

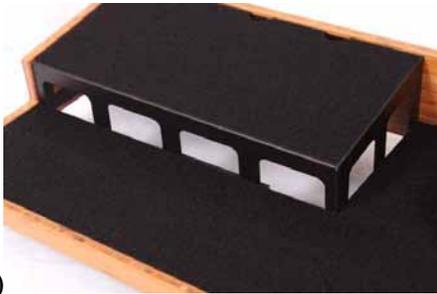


(Quality You Can Stand On)

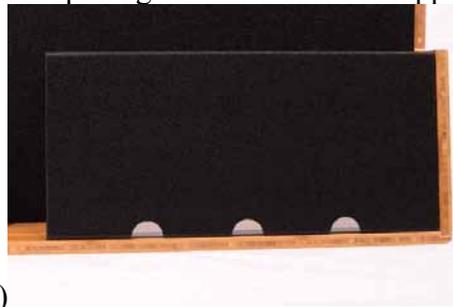
Thank you for choosing Boicebox Pedalboards, Inc. for your pedal board needs. You now have a high quality, attractive, user friendly, ergonomically designed, pedal board, solidly built in the USA with environmentally sustainable bamboo and with many features not found in other pedal boards.

I would like to give you a brief run down of the features of your Z-21 pedal board and how best to utilize them in the set up and operation of your new rig.

1. The Boicebox Z-21 is a tiered pedal board with a slot for a rocker pedal and comes equipped with 2-1/4" I/O jacks, an AC power inlet/outlet, as well as a universal power supply mount under the upper level shelf. There are lots of places for routing cables including 6 openings around the front & side between the upper & lower shelves (fig. 1) and 3 semi circular openings at the back of the upper shelf (fig. 2)



(fig. 1)



(fig. 2)

2. It is best to start with the mounting of your power supply first:
  - a. Start by placing the pedal board upside down on a padded surface.
  - b. Remove the Clear Polycarbonate retaining plate from the zip loc bag along with the assortment of machine screws (fig. 3) and remove the protective paper from the clear polycarbonate.
  - c. Next orient your power supply right side up (fig.4) **[it will be upside down when you flip the pedal board over and for normal use]** and orient it between the mounting posts.



(fig. 3)



(fig. 4)

- d. At this point it is best to attach all the DC power supply cables that you are going to use to the power supply as well as the AC power cord so that no holes are blocked by the mounting posts. (fig. 5). It is also a good idea to plug the AC cable into the built in AC power outlet on the pedal board to make sure there are no issues with that connection prior to securing your power supply (fig. 6).



(fig. 5)



(fig. 6)

- e. With the power supply situated where you want it, choose the appropriate length machine screws (supplied) **[just long enough to make contact with threads in mounting posts with ~1/4" extra to engage threads]** and place the retaining plate back over the posts and start screwing the 4 machine screws (just a couple of turns).
- f. With a non permanent marker or small piece of tape, mark 4 locations as close as you can to the outside edge of the interface between the mounting plate and the power supply (fig. 7) taking care not to mark directly over a screw head, or any switches, etc. on the top surface of the power supply housing.
- g. Remove the mounting plate again and flip it over. Remove the adhesive from the back of each of the 4 clear bumpers (supplied) and place each in the locations indicated by the marks you made on the mounting plate **[the bumpers should be mounted on the side opposite the side you marked]**. (fig. 8)



(fig. 7)



(fig. 8)

- h. Flip the mounting plate back over (Bumpers down), and gently screw the mounting plate screws until they make contact with the mounting plate (fig. 9)
- i. Carefully add pressure to all 4 screws equally until the power supply becomes difficult to slide or move. This should take no more than 2- 3 full turns on each screw. The polycarbonate mounting plate should have a slight bow in it (less than 1/16" ) indicating that it is under pressure but not excessive (fig. 10).



(fig.9)



(fig. 10)

- j. At this point you will want to pass the DC power cables from the power supply through the cable routing openings prior to turning the pedal board over. Distribute the cables through the semi circular openings for the pedals that will be attached to the upper level and through the openings between the upper & lower tiers for pedals that will be on the lower levels and for the rocker pedal (fig. 11)



(fig. 11)

- k. Now you are ready to turn the pedal board over and begin arranging your EFX pedals. **[Don't worry about the loose wires underneath just yet as there will most likely be more wires passing through that space after the pedals are arranged and you can deal with them all a bit later]**

## Setting up your signal path:

When choosing your actual signal path for your EFX pedals there are almost as many options as there are EFX pedals. There are also many theories and schools of thought on this subject as well as many on-line forums discussing the merits of each persons approach. So for the purposes of this basic instruction manual we are going to stick to the very basics ... (remember, these are generalizations and suggestions. Your Boicebox Pedal board is designed to be flexible so you can do whatever works best for you)

