

BOSS PW-3 WAH PEDAL

£105

All features great and small

THE PW-3 is smaller and lighter than a classic Cry Baby, while still offering two distinct wah sounds. The Vintage position on the pedal's small faceplate-mounted slider switch covers your iconic Jimi Hendrix, *Theme From Shaft* and 70s porn soundtrack stuff. Wide open, it sucks the bottom end out of your tone for that satisfying old-school squawk that Jimi put to such creative use on the likes of *Voodoo Chile*, and Eric Clapton used to paint Cream's *White Room*. Aficionados like to 'cock' their wah pedals, finding a tone they like then parking the treadle (the bit you rock with your foot) in that position. For instance, with the PW-3 wide open, we got pretty

damn close to Mark Knopfler's *Money For Nothing* sound. Yep, a wah pedal is more versatile than you might realise.

Flicking the slider switch to Rich acts like an aural stock cube, beefing up the tone of the wah effect over its entire sweep. That's a real bonus if you use high-gain sounds in a line-up where you're the only guitarist and want to maintain the integrity of the band's bottom-end when you solo.

Okay, the PW-3 doesn't have the vintage appeal of a Cry Baby, but it's packed with just as much tone, built like a tank and is just the right side of affordable. Its footprint may be small but this little guy is punching way above its weight.

Ed Mitchell



TYPE: Wah pedal
CONTROLS: Vintage/rich slider switch
SOCKETS: Input, output
BYPASS: Buffered
POWER: 9V battery or Boss PSA230 adaptor (£22.95)
CONTACT: Roland UK
 01792 702701 www.roland.co.uk

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

MOVALL ROCK HIGHWAY

£94

Three really is the magic number...

THE Chinese-made Movall Rock Highway has more than one engine beating away under its hood. What we have here is three pedals in one, with independent overdrive, distortion and delay circuits, each wired to a trio of dedicated controls and an on/off switch. The whole thing is powered from a single nine-volt adaptor – not supplied – and there's the bonus of an onboard effects loop that allows you to place other pedals between the overdrive/distortion and delay circuits. At just below 100 sheets it seems like a lot of spec for the money. Maybe this muscle car is cutting a few corners...

Actually, all three effects sound fantastic. The overdrive comes

over like a classic Tube Screamer, transparent yet with a bit more grunt. The distortion is thick and warm, and not a million miles from EVH's 'Brown Sound', while the delay goes from slapback to canyon with vintage delivery.

You can use the effects solo or together. What's more, you can choose to run the overdrive into the distortion circuit or vice versa with the small OD/DIST switch. We prefer the former setup where the overdrive adds gain to the distorted tone without compromising clarity and note separation. It's just another tonal option in a high-spec/low-cost pedal that's sure to get your creative motor running.

Ed Mitchell



TYPE: Overdrive, distortion and delay pedal
CONTROLS: Overdrive: effect on/off, level, tone, drive; Distortion: effect on/off, level, tone, gain; Delay: effect on/off, level, repeat, time; overdrive/distortion order switch
SOCKETS: Mono input & output, send & return
BYPASS: True bypass
POWER: 9V DC power adaptor (not supplied)
CONTACT: Spartan Music
 07773 952008 www.spartanmusic.co.uk

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

