



Allan H Collection

“The man who changed guitar forever”

Studio Rigs: 36

Direct Rigs: 29

Presets: 24

Why This Collection Matters

Recreating the sound of Allan Holdsworth isn't about chasing a guitar tone it's about stepping into an entirely different musical language. His approach reshaped what the instrument could express. Traditional reference points simply don't apply here.

For this collection, the focus wasn't on replicating isolated pieces of gear, but on capturing the *behavior* of his sound. Holdsworth's tone lives in the interaction between touch, sustain, and extreme phrasing. It's incredibly smooth, yet never static every note carries depth, evolving in a way that feels almost elastic under the fingers.

A huge part of his identity comes from the absence of harsh attack. Notes emerge rather than snap into place, creating that unmistakable legato flow. The compression isn't obvious, but it's always working keeping everything connected, balanced, and dynamically responsive without ever feeling restricted.

This pack is built around that exact concept: continuity. Not just long sustain, but controlled, expressive sustain that reacts instantly to your phrasing. The response is fast but never aggressive, allowing complex chord voicings and fluid lines to remain clear, even in dense harmonic contexts.

Rather than rebuilding a traditional rig, this collection reconstructs the *environment* that made his sound possible. The feel, the headroom, the way the tone expands as you play it's all designed to give you that same sense of limitless movement across the fretboard.

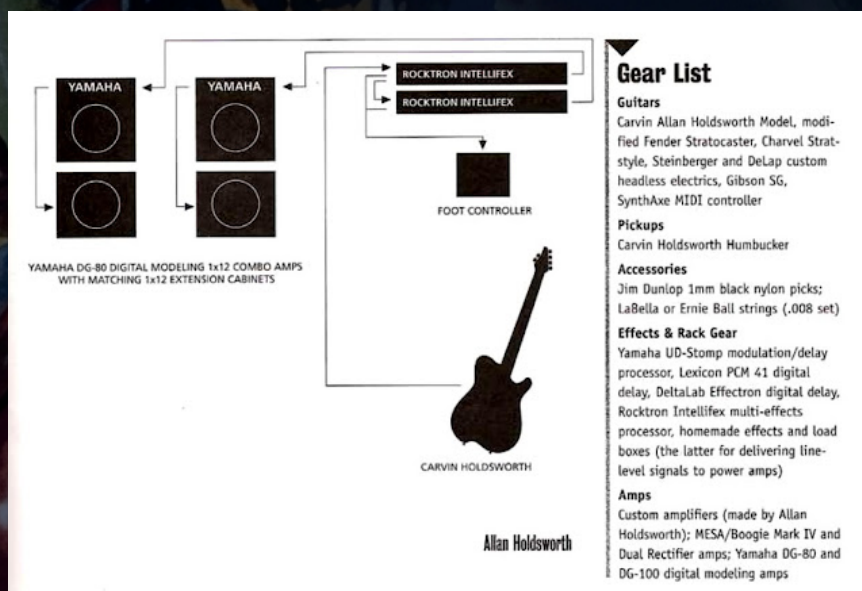
This isn't about sounding heavier or louder. It's about sounding *deeper*.

The Collection

Yamaha DG-80



During the late '90s and early 2000s, Allan Holdsworth embraced one of the most unconventional choices of his career: the Yamaha DG-80 digital modeling amplifiers. At a time when most players were still deeply attached to tube gear, Holdsworth moved in the opposite direction, drawn not by tradition, but by functionality and control. In interviews from that period, he described using *two* DG-80 combos simultaneously one dedicated to clean tones and the other to lead sounds highlighting a highly structured, almost modular approach to his rig. For his clean sound, he would intentionally use a crunch preset with extremely low gain and high master volume, allowing the tone to stay soft and fluid while introducing a subtle “growl” only when digging in.



For lead tones, he relied on preset-based variations with different gain levels, switching between them dynamically depending on the musical context, rather than relying on a single static sound. What made the DG-80 era particularly significant is how well it aligned with his philosophy:

gear wasn't meant to define the tone, but to *refine* it. In his own words, the purpose of equipment was simply to “fine-tune your sound... that comes from the hands.”

