

Transmitter
The belt pack transmitter connects to your guitar, leaving you cable-free



Cable Tone
The Cable Tone switch filters your top end, much like a long lead

Channels
Six channels let you run up to six separate G30 units at once



LINE 6 RELAY G30 £249

You don't need to sacrifice tone (or too much cash) to reap the benefits of wireless

Whether you want to ride around on your tech's shoulders, perform scissor kicks off the drum riser or just avoid tripping over, the potential for guitar hero antics is endless with a wireless system. Unfortunately, traditional analogue systems have been accused of squashing dynamics and sucking tone.

A new breed of digital systems offers higher bandwidths, meaning full frequency response and uncompressed sound. Line 6 claims the G30 (the entry-level brother to the more expensive G50 and G90) is "bonehead simple", and it's not kidding. The system includes a belt-pack that connects to your guitar and a receiver to hook up to your amp. There are six channels (to accommodate multiple units in the same venue), and you match the channel on the included belt-pack to the one on the receiver. Your only concern is whether the plastic construction is up to the gigging it's designed for.

From 2012, many analogue frequency bands currently free

for wirelesses will be illegal to use. The digital G30 has no such worries because it operates at a 2.4GHz frequency (the same as regular Wi-Fi connection), and Line 6's DCL technology means that the G30 ignores Wi-Fi signals. In our time with the G30, we didn't suffer any dropouts, and the selection of channels means that up to six musicians can use separate G30s at once without interference.

The G30 gives a completely uncompressed, full-bandwidth signal, so you get more top end than you're used to with a cable. The included Cable Tone switch subtly reduces high frequencies to simulate the sound of a long guitar lead. It's a handy feature, but you might prefer to stick with the pure signal and make any tonal adjustments at your amp.

In an A/B comparison with our favourite leads, we were pushed to tell the difference. Occasionally at long distance, we thought we detected slight latency – like playing through a fast laptop – but otherwise the guitar and its controls responded exactly as we're used to.

Conclusion: It's hard to see a downside to the Relay G30. Some might worry about the durability of the plastic construction, but it's easy to position the receiver out of harm's way, and the G50 and G90 offer tougher build quality for heavier applications. The only question is whether you *need* it – you can buy a lot of guitar leads for £249. Still, if you've got your heart set on liberating yourself from the constraints of being tethered by leads, then the G30 is the first place you should look.

Jonny Scaramanga

At a glance

Line 6 Relay G30

TYPE: Wireless system
RANGE: 30.5m
FREQUENCY RESPONSE: 10Hz to 20kHz
CHANNELS: 6
CONTROLS: Cable Tone, channel select
SOCKETS: Input, output power
CONTACT: Line 6
01327 302700
WEB: www.line6.co.uk

SUMMARY

For: Keeps your tone unaffected

Against: Build quality could be a worry

★★★★★

TG says... Experience true freedom for £249

"IN A COMPARISON WITH OUR FAVOURITE LEADS, THE GUITAR AND ITS CONTROLS RESPONDED EXACTLY AS WE'RE USED TO"



Line 6's Relay systems take the confusion out of going wireless