

S-Gear v3.2 Upgrade

Quick Start Guide

This Quick Start guide is intended for customers upgrading to S-Gear v3.2 from an earlier version of S-Gear. The guide provides information about everything new in v3 and assumes that you are already familiar with the core features of S-Gear. For comprehensive information about S-Gear, please refer to the full **S-Gear User Manual**.

Installing the v3.2 update

When upgrading from S-Gear v2.9 or earlier, it is recommended to uninstall S-Gear before running the S-Gear v3.2 installer. Please see the [website support page for uninstalling S-Gear](#).

After installing, fire up the S-Gear Standalone Application. This should create a new bank called '**Wah Thing**', containing 17 factory presets for the new Wah Thing pedal. See the last section of this guide for instructions on how to restore factory banks manually.

S-Gear v3.2 will load your existing presets and projects created using an earlier version of S-Gear.

If upgrading from S-Gear v2.9 or earlier, the following support note details some cases where the DAW may not recognise the S-Gear v3 VST plug-in:

<https://www.scuffhamamps.com/support/fag/sgear-v30-upgrade-fag/will-my-daw-sessions-and-presets-be-affected-by-the-update>

The Virtual Pedalboard

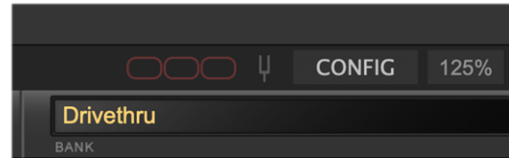
S-Gear v3 includes a new Virtual Pedalboard that can host up to eight pedals with high quality 8x oversampled audio processing. The initial v3.0 release introduced the first pedal, **Drivethru**, the v3.1 release added the **SG-S Compressor**, and the v3.2 adds the **Wah Thing** pedal.

Show or Hide the Pedalboard

Click the pedalboard icon  in the top control bar to show or hide the pedalboard.



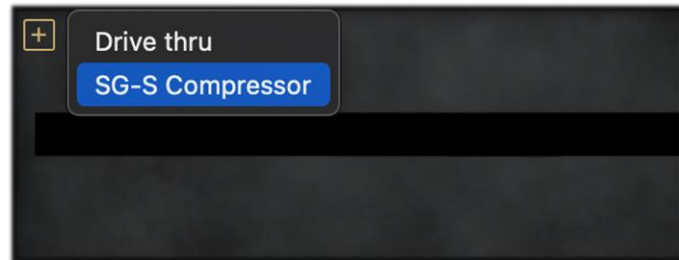
If the pedalboard is hidden with active pedals, the pedalboard icon is displayed red.



Add or Remove Pedals

Add a Pedal

To add a pedal to the board, click on the yellow '+' button, or click anywhere on the pedalboard. Select the desired pedal type from the pop-up menu.



Remove a Pedal

To remove a pedal, right-click anywhere on the pedal box and select 'Remove Pedal' from the pop-up menu.



Pedalboard scroller

If more than three pedals are placed on the pedalboard, a horizontal scroller tool will appear below the pedalboard. Use this tool to scroll between pedalboard sections.



Re-position Pedals

Pedal processing occurs left to right, and each pedal can be moved backward or forward in the processing chain by simply by dragging and dropping the pedal. The pedalboard view will scroll automatically as you drag and drop pedals to different positions.

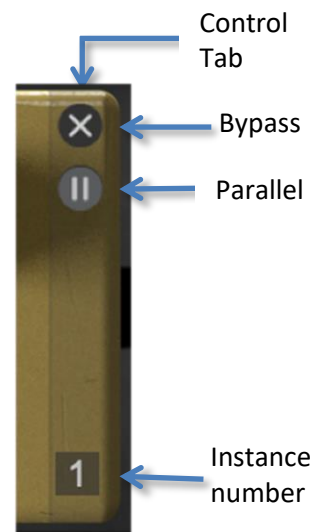
Pedal Control Tab

The control tab on the right hand side of the pedal provides buttons for **Bypass** and **Parallel**.

Depending on the Pedal, there might also be a Bypass footswitch on the main pedal controls. For example, *Drive thru* also has a footswitch and led for Bypass.

A pedal can be placed in series or parallel with the preceeding pedal. When the Parallel button is engaged, the pedal is placed in parallel with the preceeding pedal. Parallel mode cannot be engaged on the first pedal in the chain.

The **Instance number** is useful when assigning Midi Controllers or Automation parameters.



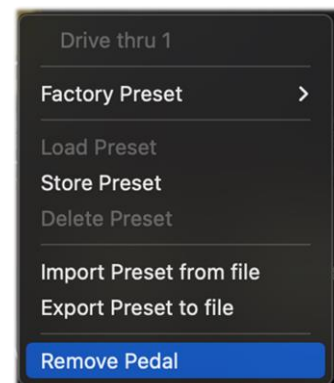
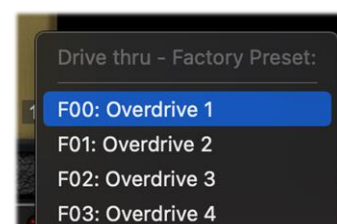
Pedal Presets

S-Gear Pedals include built-in **Factory Presets**, and also offers the ability to store and recall **User Presets**.