1. As mentioned before, it is best to set up your gear, plug everything in, and test out the entire set up prior to velcroing anything down. If your EFX pedals already have Velcro on them, you can place them on a sheet of paper for set up. Yes Velcro is removable but the Velcro loop installed on all Boicebox Pedal Boards is industrial high quality material and removing a unit that has 'seated' into the loop material can be a bit of a chore ... and I can guarantee that you will have to pull things off several times in the course of set up even if you have a plan. **(Note: if your pedals are positioned close together, you will need to pull them up just to access the input or output jacks to install the patch cables ... both sides ... every time! This will soon become tiresome ... trust me).**
2. Since virtually all EFX pedals have inputs on the right and output on the left, generally speaking the stage right 1/4" I/O jack on the pedal board will be your input from your instrument and the stage left 1/4" I/O jack will be the output to your amp (fig. 12).
3. You want to keep your patch cables as short as possible as any cable has "impedance" and this impedance can add up to eventually degrade or weaken the signal from your instrument. Whenever you have 2 rows of EFX pedals however, you will need at some point to get from the output (left) side of one of the rows to the input side (right) of the other row. This will require a longer cable and is pretty much unavoidable (fig. 13). (this cable can and should be routed under the upper level of the T-21Z pedal board ... this image is for illustration) **[Note: the Boicebox I/O jacks are wireless direct connectors and provide a very low impedance connection]**



(fig. 12)



(fig. 13)

4. Generally speaking you will want to put a volume pedal and tuners at the beginning of the signal path if possible. Any 'looping' should be done at or near the end of the signal path if you want your loop tracks to remain independent of subsequent changes to EFX parameters (in other words, if you set up a relatively clean rhythm track with the goal of playing a more 'effected' lead over it, it will only stay 'clean' if it is near or at the end of the signal path) OK I am already starting down that path I was trying to avoid. The fact is that the subject of signal path is way too broad to get into here so all I can say is enjoy the journey!

## Attaching your EFX devices to the Pedal Board

As was mentioned before, every Boicebox pedal board comes with High quality industrial loop material installed ready for you to attach your devices once they are equipped with the appropriate hook material. There are a few guidelines that will help you with this process.

1. The bond for a device/pedal to the pedal board surface is only as good as the bond of the hook material to the pedal. There are several pedals that come equipped with a rubber non slip material on the bottom or sometimes feet. This non slip material is often not a good surface for the adhesive backing on the hook p.3

material to adhere to. **[This problem is not solved by adding more hook material to the bottom of the device!]** You just have to try it and if it doesn't stick, often the 'non-slip' is easily removable leaving you with a smooth metal surface with a little bit of leftover adhesive from the 'non-slip'. This adhesive residue will usually not interfere with the adhesion of the hook material but if you want to be sure, you can remove the residue with light petroleum based solvent or cleaner found at the hardware store. Feet are a problem because they make a space under the pedal or device that is too large to be spanned effectively by the hook & loop bond. Once again the easiest and most effective way to deal with this issue is to remove the feet. You can also make a spacer with foam, or other dense material fitted with loop material on one side and hook on the other side effectively 'bridging the space between the bottom of the device and the surface of the pedal board (fig. 14). **[In this case I used ¼" birch plywood as the spacer]**



(fig. 14)

2. The hook & loop bond is stronger than you might think and as long as the adhesion issues are taken care of, you can usually get away with a lot less loop material than it takes to cover the bottom of the device. Obviously you don't want your pedals falling off the board but the fact is that two non flexible surfaces bonded with industrial hook & loop are very difficult to get apart so temper your use of the hook material with how often you think you might be moving things around.
3. Finally, if you are having trouble with actual hook to loop adhesion, check to see how clean the hook material is as it tends to pick up all kinds of crap over the years. If it looks like your cat, clean it or change it!
4. Once your signal path is set and your pedals are secured to the surface of the pedal board it is time to turn the pedal board upside down one more time.
  - a. Once again place the pedal board on a padded surface (a pillow works well in this case now that the pedals are attached to the top surface) (fig 15)
  - b. Using the 2 cable keepers supplied gather all the cables and secure them to the bottom of the pedal board (fig. 16). I have found that the white square keeper that is made to work with the black reusable zip tie (fig. 17) works best for heavy cables (like AC power cables) and the snap closure ring (fig. 18) is great for gathering up all the smaller cables. **[This process takes a bit of patience and is worth getting right if you want to avoid having loose cables hanging down under your board]** (fig.19)

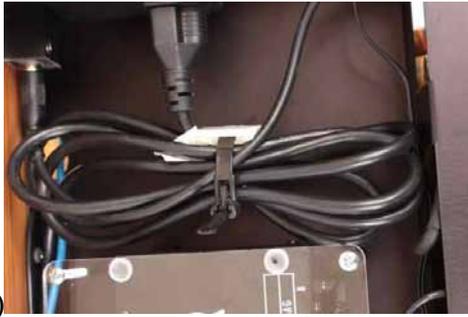


(fig. 15)



(fig. 16)





(fig. 17)



(fig. 18)



(fig. 19)



**Be sure and check out the Boicebox “Padded Gig Bag” for use with the T and Z model tiered Pedal Boards.**



**Thanks again for choosing a Boicebox Pedalboard and happy playing!**