The Yamaha system allowed him to achieve consistency, portability, and a level of repeatability that traditional rigs often couldn't guarantee especially on tour.

Hughes&Kettner Switchblade



During the later years of his career roughly spanning the mid-2000s into the 2010s Allan Holdsworth incorporated the Hughes & Kettner Switchblade into his live and studio setups, marking another step in his ongoing pursuit of consistency and control. This period reflects a clear continuation of the philosophy he had already embraced with earlier digital and hybrid systems: reducing unpredictability while maintaining expressive depth.

The Switchblade itself was a forward-thinking platform for its time a fully programmable tube amplifier with integrated digital effects and MIDI recall, capable of storing complete tonal configurations and recalling them instantly . For Holdsworth, this wasn't about convenience in the superficial sense it was about *repeatability*. His music relied on subtle dynamics, precise gain staging, and a very controlled envelope, and having an amp that could reproduce those parameters consistently night after night was a huge advantage.

Although he rarely framed his choices in terms of brand loyalty, his interviews consistently underline a key idea: gear exists to *serve the hands*, not the other way around. His move toward systems like the Switchblade aligns perfectly with that mindset.

In practical terms, the Switchblade era highlights a refined, almost engineered approach to tone. Multiple programmable channels allowed him to separate clean and lead textures while maintaining the same core identity, and the integrated effects reduced the need for complex external rigs. The result was a streamlined ecosystem where the response remained fluid, the sustain controlled, and the articulation intact exactly the parameters that defined his playing.

Effects



When discussing Allan Holdsworth's legendary guitar tone, one piece of gear appears time and time again: the Rocktron Intelliflex. More than just a rack effects processor, it became an essential part of the spacious, fluid, and unmistakably three-dimensional sound that defined many of Holdsworth's most celebrated recordings and live performances.

Holdsworth was famously selective about his equipment. Effects were never meant to dominate the sound; they had to enhance it while remaining transparent, preserving every nuance of his playing. The Intelliflex achieved exactly that. Its pristine modulation algorithms, lush choruses, smooth delays, and seamless preset switching allowed him to create depth and movement without sacrificing clarity or dynamics.

This collection pays tribute to that iconic era by recreating some of the most recognizable Intelliflex LTD presets associated with Holdsworth's sound. Every preset has been carefully analyzed and

refined to capture the character, dimension, and musicality that made the original unit a cornerstone of countless professional rigs throughout the 1990s.

The result is more than a collection of effects—it is an invitation to experience the rich modulation, spacious ambience, and expressive textures that helped shape one of the most distinctive guitar voices in modern music history.

In addition to the collection we've included a selection of THU Premium effects plus a special amplifier to ensure you're covered in every situation.

What's Inside The Pack

STUDIO RIGS:

HK Switch - Flat Clean - HK TC V30 - SM57 + R121 + U47
HK Switch - Bass Boost Clean - HK TC V30 - SM57 + R121 + e906
HK Switch - Bass Boost Crunch - HK TC 412 V30 - SM57 + R121 + M160
HK Switch - Bright Clean - HK TC V30 - SM57 + R121 + M160
HK Switch - Bright Crunch - HK TC 412 V30 - SM57 + R121 + e906
HK Switch - Bright Lead - HK TC V30 - SM57 + R121
HK Switch - Creamy Crunch - HK TC V30 - SM57 + R121 + C414
HK Switch - Dark Clean - HK TC V30 - SM57 + R121 + U87
HK Switch - Fast Attack Lead - HK TC V30 - SM57 + R121
HK Switch - Hard Crunch - HK TC V30 - SM57 + R121
HK Switch - Harmonic Crunch - HK TC V30 - SM57 + R121
HK Switch - High Boost Crunch - HK TC 412 V30 - SM57 + R121 + U87
HK Switch - Legato Lead - HK TC V30 - SM57 + R121 + U47
HK Switch - Mid Boost Lead - HK TC V30 - SM57 + R121 + C414
HK Switch - Pad Clean - HK TC V30 - SM57 + R121
HK Switch - Razor Crunch - HK TC 412 V30 - SM57 + R121 + U47
HK Switch - Violin Lead - HK TC V30 - SM57 + R121 + M160

