



Amp dial
The Spider packs 12 amp simulations from a Vox AC30 to a '68 Marshall Plexi

Valves
The Spider Valve includes genuine 12AX7 preamp tubes and 5881 power tubes

Presets
Lazy guitarists will love the Spider's 400 presets designed by real rock stars



Line 6 Spider Valve 112

£551

It's the first Spider to feature genuine valves, but is it money down the tubes?

Line 6 is a driving force in the modelling industry, so TG naturally assumed its staff spent their tea breaks hitting EL34 valves with hammers. We certainly weren't expecting the Spider Valve series – a new range of combos that slap Line 6's digital front end onto a genuine Class AB valve amp, designed by German legend Reinhold Bogner. They're quite expensive, so we chose the smallest for review here.

The sizzle: The partnership of Line 6 and Herr Bogner is the manufacturing equivalent of that time when Hendrix jammed with Clapton, and the 112 blurb is quick to remind us what each legend brings to the table.

The idea is that Line 6 takes care of the Spider Valve's versatility, throwing in 12 amp models, 400 presets, seven effects and endless trimmings. Meanwhile, Bogner tinkers with

the preamp and power amp to deliver a tone that "conjures up the rich harmonics, subtle

cheaper than the Spider Valve, the main thing TG wanted in exchange for our wad of cash

"CRANK THIS ARACHNID AND YOU GET SOME OF THE HOTTEST TONES ON THE MARKET"

compression and attitude of a great vintage amplifier".

We say: If you've already used Line 6 gear, you'll get stuck straight into this. Rotating the Amp dial moves you through 12 simulations, from the Hiwatt-referencing 'Clean' to the Mesa-esque 'Metal'. Modulation and delay are layered using separate dials and the 400 presets are organised into intuitive banks. You have the option of editing and saving bespoke settings, and there are a shed-load of outputs round the back.

But listen. Seeing as the existing Spider III is a good £150

was a stone-dead valve tone. And baby, did we get it! We don't know whether it's Line 6 or Bogner who deserves the back slaps over this mighty beast, but when you crank the arachnid you get some of the hottest, sweatiest, most organic tones there are on the market. Nice work, Spider men.

Henry Yates

At a glance

Spider Valve 112
ORIGIN: China
TYPE: Modelling amp
OUTPUT: 40watts RMS
LOUDSPEAKER: 1x 12"
VALVES: 2x 12AX7 (preamp), 2x5881 (power amp)
FEATURES: 12 amp models, 7 effects, four channels, 3-band EQ etc
CONTROLS: Amp Model, Drive, Bass, Mid, Treble, Channel Volume etc
WEIGHT: 20.4kg
DIMENSIONS: [HxWxD] 520 x 570 x 270mm
CONTACT: Line 6 Europe 01327 302700
WEB: www.line6.com

SUMMARY

For: Real valves mean this Spider bites like a tarantula
Against: £500 is a bit of an investment

★★★★★

TG says... Two legends for the price of one!



This panel puts an enormous range of tones at your fingertips

