

# Effects (Pedals) - Knowledge Organiser

GLOSSARY		
<b>Stomp Box</b>	An individual effects unit that takes the shape of a floor-mounted box and are activated by 'stomping' on a switch	
<b>Distortion</b>	An effect traditionally created by overloading the circuitry in the signal chain	
<b>Gain (Distortion)</b>	The drive, determines the amount of distortion	
<b>Output (Distortion)</b>	<p>The volume of the output signal (after distortion has been applied)</p> <p>Compensates for the increase in gain necessary to achieve distortion</p> <p>Also allows for the balance between the distorted and clean signals to be adjusted</p>	
<b>Tone (Distortion)</b>	Controls the cut-off frequency of a low pass filter	
DISTORTION		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Originally created by <b>overloading</b> the circuitry at some point in the signal chain</li> </ul>		
Overdrive	Distortion	Fuzz
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The term '<b>overdrive</b>' is used to describe distortion that is '<b>smoother</b>' than <b>fuzz</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Often used on <b>blues rhythm guitar</b> and <b>lead guitar</b> when <b>higher</b> gain settings are used</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Distortion</b> usually has a <b>higher</b> gain setting compared to <b>overdrive</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Used in heavy rock and metal music</li> <li>More suited to <b>heavy power-chord riffs</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Fuzz</b> has more of a '<b>raw edge</b>' compared with the other types of distortion           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Works better with <b>solo lines</b> than with chords due to the added harmonics</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
AMPLIFIERS		
Valve/Tube Amps	Transistor/Solid-State Amps	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use vacuum tubes to amplify a signal</li> <li>Used almost exclusively up until the late 60s/early 70s</li> <li>Warmer-toned overdrive due to soft clipping of the signal           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This has caused valve amplifiers to experience a resurgence in popularity in recent years</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use transistors to amplify a signal</li> <li>Took over as the more popular choice of amplifier in the 70s           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Was cheaper, more reliable and smaller in size</li> </ul> </li> <li>Harsher-toned overdrive due to hard clipping the signal</li> </ul>	