

**GIGGING AMPS****1 BLACKSTAR SERIES ONE 45 COMBO**£899 [WWW.BLACKSTARAMPS.CO.UK](http://WWW.BLACKSTARAMPS.CO.UK)**WE SAID:** Beautifully built, everything you need for great valve tone with the minimum of fuss.

★★★★★

**2 LINE 6 SPIDER VALVE 112**£605 [WWW.LINE6.COM](http://WWW.LINE6.COM)**WE SAID:** When you crank this arachnid you get some of the hottest, sweatiest, most organic tones there are on the market.

★★★★★

**3 DIEZEL EINSTEIN COMBO**£1,850 [WWW.DIEZEL.CO.UK](http://WWW.DIEZEL.CO.UK)**WE SAID:** A quick tweak of the controls takes you from indie-licious vintage drive to perfectly useable blues tones and heavy distortion.

★★★★★

**4 RANDALL KH120**£735 [WWW.RANDALLAMPLIFIERS.COM](http://WWW.RANDALLAMPLIFIERS.COM)**WE SAID:** TG wants the filth and seconds after heading for the drive channel, we're riding the lightning. You won't need a boost pedal here.

★★★★★

**5 BOGNER ALCHEMIST 212**£1285 [WWW.BOGNERAMPLIFICATION.COM](http://WWW.BOGNERAMPLIFICATION.COM)**WE SAID:** Its digital effects are cool but the Alchemist's real boast is that it's a quality valve amp that works brilliantly for a range of styles.

★★★★★

**FILTER PEDALS****1 GIG FX KILO-WAH**£145 [WWW.GIG-FX.COM](http://WWW.GIG-FX.COM)**WE SAID:** The Kilo-Wah has four modes to give you all the filtered sounds you're likely to need, from a classic tone to a modern, biting wah.

★★★★★

**2 MOJO HAND ANALOGUE FILTER 442**£89 [WWW.MOJOHANDEFX.COM](http://WWW.MOJOHANDEFX.COM)**WE SAID:** You may struggle to find an original DOD 440 envelope filter, so this is the next best thing.

★★★★★

**3 LINE 6 OTTO FILTER**£90 [WWW.LINE6.COM](http://WWW.LINE6.COM)**WE SAID:** The Otto Filter (a dedicated Auto-Wah) has three filter modes to choose from and a sweep direction control for extra versatility.

★★★★★

**4 BEHRINGER FM600 FILTER MACHINE**£45 [WWW.BEHRINGER.CO.UK](http://WWW.BEHRINGER.CO.UK)**WE SAID:** It has three filter modes: low pass, band pass and twin. You'll be playing the *Shaft* intro for hours!

★★★★★

**5 MOOG MOOGERFOOGER MF-101 LOW PASS FILTER**£239 [WWW.MOOGMUSIC.COM](http://WWW.MOOGMUSIC.COM)**WE SAID:** Filters are where the Moog sound comes from and the MF-101 is as creamy as Mr Whippy on his birthday.

★★★★★

**BUYER'S GUIDE**

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

**SEMI-HOLLOW ELECTRICS****PEERLESS WIZARD STANDARD**£579 [WWW.PEERLESSGUITARS.CO.UK](http://WWW.PEERLESSGUITARS.CO.UK)**1 WE SAID:** We couldn't take our eyes off the Wizard, and the same goes for our fingers. Its P90s have got grit, attitude and character, and the lack of a dedicated pickup selector is more than compensated with three volume controls, letting you dial up a bespoke tone. This model is perfect for anything from blues to melodic rock.

★★★★★

**HAGSTROM DELUXE-F TREMAR**£625 [WWW.HAGSTROM-GUITARS.CO.UK](http://WWW.HAGSTROM-GUITARS.CO.UK)**2 WE SAID:** Looks like the guitar of an indie elitist but flows like a widdler's wet dream. The pickups' brightness stops the neck position from straying into woolly territory, while the bridge opens up with a bit more upper mid range – cutting but not harsh.

★★★★★

**ADAM BLACK HS CENTRE**£219 [WWW.ADAMBLACKGUITARCOMPANY.CO.UK](http://WWW.ADAMBLACKGUITARCOMPANY.CO.UK)**3 WE SAID:** Played clean, you get the mellow flavour that's central to the semi mythology. We felt this guitar was that bit more convincing when we cranked the gain, spitting aggressive lead at the bridge and a scary rumble at the neck.

★★★★★

**HÖFNER VERYTHIN-CT**£390 [WWW.HOFNER.COM](http://WWW.HOFNER.COM)**4 WE SAID:** The combo of central sustain block and hollow wings gives the Verythin a textbook semi-hollow tone. Those twin 'buckers have a thumping quality and swing convincingly from mellow jazz at the neck to white-hot solos at the bridge.

★★★★★

**WASHBURN HB 30**£299 [WWW.WASHBURN.COM](http://WWW.WASHBURN.COM)**5 WE SAID:** The 'classic' semi-acoustic sound is warm and mellow, and the HB30 turns in a decent reading, with the dark warmth of the 621 pickup perfect for blues, the 623 ragged enough for rock, and the inherent sustain bringing a sense of cut-price class.

★★★★★

**HOW TO BUY A SEMI-HOLLOW ELECTRIC GUITAR**

Semi-hollow guitars can be associated with unmanageably large bodies, but you can see a selection of dimensions above. The features you need help govern your purchase, but if you're not sure try different body sizes, pickup types and voicings, and vibrato or fixed tail to help you choose.

