





# JACKSON DINKY JS24 DKAM DX

£275

## A budget speed machine for tomorrow's shredder

**S**peed is a quality often sneered at as though public displays of Roman candle lead guitar were somehow immoral or lacking emotional complexity. But speed can be essential. Where would heavy metal be without an uptempo rhythm figure, or a helter-skelter solo? The Jackson brand was built for speed, and its high-performance ideals have matured to the point that its entry-level JS series includes guitars such as this.

This is classic Jackson. The Dinky body is a familiar arch-topped take on the S-style, sporting more aggressive cutaways with chamfered edges, opening up the full fingerboard. The JS24 comes with a solid mahogany body and a caramelised maple neck and fingerboard – materials we don't always see at this price.

The neck profile is described as a “speed neck” and it's a slip of a thing, satin-smooth and bolted to the body. The JS24's extends its go-faster feel via a 12” to 16” compound radius fingerboard, as found on all contemporary Jackson six-strings. The black Shark Fin inlay is another signature move, reprising the sharp angles of Jackson's classic six-in-line headstock.

There are two high-output ceramic humbuckers at the neck and bridge positions, with a three-way blade selector switch and control knobs for volume and tone. Jackson has equipped the JS24 with a two-point Fulcrum vibrato, and while we might imagine a little disappointment that it's not a double-locking Floyd Rose, this stable and tidily engineered vibrato is nonetheless perfect

for learning whammy bar techniques without the faff of balancing the unit. That's just what you need when learning; more time playing.

High-output ceramic pickups can be a little shrill, but when mounted in the JS24's mahogany body, these Jackson-branded humbuckers reveal some character, enough muscle and teeth when played through a high-gain amplifier to cover most metal styles. The neck pickup rolls off the high-end sting, offering a smoother voicing for legato arpeggios, while teasing pinched harmonics out of the bridge pickup is child's play.

Tight and articulate, the clean tones are not bad either. Like the best Jackson guitars, the JS24 has an automatic quality, as though the guitar were guiding your hand. This instrument is aimed at beginners but it's great fun for all, and it makes a great candidate for modding.

Fit a Seymour Duncan JB at the bridge, a Jazz at the neck, and perhaps some low-friction pots and you've got a serious instrument. Some might find the neck joint clunky, but that's splitting hairs.

It's easy to overplay on this. Wait – overplay? Hey, didn't we agree that some songs call for spectacular styles? Well, this little Dinky is just the thing to get your chops up, to express yourself at any tempo, to be spectacular.

**Jonathan Horsley**

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

### 1 SPEED NECK:

The compound radius fingerboard is built for soloists, flattening out as you go further up the fretboard.

### 2 CERAMIC HUMBUCKERS:

These Jackson pickups have enough juice to see you through on your *Master Of Puppets* tab book, but upgrading them would make the JS24 a keeper for years to come.

### 3 DINKY BODY:

A modern classic, the arch-top design is compact and ergonomic. Unlike the Jackson Soloist's neck-through build, the neck is bolted onto the body.

### AT A GLANCE

**ORIGIN:** China  
**TYPE:** 24-fret electric guitar  
**BODY:** Mahogany  
**NECK:** Caramelised maple (bolt-on)  
**SCALE LENGTH:** 648mm (25.5")  
**FRETBOARD:** Caramelised maple, 10"-12" radius  
**FRETS:** 24, jumbo  
**NUT:** 42.86mm, black plastic  
**PICKUPS:** 2x Jackson High-Output Ceramic humbuckers  
**CONTROLS:** 1x volume and 1x tone, 3-way blade selector switch  
**HARDWARE:** 2-Point Fulcrum Tremolo, Jackson Sealed Die-Cast tuners,  
**FINISH:** Red Stain[as reviewed], Black Stain  
**CONTACT:** Jackson, jacksonguitars.com

