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1 ORANGE TWO STROKE £119

ORIGIN: China

TYPE: EQ/boost pedal

FEATURES: Buffered bypass, internal charge pump that doubles the operating voltage to 18V

CONTROLS: Hi boost/cut, Hi frequency (850Hz – 8.2kHz), Lo boost/cut, Lo frequency (120Hz – 1.2kHz), Oil, Bypass footswitch

CONNECTIONS:

Standard input, output

POWER: 9V battery or 9V-12V adaptor (not supplied) 20mA

DIMENSIONS: 130 (d) x 95 (w) x 65 mm (h)

Orange Amplification
020 8905 2828
www.orangeamps.com



There is an abundance of boost pedals currently available, some of which have adjustable EQ, but the Orange Two Stroke goes further by combining boost with a powerful two-band parametric EQ. If you just need more of what you already have, then turning up the Oil knob will give you up to an extra 12dB of boost to kick the front end of your amp. But if there's a certain tonal area you'd like to cut or boost, you can get 18dB at a selected frequency from each of the Hi and Lo EQs.

These are incredibly powerful either when used singly or in conjunction for tasks, such as reducing superfluous low-end flab, refocusing the midrange content or boosting the top end.

While this is a pedal that can confidently deliver the mild boost and EQ shift you might need to kick in for a solo, it also comes with the capability for a more radical sonic sculpting that can organically transform your guitar/amp voice. **[TC]**

9/10

VERDICT A brilliant combination of boost and EQ if you don't mind a slightly larger pedal

2 WAY HUGE OVERRATED SPECIAL £189

ORIGIN: USA

TYPE: Overdrive pedal

FEATURES: True hardwire relay bypass

CONTROLS: Volume, Drive, Tone, 500Hz, bypass footswitch

CONNECTIONS:

Standard input, standard output

POWER: 9V battery or 9V DC adaptor (not supplied)

DIMENSIONS: 80 (w) x 124 (d) x 60 mm (h)

Westside Distribution
0844 326 2000
www.jimdnunlop.com



Designed for Joe Bonamassa, the

OVERRATED Special is a limited-edition run of 1,000 units that reimagines Way Huge's Green Rhino overdrive. Designer George Tripps has tweaked the pedal for a more pronounced midrange and added a 500Hz knob that offers boost or cut around that low-mid frequency.

Bonamassa uses one of these with Fender tweed amps that are already cranked – and the pedal comes alive in that role, taking an already overdriven amp to the next level, adding harmonics and helping notes bloom into feedback under your fingers. When used as a boost, the 500Hz knob adds a certain definition at a sweet spot that will let your guitar cut through the mix, while sounding natural rather than overly aggressive. It works just fine with a clean amp, too, giving you an extra channel of natural raunch to play with.

Certain transparent overdrives have achieved mythical status by doing a similar job to this, give it a try – it's overrated in name only. **[TC]**

9/10

VERDICT A great asset in front of your amp, whether you're a JoeBo fan or not