To access the Factory Presets, left-click anywhere on the Pedal control tab, alternatively you can access Factory Presets from the pedal right-click menu.

Use the right-click menu to **Load**, **Store** and **Delete** User Presets for the Pedal. It is also possible to Export and Import User Preset files.

A User Preset file can be imported by dragging and dropping the file directly onto the pedal.



Wah Thing

Wah Thing is a modelled wah effect based on a vintage 'Cry Baby' Wah pedal. The pedal can be operated using an external expression pedal by mapping a Midi controller to sweep the wah filter. The sweep of a real wah pedal depends on the physical arrangement of the potentiometer inside the pedal. Wah pedals don't usually start to sweep immediately after moving the pedal from the heel position, and often the maximum sweep at the toe position is limited. S-Gear's Wah Thing provides 'Offset' and 'Range' controls so that you can adjust the Wah pedal response exactly to your liking.



Wah Thing Modes

Wah Thing has three operating modes, Manual, Auto and Wave. Mode is set using the slide switch.

Manual (M) mode acts like a traditional Wah pedal and requires that you control the pedal position using a Midi expression pedal. In this mode, the first control knob corresponds to the wah pedal position.

Auto (A) mode uses the dynamics of the input signal to sweep the wah filter. In this mode, the first knob adjusts the sensitivity and character of the auto wah effect.

Wave (W) mode uses a modulation waveform to sweep the wah filter forward and back. The modulation waveform is derived from measurements of a real wah pedal being operated by foot. The rate of modulation can be adjusted from 0 to 5Hz, or when using S-Gear as a plug-in, the modulation can be sync'd to beat. Modulation rate or sync ratio can be adjusted using the first knob.

Manual Knob – Wah Thing pedal position / manual filter sweep position

Offset and Range Knobs – use the offset control to set the point at which the wah filter begins to sweep. At '0' the filter will begin to sweep from the heel position. At '10' the filter will begin to sweep approximately 25% into the pedal movement. Range limits the maximum sweep of the Wah filter to achieve a brighter or darker wah effect.

Beat Sync – When using S-Gear as a plug-in, if the Sync button is enabled and Beat information is available from the DAW, then the modulation rate will be locked to the Beat with a ratio of 1:1, 1:2, 1:3 or 1:4. The sync ratio can be set using the Ratio knob.



Recording the wah effect using S-Gear as a plug-in

By default, your DAW software will record the raw track input, unprocessed. Plug-in processing is applied at the mixing stage and on a final audio render. The problem here is that your Wah pedal performance will not be captured. To record the S-Gear WahThing, it is recommended to configure the Wah Thing track to record the channel output signal (with plug-in processing). On the Scuffham Amps website you can find support notes explaining how to do this in different DAW software.

Wah Thing Support Note online:

<https://www.scuffhamamps.com/support/topics/wah-thing>

Wah Thing Factory Presets

Wah Thing factory presets can be accessed via the pedal right-click menu, or by clicking anywhere on the pedal side-bar.

Wah Thing Factory Bank

The Wah Thing Factory Bank includes 17 full S-Gear presets to showcase the pedal. The Wah Thing factory bank can be restored from the PRESETS '+' menu. (M) denotes a manual mode preset.

000: Clean Wah (M)	<i>An addictive clean wah with strong compression</i>
001: Dark Lead Wah (M)	<i>The Jackal Dark Lead with manual wah pedal</i>
002: Plexmonster Wah (M)	<i>Some classic S-Gear factory presets with manual wah pedal up front.</i>
003: Custom Tweed Wah (M)	
004: Steely Ray Wah (M)	
005: Blue Klaptonite Wah (M)	
006: Cat Wah	<i>Dynamic wah with a cat-like character</i>
007: Auto Wah-farer	
008: Fat Rhythm Auto Wah	<i>A fat clean rhythm sound with auto-wah in front</i>
009: Fat Rhythm Auto Wah Doubler	
010: Dark Lead Auto Wah	
011: Super Wide Wave Wah	<i>Wave wah with a wide echo</i>
012: Rotary Wah	<i>Lower the Rate to get some spinning spatial effects</i>
013: Vibe Wah	
014: Cosmic Wah	
015: Deluxe Drive Wah (M)	
016: Wah Heaven (M)	

SG-S Compressor

SG-S is a vintage style compressor with input and output controls to balance the amount of compression. A unique shape control mixes two distinct circuits for compressor dynamics. The SG-S provides fast attack and release times for a natural sounding compression effect.



Input - Use the input control to adjust the amount of compression. Increasing the input gain will push the signal further into the compression threshold, resulting in more compression. The input gain ranges from -6dB to +30dB.

Output - Compensate the pedal output level with this control. With an output gain range of +/- 12 dB, there is the possibility to apply clean boost to the amplifier input.

