10 k ohms or greater |
| Bypass | Buffered bypass |
| Material Type | Plastic, Metal |

| | |
|--|---|
| Nominal Input Level | -20 dBu |
| Input Impedance | 1 M ohm |
| Nominal Output Level | -20 dBu |
| Output Impedance | 1 k ohm |
| Recommended Load Impedance | 10 k ohms or greater |
| Bypass | Buffered bypass |
| Controls | DRIVE knob TONE knob LEVEL knob Pedal switch |
| Indicator | CHECK indicator (Used for indication of check battery) |
| Connectors | INPUT jack: 1/4-inch phone type OUTPUT jack: 1/4-inch phone type DC IN jack |
| Power Supply | Carbon-zinc battery (9 V, 6F22) or Alkaline battery (9 V, 6LR6) AC adaptor (PSA series; sold separately) |
| Current Draw | 10 mA |
| Expected battery life under continuous use | Carbon: Approx. 60 hours Alkaline: Approx. 90 hours *These figures will vary depending on the actual conditions of use. |
| Accessories | Leaflet ("USING THE UNIT SAFELY," "IMPORTANT NOTES," and "Information") Carbon-zinc battery (9 V, 6F22) |
| Options (sold separately) | AC adaptor: PSA series |



Detailed specifications of the BOSS SD-1 Super OverDrive pedal.

Size and Weight

Weight
360 g

2.32 In

2.87 In

5.03 In

Physical dimensions and weight of the pedal.

MAINTENANCE

Proper maintenance ensures the longevity and optimal performance of your pedal:

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to clean the pedal. Avoid abrasive cleaners or solvents.
- **Battery Replacement:** If using battery power, replace the 9V battery when the CHECK indicator dims or fails to light when the pedal is engaged. To replace, loosen the thumbscrew on the front of the pedal and open the pedal unit.
- **Storage:** Store the pedal in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures.

TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter any issues, refer to the following common troubleshooting tips:

- **No Sound:** Check all cable connections (instrument, amplifier, power). Ensure the power adapter is functioning or the battery is fresh and correctly installed. Verify that the pedal is engaged (CHECK indicator lit).
- **Weak or Unintended Distorted Sound:** Check for proper power supply. Ensure instrument cables are not faulty. Adjust LEVEL, TONE, and DRIVE knobs.
- **Excessive Noise:** Ensure all cables are properly shielded. Try a different power outlet or power supply. Keep the pedal away from strong electromagnetic interference sources.

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For warranty information and technical support, please refer to the documentation included with your product or visit the official BOSS website. Keep your purchase receipt as proof of purchase for warranty claims.