

Effects pedals

Following on from last month, here are three more fine stompboxes for you to cast your gear-hungry eyes over...

Line 6 Tonecore Echo Park

Price: £112 **Contact:** Line 6 UK 01327 302700
Web: www.line6.com

THE DIGITAL MODELLING maestros are no strangers to the stompbox delay format. The four-button DL4 was released a few years ago now but can still be seen on pedalboards of pro players the world over. As part of the Tonecore stompbox series, the Echo Park packs in some key features from the DL4 and Echo Pro rackmount unit. Firstly, 1/4" jack stereo inputs and outputs are an impressive touch. An eleven-position switch accesses a huge variety of echo types, from simple repeats in varying rhythms to sweep effects, ping-pong and the instant psychedelia of the reverse delay. In practice you can create anything from a simple fifties-style slapback echo for vocals, to grainy tape and analogue-simulated loops that can be warped with judicious use of the mod control as they degrade. In combination with a sampler the results can form the basis of a whole track.



Dytone Smoozy

Price: £89 **Contact:** Guitar Experience 0208 973 1441
Web: www.dytone.de

IN MOST PEOPLE'S eyes, Germany's contribution to music is readily associated with austere electronica and a tradition of great classical composers. The Berlin-based Dytone brand is doing its bit to add overdriven guitars to the list, with a range of sexy dirtboxes blessed with varying degrees of filth. Smoozy is voiced for a fat EQ curve to give aspiring guitar heroes an instant passport to those revered, rounded blues sounds without selling one's soul at a nearby crossroads. This pedal is useful for some non-lead guitar applications; use low drive settings to add a little analogue warmth to otherwise sterile signals, or try it out on bass for sumptuous dark saturation.



Tone In Progress 3rd Hand

Price: \$109.95 **Contact:** sales@musictoyz.com
Web: www.musictoyz.com

SOMETIMES THE SPOOKIEST sci-fi sonics are generated by the most low fidelity gear, and pedals don't come more basic than the TIP 3rd Hand. This belt-powered expression pedal is designed to give musicians who use stompbox effects real-time control over their choice of rotary potentiometer. A large treadle covered with non-slip skateboard griptape controls the internal mechanism, which drives a flex cable. When secured to your pot of choice the cable turns the pot from right to left as you bring the pedal up. Mechanical performance isn't perfect as the hex grub screw can lose its grip on the pot shaft, but when this works, the results are mind expanding. Connect the 3rd Hand to the rate control on any time-based effect and listen to how varying the speed of the modulation while playing can revitalise the impact of a tired old phaser or jaded tremolo pedal. Try this in conjunction with an analogue delay's rate and feedback controls, and bask in a sea of b-movie laser beam madness.



(Clockwise from above) Tone In Progress 3rd Hand, Dytone Smoozy, and the Line 6 Tonecore Echo Park