

# Nine Essential Features, How-Tos, and Reviews of Synths for Guitar and Bass

Unlock a world of sonic possibilities by integrating synthesizers into your guitar or bass rig. Synths for guitar and bass offer a vast array of sounds, from classic analog warmth to cutting-edge digital textures. Whether you're a seasoned pro or just starting to explore the world of synthesis, this comprehensive guide will equip you with everything you need to know.



## Pedal Phreakery Vol. 3 : Nine features, how-tos, and reviews on synth for guitar and bass by Kristi Sher

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 28405 KB

Lending : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Print length : 32 pages



We'll delve into nine essential features to look for when choosing a synth, provide step-by-step how-to guides to help you get started, and offer in-depth reviews of the top synths for guitar and bass in the market.

## Essential Features to Consider

1. **Oscillators:** The building blocks of any synth, oscillators generate the raw waveforms that form the foundation of your sound.
2. **Filters:** Sculpting and shaping your sound, filters control the frequency response, removing or boosting specific frequency ranges.

3. **Envelopes:** Modulating the volume, filter cutoff, or other parameters over time, envelopes add dynamic expression to your playing.
4. **Modulation:** Adding depth and interest to your sound, modulation allows you to control one parameter with another, creating complex and evolving sounds.
5. **Effects:** Enhancing your synth's sonic capabilities, effects such as reverb, delay, and distortion add layers of depth and atmosphere.
6. **Controls:** The interface of your synth, controls allow you to interact with the parameters and tweak your sound in real time.
7. **Connectivity:** Ensuring seamless integration into your setup, connectivity options such as MIDI, USB, and audio inputs/outputs are crucial.
8. **Size and Portability:** Whether you need a compact pedal for your guitar or a full-sized keyboard synth for your bass, consider the size and portability of the synth.
9. **Ease of Use:** From intuitive knobs and sliders to complex menus, synth usability can vary. Choose a synth that aligns with your skill level and workflow.

## Step-by-Step How-Tos

1. **Connecting Your Synth:** Learn how to properly connect your synth to your guitar or bass and ensure optimal signal flow.
2. **Creating Your First Patch:** Discover the basics of patch creation, from choosing oscillators to setting envelopes and filters.

3. **Modulating and Effects:** Explore the art of modulation and effects to add depth, movement, and atmosphere to your synth sounds.
4. **Troubleshooting Common Issues:** Equip yourself with troubleshooting tips to quickly resolve any setup or performance problems.

## Reviews of Top Synths for Guitar and Bass

### Korg MS-20 Mini



### Features:

- Semi-modular analog synth with 2 oscillators, filter, envelope generator, and VCA
- Extensive patch bay for creating complex modulations
- Compact and portable design

### **How-To:**

- [Creating a Basic Patch on the Korg MS-20 Mini](#)
- [In-depth Review of the Korg MS-20 Mini](#)

### **Moog Sub 37 Tribute Edition**



### **Features:**

- Analog monosynth with 2 oscillators, filter, envelope generator, and LFO
- Semi-modular design with patch points for external modulation
- Classic Moog sound with modern features

### **How-To:**

- [Getting Started with the Moog Sub 37 Tribute Edition](#)
- [In-depth Review of the Moog Sub 37 Tribute Edition](#)

### **Roland TB-3 Touch Bassline**



### Features:

- Digital recreation of the iconic Roland TB-303 bass synthesizer
- Touch-sensitive interface for intuitive bassline creation
- Built-in step sequencer and effects

## How-To:

- Creating a Bassline with the Roland TB-3 Touch Bassline
- In-depth Review of the Roland TB-3 Touch Bassline

## Electro-Harmonix Synth9



## Features:

- Analog guitar synthesizer pedal with 9 different synth engines
- Extensive parameter controls for shaping your sound
- Compact and pedalboard-friendly design

### How-To:

- Exploring the Electro-Harmonix Synth9
- In-depth Review of the Electro-Harmonix Synth9

### Line 6 HX Stomp XL





## Features:

- Multi-effects processor with a dedicated synth engine
- Wide range of synth models and effects
- Compact design with expression pedal

## How-To:

- Creating Synths with the Line 6 HX Stomp XL
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