

Sovereign[®]

Distortion

Brian Wampler is famous for taking big sounds and making them fit into small boxes, capable of running through just about anything and sounding so much like the inspiration that you'd have trouble telling the difference with your eyes closed.

What happens when you take all that razor-honed skill and let it loose with a goal not of replicating an amp sound, but of just making the best sounding distortion pedal possible?

The answer – and there can be only one – is Sovereign.

Capable of a range of sounds from juicy crunch to fat rhythm to leads with diamond-edged cut, the Sovereign Distortion could redeem distortion pedals in the eyes of even the most skeptical pedal-hater.

For all of us pedal-lovers, it's a magnificent beast which sacrifices nothing and brings it all to the table.

The question isn't whether Sovereign will give you the tone you seek, but rather, are you prepared for that much power under your feet?

To get the most out of your new pedal, you'll want to become very familiar with the controls. The Sovereign distortion pedal has a control setup that combines a few distinct elements in easy-to-grasp ways, making it straightforward to use but allowing for plenty of tonal flexibility.

With the Sovereign, Wampler Pedals has introduced the "Advanced Gain Structure" control setup, which visibly groups the adjustments most relevant to adding more or less distortion and making large changes to its character in one area. Inside that area are the Gain knob, an Even/Bright Toggle Switch, and a Standard/Boost Toggle Switch.

The other controls which have less to do with shaping the distortion itself are outside the Advanced Gain Structure box, and are Volume, Mid Behavior, and Tone. We recommend that you start with the Mid Behavior knob and Tone at Noon, and dial in the Advanced Gain Structure controls first! As with all Wampler Pedals products, the Sovereign includes a high-quality true-bypass switch which takes it completely out of the signal path when bypassed. Experiment and enjoy!



Bypass Switch – A relay based soft switch true-bypass footswitch ensures removal of the circuit when it isn't wanted, meaning you don't lose any tone when the pedal is off.

Volume – This control adjusts the output level of the Sovereign. There's plenty of volume on tap, so whether you want to go farther than your input level or just make sure it can do unity volume (the same level of signal going out as you feed it, when active), you're covered. The output volume, Advanced Gain Structure controls and tonal adjustments all have an impact on the total volume, so you're probably better off waiting to adjust the Volume until you've dialed in the other controls. Re-adjustment might be necessary if you get it to the desired level and still need to tweak the sound.

Gain – One of the Advanced Gain Structure controls, this knob adjusts the distortion level. It interacts with the Standard/Boost Toggle Switch and the Even/Bright Toggle Switch, and changing them will probably make you want to change the Gain knob's position as well. As mentioned, it has a very capable range of tones available, and with adjustment (and attention to the other AGS controls) you can set the foundations for a very powerful sound, regardless of how much distortion is involved.

Even/Bright Toggle Switch – In Even mode, this switch gives a rock-solid foundation, with strong midrange and even treble and bass. Flipped into Bright mode, the balance changes to favor high frequencies more. This can be invaluable when you need to add highs to a setup that is naturally dark in tonality. In Even mode, the pedal can lay down the thunder; in Bright mode, you'll unleash the lightning. Be prepared!

Standard/Boost Toggle – A great distortion pedal that only does high gain is worthy, but to be the Sovereign of distortion, flexibility isn't optional, it's required. In Standard mode, you have a great range of gain from responsive crunch to powerful, chunky distorton. Switch it to Boost to pick up where Standard leaves off, for more power and all the chewy, commanding distortion that you could possibly desire.

Mid Behavior – The Mid Behavior knob has a profound impact on the fundamental voice of the pedal. The mids are where guitar's fundamental frequencies, the heartbeats of your notes, live and breathe. Controlling the midrange is vital to dialing in the perfect sound to fit your desired role in the mix, and this control gives you plenty of adjustment to dial in the precise relationship of mids to other frequencies that you need.

Tone – Of course, the fundamentals of the guitar's notes are only part of the equation. All that distortion lives in higher frequencies, harmonics generated by the powerful gain engine that roars deep inside the Sovereign distortion. The Tone control is the key to nailing the highs just how you want them. Between the Tone control and the Bright/Even switch in the Advanced Gain Structure section, you have a tremendous amount of control over the frequency emphasis of the pedal.

Suggested Settings



Chunky SC rhythm



Chunky HB rhythm



Big SC leads



Big HB leads

WAMPLER Pedals Limited Warranty. WAMPLER offers a five (5) year warranty to the original purchaser that this WAMPLER product will be free from defects in material and workmanship. A dated sales receipt will establish coverage under this warranty. This warranty does not cover service or parts to repair damage caused by accident, neglect, normal cosmetic wear, disaster, misuse, abuse, negligence, inadequate packing or shipping procedures and service, repair or modifications to the product, which have not been authorized by WAMPLER. If this product is defective in materials or workmanship as warranted above, your sole remedy shall be repair replacement as provided below. **RETURN PROCEDURES.** In the unlikely event that a defect should occur, follow the procedure outlined below. Defective products must be shipped, together with a dated sales receipt, freight pre-paid and insured directly to **WAMPLER SERVICE DEPT – 3383 Gage Ave., Huntington Park, CA 90255, USA.** A Return Authorization Number must be obtained from our Customer Service Department prior to shipping the product. Products must be shipped in their original packaging or its equivalent; in any case, the risk of loss or damage in transit is to be borne by the purchaser. The Returns Authorization Number must appear in large print directly below the shipping address. Always include a brief description of the defect, along with your correct return address and telephone number.

When emailing to inquire about a returned product, always refer to the Return Authorization Number. If WAMPLER determines that the unit was defective in materials or workmanship at any time during the warranty period, WAMPLER has the option of repairing or replacing the product at no additional charge, except as set forth below. All replaced parts become a property of WAMPLER. Products replaced or repaired under this warranty will be returned via ground shipping within the United States freight prepaid. WAMPLER is not responsible for costs associated with expedited shipping, either to WAMPLER or the return of the product to the customer.

INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGE. In no event is WAMPLER liable for any incident or consequential damages arising out of the use or inability of the possibility of such damages, or any other claim by any other party. Some states do not allow the seclusion or limitation of consequential damages, so the above limitation and exclusion may not apply to you. This warranty gives you specific legal rights and you may also have other rights which may vary from state to state.

FOR YOUR PROTECTION. Please complete the online warranty registration within (10) ten days of the date of purchase so that we may contact you directly in the event of a safety notification issued in accordance with the 1972 Consumer Product Safety Act.

This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation.

This equipment generates, uses and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, there is no guarantees that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures.

- Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
- Increase the separation between the equipment and the receiver.
- Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.
- Consult the dealer or an experience radio/TV technician for help.

Changes or modifications not expressly approved by the party responsible for compliance could void the user's warranty to operate the equipment. **CUSTOMER SUPPORT.** Our dedicated staff is ready to help you with any warranty or product questions – please email us at help@wamplerpedals.com or call us on (765) 352-8626

Please remember to register your pedal as soon as possible after purchase at the following web page to ensure quicker service if you should ever need to make a warranty claim: www.RegisterYourWamplercom