



### AMP MODELS

**METAL** may be the THR10X's top priority, but the amp still sounds great even when the gain is dialled down to more modest levels

### EFFECTS

**CONTROLLING** the onboard effects is easy: reverb and delay on one pot, modulation on another – but a footswitch for channel switching is sorely missed

### SPEAKERS

**THE** speakers may be small, but they pack a hell of a punch. As well they should, having been designed by Yamaha's renowned AV department

### AT A GLANCE

**TYPE:** Modelling combo  
**OUTPUT:** 10 watts  
**AMP MODELS:** 8  
**EFFECTS:** 10  
**CONTROLS:** 5x user-programmable patches, amp select, bass, middle, treble, gain, master, guitar output, USB aux output, effect, delay/reverb  
**SOCKETS:** USB, aux in, 6.35mm headphone out  
**WEIGHT:** 2.8kg  
**DIMENSIONS:** [HxWxD] 183.5 x 360 x 140mm  
**CONTACT:** Yamaha UK 0844 811 1116  
[uk.yamaha.com](http://uk.yamaha.com)

# YAMAHA THR10X £299

It's teeny weeny and desktop-friendly, but this hi-fi hybrid has a mother lode of gain

**THIS** utopian ideal that we can own one thing that does everything has juiced the evolution of consumer electronics. Smartphones, smart TVs, even that old TV with a built-in VHS unit. Guitar amps are no different: their ability to multi-task started in the 60s, when the likes of Ampeg and Fender boasted reverb as an onboard feature.

Yamaha's THR10 series takes amplifier multi-functionality to new extremes. But guitarists who have long-since acclimatised to a market awash with modelling amplifiers, in-built effects units and MIDI-controllable electric toothbrushes shouldn't be intimidated by the spec sheet. A rival to Line 6's Micro Spider, Roland's Cube and the Fender G-DEC series, the THR10X will interest anyone looking for a super-portable practice amp with a wide variety of tones.

The THR10X is Yamaha's high-gain entry in the THR-series: where its siblings are rolled out in

stylish, living room-friendly hues, it comes in army green. It spoils the look a bit, but orange LEDs behind the front grille plate are a nice visual touch for valve-amp aficionados sold on Yamaha's promise of "authentic tube tone".

The THR has USB connectivity, comes bundled with Cubase AI software for home recording, and

## This is a high-gain amp, and there are some searing tones

boasts stereo speakers voiced for guitar but crafted by Yamaha's hi-fi division, meaning your amp can double as a dock for your mp3 player. There are eight onboard effects – flanger, chorus, phaser, tremolo, delay, delay/reverb, spring reverb and hall reverb – and a built-in chromatic tuner, too.

The THR10X has eight amp voices, accessed by a rotary dial – five of which draw inspiration

from such backline bruisers as the Engl Powerball (Power I/Power II); Eddie Van Halen's hotter-than-soup 'brown' sound (Brown I/Brown II); and the Southern Hi, which evokes the late Dimebag Darrell's oversaturated scooped sound. The THR10X's native amp voices of Clean, Bass and Flat round out the options. This is a

high-gain amp – there are some searing tones readily available – but roll back the gain and you'll find a number of pleasant surprises: classic Lukather-esque modern blues on the Southern Hi, and warm British crunch on Brown settings. The Clean setting has plenty of character, and that warm spank you'd look for in a valve amp. The Bass setting is voiced for a bass, and the Flat has a totally flat

response, excellent for an acoustic, but equally so for a drum machine or keyboard. The effects are decent, if unspectacular – the spring reverb is authentic enough, the chorus spacey and clean.

High-gain amplifiers have always struggled with domesticity, but the THR10X can sit in beside the stereo without making your lounge look like a rehearsal space. You won't find it drowning out a drummer at band practice, yet the THR10X is louder and ballsier than you'd expect from its size. That it's such a valuable recording tool almost feels like a bonus, because as a standalone amp with a whole bunch of responsive rock and metal tones, it's a whole lotta fun.

**Jonathan Horsley**

SUMMARY	FEATURES				
SOUND QUALITY					
VALUE FOR MONEY					
BUILD QUALITY					
USABILITY					
OVERALL RATING					★★★★