

Effect Signal Chain



Signal Chain

- Guitar effects are placed in a typical order to minimize interference and maximize the effect of each pedal.



A Typical Signal Chain

4. Modulation Effects

5. Time Effects

1. Dynamic Effects



3. Gain Effects

2. Filter Effects

Dynamic Pedals

- Dynamic effects shape the envelope and volume of your guitar signal
- Tend to go first to shape an even signal and prevent them from shaping later effects.
- Dynamics pedals include:
 - Compressors
 - Limiters
 - Volume Pedals



Filter Pedals

- Filter pedals shape the frequency spectrum of your signal.
- Tend to go early to provide the cleanest signal to filter.
- Filter pedals include:
 - Wah
 - Envelope Filter



Gain Pedals

- Amplify your signal to produce distortion.
- Come before modulation and time effects to prevent muddling.
- When using multiple gain pedals, chain from low- to high-gain.
- Gain pedals include:
 - Distortion
 - Overdrive
 - Boosts



Effects Loop

- Since modulation and time effects typically come after gain staging and tones shaping, it can be better that they come after any effects created by the amplifier.
- An amplifier's effects loop allows pedals to be added just before the signal goes through the speaker.



Modulation Effects

- Modify the waveform of your signal
- Go before time effects as they can produce less drastic time effects
- Modulation effect include:
 - Chorus
 - Flanger
 - Phaser



Time Effects

- Manipulate aspects of the signal's time.
- Often go last to prevent the muddling of reflections
- Include:
 - Delay
 - Echo
 - Reverb



Let's Jam

Experiment with the pedal's controls while we jam!

Feel free add earlier pedals or adjust the amp or guitar.

What sounds can you create?

Quiz

- What is the typical order of pedals on the board by category?
- Why do we place distortion before chorus and delay?
- What two pedal categories are often placed in the effects loop?
- What does a filter pedal do?

Copy The Tone: Walking On The Moon

- Let's copy the guitar tone to "Walking On The Moon" using everything he have learned about guitar tone.
- Effects:
 - Chorus
 - Delay



Copy The Tone: Voodoo Child

- Let's copy the guitar tone to "Voodoo Child" using everything we have learned about guitar tone.
- Effects:
 - Wah
 - Distortion



On Your Own: Here Comes Your Man

- On your own, try to copy the “Here Comes Your Man”.
- What effects do you hear?



Image Sources:

Slide

1: <https://www.sweetwater.com/store/detail/Crybaby--dunlop-gcb95-cry-baby-wah-pedal>