

SUPRO

1313 Analog Delay

MN3005 bucket brigade chips ensure an all-analogue, all-authentic sound

Words Trevor Curwen Photography Neil Godwin

VIDEO DEMO ► <http://bit.ly/guitaristextra>

The heyday of the bucket brigade analogue delay may have been in the late 70s/early 80s before digital took hold, but the sound that blends so well with guitar tone still resonates with players today. And the fact that BBD chips are being manufactured again means it's just as easy to buy an analogue delay today as it was back when the likes of the Boss DM-2, the green MXR Analog delay and Electro-Harmonix Memory Man pedals held sway. This new Supro 1313 Delay has a solid connection to that era, with circuitry by Deluxe Memory Man designer Howard Davis – and added features that increase versatility means it's no retro throwback.

With analogue sound based around a pair of MN3005 chips, the pedal has the expected knobs for delay time, repeats (feedback) and volume, with an additional Filter knob to tonally shape the repeats. Encompassing both low-pass and band-pass functions, its practicalities are that you can go from fat and murky sounding repeats through a whole range of shading to brighter, thinner and more percussive sounds. Somewhere between the two extremes we were able to match the tone of the repeats to our vintage Boss DM-2

and Ibanez AD-100 BBD delays, plus the tape sound of a Roland RE-201 Space Echo.

For anyone who wants to add an extra layer of expression to their playing without getting down on their knees, an expression pedal can be assigned to take on the individual functions of the three other knobs. Setting delay time by foot pedal might be less precise than a tap tempo switch, but it's smoother and will give you those weird pitch-shifting transition sounds if desired. The old staple of turning up the feedback to the point of self-oscillation now has the possibility of being conjured up and pulled back from the brink while you continue playing, but it's probably the less-gimmicky control of volume that's the most musical, swelling in repeats or pulling them back for particular notes or phrases.

VERDICT

With all of the multi-effects-style delay pedals out there, you probably wouldn't be looking at this if the pure analogue BBD sound wasn't exactly what you wanted. That being the case, its tonal variations and expression options make this a smart way to put that sound on your 'board. **G**



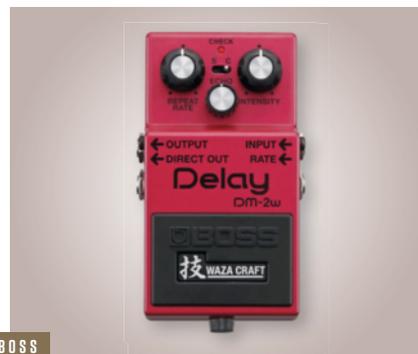
PROS Typical analogue BBD sound; flexible tonal control of the repeats; foot control of crucial parameters; 600ms delay (longer than many vintage units); voltage doubling with 15-volt power rails for increased headroom
CONS Some players might bemoan the lack of onboard modulation

ALSO TRY...



MXR
Carbon Copy £193

It's hard to believe that this pedal has been around for 10 years, but MXR's Carbon Copy pretty much spearheaded the revival of compact bucket brigade pedals with its simple three-knob setup, plus a button to add modulation.



BOSS
DM-2W £189

This revival of the iconic Boss analogue delay pedal (which was discontinued in 1984) gets the company's Waza Craft treatment here, adding switchable sound modes and expression pedal input for foot control of delay time.



ELECTRO-HARMONIX
Deluxe Memory Man £190

Analogue delay with modulation? We'll have some of that – and what better than Electro-Harmonix's latest version of the classic Deluxe Memory Man, which was at the core of The Edge's guitar sound back in the early U2 days.



Tech Spec

ORIGIN: USA

TYPE: Delay pedal
FEATURES: True bypass, 600ms max delay time

CONTROLS: Level, Time, Filter, Repeats, Expression mode selector (Level/Time/Repeats), internal switches for Dry Kill and Trails, bypass footswitch

CONNECTIONS: Standard input, standard output, Expression pedal input
POWER: 9V adaptor (not supplied)

DIMENSIONS: 65 (w) x 115 (d) x 65mm (h)



9/10