

Nova system ■
It's compact but reassuringly heavy with bulletproof construction



■ **Boost switch**
The Boost can globally increase the output for your soloing pleasure

■ **Nova Drive Technology**
The NDT is a fully programmable analogue distortion circuit

TC ELECTRONIC NOVA SYSTEM £449

High-quality effects processing and not an amp model in sight...

Back in the 80s, you'd have been laughed off stage unless you had an effects rack the size of a wardrobe, filled with hi-tech units. These days, studio-quality effects fit into compact, floor-based pedals, which is exactly what TC Electronic has done with the Nova System.

The sizzle: TC Electronic is well known for its high-end effects processors. In fact, the Nova borrows six effects blocks straight from its big bro, the G-System. At the heart of the unit is the Nova Drive Technology – an analogue distortion circuit with all the benefits of digital control. Don't expect amp models though; the Nova is all about the effects. A brave move, but if anyone has the stones to back it up, it's TC Electronic.

We say: If the Nova System was a dog, it would be a pit bull: it's squat and built like a tank. Firing up the unit in pedal mode lets us switch the individual effects on or off to create a patch. The

"KICK IN THE REST OF THE EFFECTS AND YOU GET LUSH, REVERBS, MODS AND DELAYS"

Drive section gives you two modes that switch between OD and Distortion, which means TG can go from a mid-rich crunch to scooped metal sounds with ease.

Kick in the rest of the effects and you get lush, detailed reverbs, mods and delays. The global Boost function is also a useful touch, especially for soloing. The layout of the controls is pretty straightforward, but with only four knobs to

control its settings, accessing parameters quickly in the middle of a song isn't always easy.

TC Electronic isn't going to win any awards for envelope-pushing here, but the Nova System's not

about that: it offers a premium set of meat and potatoes effects, with a bit of gravy in places for good measure.
Stuart Williams

At a glance

TC Electronic Nova System

TYPE: Multi effects
EFFECTS: Compression, EQ, Noise Gate, Modulation, Pitch, Delay, Reverb
CONTROLS: FX Select 1-7, Variations 1-4, Default switch, Edit 1-4, Store, Levels switch, Menu switch, FX On/Off footswitches.
SOCKETS: Drive In, Line In, Left/Right Out, SPDIF I/O, MIDI In/Out Thru, Pedal In, Power In
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SUMMARY

For: High quality effects, analogue distortion

Against: Could be more hands-on

★★★★☆

TG says... TC Electronic has made a super Nova



The effects are taken from the top quality G-System