

**AMP MODELLERS**

**1 IK MULTIMEDIA**  
AMPLITUDE FENDER  
£169 [WWW.IKMULTIMEDIA.COM](http://WWW.IKMULTIMEDIA.COM)

**WE SAID:** We doubt many people could distinguish between the software and hardware versions.  
★★★★★

**2 NATIVE INSTRUMENTS**  
GUITAR RIG SESSION  
£205 [WWW.NATIVEINSTRUMENTS.COM](http://WWW.NATIVEINSTRUMENTS.COM)

**WE SAID:** The familiar hardware feel of the program makes editing simple; the price is almost through the floor.  
★★★★★

**3 LINE 6** POD X3  
£355 [WWW.LINE6.COM](http://WWW.LINE6.COM)

**WE SAID:** You're basically getting the sounds of thousands of pounds of amps for a few hundred quid. Killer sounds, affordable price.  
★★★★★

**4 PEAVEY** REVALVER MK III  
£179 [WWW.PEAVEY.CO.UK](http://WWW.PEAVEY.CO.UK)

**WE SAID:** The emulations are about as good as it gets, especially the high-gain models. [An RTAS version for Pro Tools users is now available.]  
★★★★★

**5 VOX** AMPLUG

£35 TO £42 [WWW.VOXAMPS.CO.UK](http://WWW.VOXAMPS.CO.UK)  
**WE SAID:** These headphone amps actually sound like proper guitar amps – there are five models. They're not cheap but we love 'em.  
★★★★★

**RETRO PEDALS**

**1 MOOG**  
MOOGERFOOGER MURF  
£379 [WWW.MOOGMUSIC.COM](http://WWW.MOOGMUSIC.COM)

**WE SAID:** Consisting of eight fixed-frequency filters, each with a separate gain fader, the MuRF brings the funk.  
★★★★★

**2 FENDER** FUZZ WAH  
£125 [WWW.FENDER.CO.UK](http://WWW.FENDER.CO.UK)

**WE SAID:** The Fuzz Wah is ideal if you're after a retro feeling wah, and it has a fuzz circuit to boot. It's intuitive controls are impressive too.  
★★★★★

**3 ELECTRO-HARMONIX**  
MICRO POG  
£149 [WWW.EHX.COM](http://WWW.EHX.COM)

**WE SAID:** This is an ingenious polyphonic octave generator, allowing for bass tones, or 12-string harmonies.  
★★★★★

**4 MXR** SCRIPT PHASE 90  
£159 [WWW.JIMDUNLOP.COM](http://WWW.JIMDUNLOP.COM)

**WE SAID:** This gig-tough pedal only has one control knob yet it still manages to pump out a warm 70s-style phase sound.  
★★★★★

**5 DUNLOP** JIMI HENDRIX  
FUZZ FACE  
£229 [WWW.JIMDUNLOP.COM](http://WWW.JIMDUNLOP.COM)

**WE SAID:** This is unpredictable 60s-style fuzz. Tame it, however, and you'll have a blast.  
★★★★★

**BUYER'S GUIDE**

A round-up of TG's best Rocked &amp; Rated gear

**MID-PRICED HUMBUCKER AXES**

**PRS SE CUSTOM 24**  
£629 [WWW.PRSGUITARS.COM](http://WWW.PRSGUITARS.COM)

**1 WE SAID:** At £629, the Custom 24 is nudging towards the top of the mid-market, but we'd take this model over most at this price point. The mahogany and maple give out a luxurious vibe somewhere between a Les Paul, a Strat and a shred machine. There are two extra frets but the fingerboard feels compact but not cluttered.  
★★★★★



**LTD EC-256 AVB**  
£449 [WWW.ESPGUITARS.COM](http://WWW.ESPGUITARS.COM)

**2 WE SAID:** It's not groundbreaking, but the EC-256 has been done so well that we don't care. This guitar is an undiluted joy, weighing in at a fraction of the bulk of a Les Paul, with a thin U-shaped neck profile that means your fingers are as mobile as you are.  
★★★★★



**MICHAEL KELLY PATRIOT CUSTOM**  
£439 [WWW.MICHAELKELLYGUITARS.COM](http://WWW.MICHAELKELLYGUITARS.COM)

**3 WE SAID:** There is absolutely nothing that betrays just how affordable this brilliant guitar is. Construction is a classic mahogany and maple pairing, and you get TonePros hardware and Grover tuners as fitted to high-end custom axes.  
★★★★★



**WASHBURN W150 PRO E**  
£749 [WWW.WASHBURN.COM](http://WWW.WASHBURN.COM)

**4 WE SAID:** Visually, the W150's a bit of a hybrid beast. TG thinks it looks like someone took the neck from a Jackson and stuck it on the body of a Les Paul. This means you get the speed of a shred machine, as well as the power of a chunky mahogany axe.  
★★★★★



**EPIPHONE PROPHECY SG CUSTOM GX**  
£369 [WWW.EPIPHONE.COM](http://WWW.EPIPHONE.COM)

**5 WE SAID:** Epiphone's SG Custom GX offers a steroid-pumped alternative to a familiar format. The SpeedTaper neck plays quickly without fatigue and the Dirty Fingers growl with a powerful tone and sustain that's greater than standard issue pickups.  
★★★★★

**HOW TO BUY A HUMBUCKER ELECTRIC**

**G**uitars with humbuckers often (but not always) conform to the tradition of mahogany and maple to ensure maximum beef from your tone. This type of guitar can be heavy, so if you're used to playing Strats, try a few to find the perfect weight. Some models listed here also have a coil tap to get the best of both worlds.

