DW 5000 SERIES BASS DRUM PEDAL

£209 The 5000 series pedal on which DW built its reputation has been enhanced to make it even smoother

WORDS: DAVE HOLMES

ack in the early '70s, Drum Workshop purchased the tooling, moulds and dies from the Camco drum company and reintroduced the popular nylon strap pedal, retaining the 5000 model number and awarding it a DW badge. The 'Camco' brand name itself was sold, eventually finding its way to being under the ownership of Tama. The reintroduction of the 5000 pedal gave the fledging DW a solid foundation and many years later, after several design enhancements (notably with a chain drive), it became an industry standard.

Build

At just a glance it seems little has changed from the previous incarnation of this 'Accelerator' model. The most noticeable and immediate physical difference being the finish of the bearing/pedal shaft itself - this now has a red anodised finish instead of the plain alloy. DW has remained faithful to the colour scheme overall with the red-painted base plate and black powder coating beater/ bearing posts. Also retained are features such as the ever-handy drum key (located in its clip attached to the base plate), the conveniently placed wingnut for the pedal clamp, pointed 'DW' embossed spikes and the foam insert into the pedal spring for a quieter operation.

So, what's new? Well, lifting up the pedal for a closer inspection reveals the underside of the hefty steel base plate now has a rubberised pad following the shape of the actual plate. This has a criss-cross pattern to help grip most surfaces, rather than the Velcro-like strips of the previous model. Those strips were brilliant at anchoring the kick onto a carpeted surface but turned any last-minute bass drum repositioning into a palaver with the base plate a bit too lovingly attached!

The foot of the pedal clamp itself has been redesigned with three individual rubberised pads which are attached to individual

rounded shafts giving 360° movement. This 'Tri-Pivot' toe clamp perfectly follows the shape or contours of an acoustic bass drum rim while also being

suitable for a flat plate kick bracket found on many electronic kits. The lower fixing is now an ingenious floating mechanism which allows the lower part of the spring to move with the pedal. This rocking motion is said to speed up the pedal and make the action smoother.

Hands On

With the new Tri-Pivot system, clamping the pedal to the bass drum rim is a breeze - applying its firm grip while seemingly centering itself in position. The subtle additions appear to give the pedal a 'pendulum' type motion which actually rocks for a good while longer than the previous model. With the pedal's adjustable chain drive left 'as is' from the factory, the unit is much quicker and has the ability to fire rapid Bonham-esque style wallops

with little effort. R

BASE PLATE

actual plate

The hefty steel base plate

now has a rubberised pad

following the shape of the

DW 5000AD4 (Accelerator), £209 DRIVE

Essential spec

Duplex Chain and Sprocket

DRIVE TYPE

DW Eccentric Accelerator Sprocket

BEATER

COLOUR

colour scheme

DW has remained faithful

to the 5000's red and black

Dual headed - Plastic/Felt

BASS PLATE

Steel with rubber base and steel spikes

PEDAL MODEL AVAILABILITY

Double pedal - right or left-handed player, turbo or Accelerator drive

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

Taiwan

CONTACT

Westside Distribution 0141 248 4812 www.dwdrums.com

TRI-PIVOT CLAMP

Toe clamp perfectly follows the contours of an acoustic bass drum and is also suitable for a flat plate kick bracket found on many electronic kits

VERDICT: The 5000's subtle design improvements make a surprising difference to the pedal motion, giving it improved speed and feel.

BUILD QUALITY PLAYABILITY VALUE FOR MONEY

 \star \star \star \star \star \star \star \star \star \star \star \star RHYTHMRATING