Ratio - Adjust the compression ratio from 4:1 to 16:1. Ratio controls the amount of gain reduction applied to signals above the compressor threshold. Ratio settings from 4 to 12 are typical. With a lower input gain setting, higher ratios can be used to limit signal peaks.

Attack - Adjust the compressor attack time from 0 (slower) to 7 (fast), i.e. turning the knob clockwise will yield a faster attack. The faster attack time generally sounds more natural, since you don't perceive the action of the compressor circuit reducing the gain. Be aware however, that very fast attack times along with fast release can cause unwanted distortion. The measured attack time can range from 5msec to a very fast 50 usec.

Shape – Increase the Shape control setting to give more character to the compressor attack.

The shape control mixes control signals from two different sidechain circuits, one (clockwise) offering a more characterful attack characteristic and variable release, the other (counter-clockwise) a more natural response with a programme dependent auto release.

Release – Adjust the release time (for the second sidechain circuit). The Release time is the time it takes for the compressor gain to return to normal once the signal falls below threshold. Range from 600 msec down to 30 msec.

SG-S Compressor Factory Bank

The SG-S Compressor Factory Bank includes 23 full S-Gear presets to showcase the pedal. The SG-S Compressor factory bank can be restored from the PRESETS '4' menu.

000: Bottles	The classic American bright clean, which can sound be a bit like bottles clinking together. A strong treble lift is achieved by setting the Wayfarer input gain low and using the compressor output level to boost the amplifier input.
001: Studio Clean 002: Studio Drive	A softer, clean sound with very smooth dynamics. Studio Drive pushes the pre-amp and power-amp harder, pushing the Wayfarer clean channel into a classic American overdrive. For a different tone, try the S12-65 speaker with the Rbn-121 mic.
003: Sparkling Clean 004: Sparkling Air	A super-bright clean sound with ambience. Perfect for padding into a pop song (think MJ's Human Nature). The 'Air' variant adds even more ambience. Turn on the delay for added thickness.
005: Bottles Drive I 006: Bottles Drive II	These two presets take 'Bottles' as a base and then add the Drive thru for overdrive. I & II swap the position of the drive pedal with some additional compensations. Makes for two very interesting clean/drive configurations.
007: Dual Comp Gritty Rhythm	A big and ambient rhythm sound using a two-compressor setup. The second compressor is adding just a little additional compression, but also provides a clean boost into the Duke.
008: Core Plexi I 009: Core Plexi II	Two examples of using the SG-S to give additional boost and sustain for that maxed-out Plexi sound. I think this gets the Stealer a bit closer to the brown sound. Some post EQ will no doubt help too.
010: Wayfarer Comp Dark 011: Wayfarer Comp Bright	Two variations of boosting the Wayfarer with SG-S.
012: intimate 013: snappy 014: fast vintage 015: medium vintage 016: vintage r4 017: strummed guitar 018: natural 019: shaped 020: punch sustain 021: amp primer 022: dual compressors	The last 11 factory presets show the SG-S built-in device presets with a DI guitar sound (no amplifier) and some basic reverb. These presets demonstrate the range of compression effects available. Listening with the DI'd signal through good monitors or headphones allows you to hear (and feel) the compression effect in detail.

Drive thru

The **Drivethru** pedal is a combination of the classic TS style filtering and format, along with refined modelling of the clipping stages. The result is a very natural analogue drive which complements all the S-Gear amps.



Gain - Adjust the saturation of the pedals clipping stage

Tone - Adjust the treble cut and mid-boost characteristics of the pedal. Roll the control back to 3.0 to 4.0 for a softer attack and smoother overdrive. Settings of 5.0 to 7.0 provide more upper mid emphasis.

Level - Balance the overall pedal output level. This will have a significant impact on how overdriven the amp input stage becomes.

Pre-Clip – engage the pre-clip to emulate additional saturation in the input stage of the pedal. This can add a little more depth and sizzle to the sound.

Tone Tip: Find the perfect gain and tone balance by adjusting the amp gain control in conjunction with the pedal controls. The gain control of the amp will affect the treble and upper-mid frequency emphasis.

Drive thru Factory Bank

The Drive thru Factory Bank includes 17 full S-Gear presets to showcase the pedal.

000: Blackface Drive 001: Wayfarer Lead I Drive 002: Plexidrive 003: Sweet Spot Tweed 004: Mojo Drive 005: Blackface Drive 2 006: Stealer Crunch Drive 007: Tweed Drive 008: Joe B Blues	009: Wayfarer Drive Heaven 010: Blackface Drive 3 011: Texas Twister 012: Country Drive 013: Big M 1 014: Big M 2 015: Stealy Ray Drive 016: Drop-A Drive
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Restore Factory Banks

Restore the S-Gear Factory Banks at any time, using the '+' menu. A new factory bank will be created. This operation will not overwrite any existing factory bank. If a bank of the same name already exists, then a unique bank will be created (for example 'Drivethru 1').

