Floor Manager

PEDALSNAKE ALL-IN-ONE STOMPBOX CABLE By Paul Riario

FOR MANY GUITARISTS, wiring up and powering multiple effects on a pedal board usually involves tangled cable and power lines and bulky adapters that, together, can become a chaotic and noisy mess.

GUITAR WORLD
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PedalSnake has a solution. Just as audio snakes are used to bundle and organize mic and line cables onstage and in studios, PedalSnake's All-In-One Stompbox Cable lets you neatly bundle guitar audio and low-voltage power lines between your amp and pedal board into an individual BaseSnake, which you can then customize to your needs using PedalSnake's various Pigtail connectors, adapters and cabling accessories. Whether you employ MIDI, effect loops, channel switching, wireless or stomp boxes, PedalSnake can handle it all, bringing organization and noise-free operation to your rig. Plus, the modular design allows for flexibility when your rig changes.

FEATURES The BaseSnake is the starting point of the system. It's available in 18- and 24-foot lengths, each with either four or seven channels. The four-channel BaseSnake is perfect for a minimal rig, while the seven-channel is best for those who require MIDI operation, intricate effect loops and so on. Each channel in the BaseSnake is color coded and features MIDI-style connectors at each end.

The Pigtails are the next step in the system. Each BaseSnake channel can be mated to two types of Pigtails: 1/4-inch G-Lines (guitarLines) or low-voltage P-Lines (PowerLines). You can also opt for Dual G-Line Pigtails (perfect for effect loop send/return routing) or Dual P-Line Pigtails (to isolate power between effects in the front of the amp and the amp's effect loop), or you can use the connectors without Pigtails for MIDI and five-pin DIN footswitch connections. The beauty of the system is that you decide the purpose of each channel in the BaseSnake. Best of all, the PedalSnake system embodies a single, flexible cable that is easy to coil, giving you one tidy line from your amp to pedal board.

Adapters, including nonstandard and hard-to-find power connectors, can be ordered online *à la carte*. PedalSnake also offers the SnakePower power supply, which can juice up to a dozen or more of your typical nine-volt stomp boxes, and you can easily daisy-chain power to several pedals with the company's unique Vari-Chain system of right-angle power-chain cables .

PERFORMANCE My own cabling needs aren't too complicated—I run effects through an effect loop, use a footswitch, and run the remaining pedals through the front of my amp—so I checked out the four-channel, 24-foot BaseSnake. On one channel I used G-Line Pigtails to connect my Fender Supersonic amp to my MXR Berserker Overdrive. I used a Dual G-Line Pigtail on another channel to run my Line 6 DL4 delay through my amp's send and return inputs. I used G-Line Pigtails on the third channel for my 1/4-inch footswitch, and on the fourth channel I placed Dual Isolated P-Line Pigtails (each with its own SnakePower) to isolate the power between the stomp boxes at the amp's front and those in the effect loop. Finally, I wired up all the remaining pedals neatly with the Vari-Chain.

Once it was configured, I was amazed at how clean my system looked with the one snaked connection between my amp and pedal board. I was concerned that using dual power lines would result in ground loops or hum, but the isolated routing of the P-Line Pigtails kept my setup operating noise free. After the gig, I was able to break down the PedalSnake in a minute by simply unplugging and coiling up the BaseSnake. Remarkable!

JIMMY HUBBARD