DG-80 CH5 - Mid Boost Drive - G12H-100 - SM57 + R121
DG-80 CH1 - Bass Boost Clean - G12H-100 - SM57 + R121 + U87
DG-80 CH1 - Flat Clean - G12H-100 - SM57 + R121 + U87
DG-80 CH2 - Bright Clean - G12H-100 - SM57 + R121 + MD421
DG-80 CH2 - High Boost Clean - G12H-100 - SM57 + R121 + MD421
DG-80 CH3 - Gritty Crunch - G12H-100 - SM57 + R121 + MD 421
DG-80 CH4 - Bass Boost Crunch - G12H-100 - SM57 + R121 + MD 421
DG-80 CH4 - Grainy Crunch - G12H-100 - SM57 + R121 + MD 421
DG-80 CH5 - Melodic Drive - G12H-100 - SM57 + R121
DG-80 CH5 - Punchy Drive - G12H-100 - SM57 + R121 + MD 421
DG-80 CH6 - Bass Boost Drive - G12H-100 - SM57 + R121 + MD421
DG-80 CH6 - High Boost Drive - G12H-100 - SM57 + R121 + MD421
DG-80 CH7 - Bright Lead - G12H-100 - SM57 + R121 + U87
DG-80 CH7 - Legato Lead - G12H-100 - SM57 + R121 + MD421
DG-80 CH8 - Fusion Lead - G12H-100 - SM57 + R121
DG-80 CH8 - Liquid Lead - G12H-100 - SM57 + R121
DG-80 CH8 - Mid Boost Lead - G12H-100 - SM57 + R121 + MD421
DG-80 Holdsworth Clean Settings - G12H-100 - SM57 + R121 + U87
DG-80 Holdsworth Lead Settings - G12H-100 - SM57 + R121 + U87



DIRECT RIGS:

DG-80 CH6 - High Boost Drive
DG-80 CH1 - Bass Boost Clean
DG-80 CH2 - Bright Clean
DG-80 CH2 - High Boost Clean
DG-80 CH3 - Gritty Crunch
DG-80 CH4 - Bass Boost Crunch
DG-80 CH4 - Grainy Crunch
DG-80 CH5 - Melodic Drive
DG-80 CH5 - Mid Boost Drive
DG-80 CH5 - Punchy Drive
DG-80 CH6 - Bass Boost Drive
DG-80 CH7 - Bright Lead
DG-80 CH7 - Legato Lead
DG-80 CH8 - Fusion Lead
DG-80 CH8 - Liquid Lead
DG-80 CH8 - Mid Boost Lead
DG-80 Holdsworth Clean Settings
DG-80 Holdsworth Lead Settings

HK Switch - Violin Lead
HK Switch - Bass Boost Crunch
HK Switch - Bright Crunch
HK Switch - Bright Lead
HK Switch - Flat Clean
HK Switch - Hard Crunch
HK Switch - Harmonic Crunch
HK Switch - High Boost Crunch
HK Switch - Legato Lead
HK Switch - Pad Clean
HK Switch - Razor Crunch

PRESETS:

1. I.O.U - The Things You See
2. I.O.U - Where Is One
3. I.O.U - Letters of Marquee
4. I.O.U - Shallow Sea
5. Metal Fatigue - Metal Fatigue
6. Metal Fatigue - Home
7. Metal Fatigue - Devil Take the Hindmost
8. Metal Fatigue - Panic Station
9. Secrets - City Nights
10. The Sixteen Men of Tain - 0274
11. The Sixteen Men of Tain - Above and Below
12. The Sixteen Men of Tain - Texas
13. The Sixteen Men of Tain - Material Unreal
14. Live Rig - Fred
15. Live Rig - Leave them on
16. Live Rig - Letters of Marquee
17. Live Rig - Bo Peep
18. Live Rig - Proto Cosmos
19. Live Rig - Funnels
20. Live Rig - Water on the Brain
21. Planet X - Desert Girl
22. Planet X - The Thinking Stone
23. HK Switchblade - Scenes
24. DG 80 - Scenes