



HEADPHONES

THE headphone/recording outlet is speaker-emulated using Orange's new CabSim circuit, and sounds as close as you can get to a real Orange 4x12 without plugging into one

LOOKS

BLACK hardware, orange vinyl, picture frame cabinet, basket weave speaker grille, white control panel... There's no mistaking one of the most iconic amp styles on the planet

**TUNER**

THE chromatic tuner display can be switched on or off, and the tuner itself is fast and accurate – no excuses for being sharp or flat any more...

**AT A GLANCE**

TYPE: Solid-state combo w/ digital reverb

OUTPUT: 35W

LOUDSPEAKER: 1x Orange Custom 10"

CONTROLS: Clean volume, overdrive gain, volume; bass, mid, treble, reverb level, manual channel change switch, tuner on/off switch

SOCKETS: Input, headphones/recording out, aux in, effects send, effects return, footswitch jack

WEIGHT: 11.5kg

DIMENSIONS: [HxWxD] 390x430x230mm

CONTACT: Orange Amplification

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ORANGE CRUSH 35RT £199

Want Great British tone at a bargain price? Peel one of these...

THERE was a time when the humble practice amp was a cheap-as-chips second fiddle to its bigger brothers. How things have changed. With digital electronics and effects costing next to nothing and offshore manufacturing keeping costs down, the modern equivalent is often the only amp many players need. Over the years, Orange has had plenty of time to improve and refine its solid-state Crush range, culminating in a new series of combos announced at this year's NAMM Show. There's a range of sizes to suit all bedrooms and pockets, topping out with this one, the Crush 35RT.

The new Crush is unmistakably Orange, with the classic cabinet design combined with a white wrap-over control and rear panel that doubles as the chassis. Internally, the electronics are neat and tidy, contained on several high-quality printed circuit boards. The Crush 35RT is a proper two-channel design, with separate

volume controls, an overdrive gain control and a shared EQ, plus a 3.5mm aux input jack, and a handy headphone socket that doubles as a speaker-emulated recording/line out, using Orange's CabSim circuit. The RT part of the model name refers to digital reverb, governed by a simple level control, and a built-in chromatic tuner. On the back, you'll find a

The clean and dirty channel sounds are warm and punchy

series effects loop and a jack socket for a footswitch (sold separately). The Crush 35RT looks solid because it is solid – tough enough and loud enough for small gigs, as well as rehearsal and home use.

If you weren't already convinced by the looks, the Crush 35RT's sounds will leave you in no doubt about this brand's heritage. Both the clean and dirty channel sounds

are warm, fat and punchy, fooling you into thinking you're hearing a much bigger valve amp, rather than a compact solid-state combo. The overdrive is pure British classic rock, with the first half of the gain knob's travel covering the less distorted tones from Orange's late 60s and 70s first-generation amps. Turn the gain control past one o'clock and jump forward two

decades to Britpop and Oasis, then max it out with Orange's modern wall of distortion, favoured by bands like Slipknot and Nightrage. The built-in digital reverb sounds warm, too, adding a nice touch of ambience, while the built-in tuner operates swiftly and accurately. We were also impressed with the quality of tone from the CabSim circuit, which proved equally

useful into a PA and home recording setup.

There's no excuse for not getting a great sound with this new Crush combo, whatever your age or taste. The 35RT has plenty of classic and modern Orange tone on tap, sounding equally great at bedroom levels or cranked up with a band. And while it can't quite match the touch responsiveness of the company's valve amps, the lack of valves makes it totally consistent from one night to the next, and light enough to be very portable. Most importantly, the price is right, too, especially for an amp that's primed for the transition from the bedroom to the stage.

Nick Guppy

SUMMARY	FEATURES			
	SOUND QUALITY			
	VALUE FOR MONEY			
	BUILD QUALITY			
	USABILITY			
OVERALL RATING		★	★	★