



## 1 DOD MEATBOX BASS SUBHARMONIC SYNTHESIZER £154

**ORIGIN:** China

**TYPE:** Octave pedal

**FEATURES:** True bypass

**CONTROLS:** Octave, Output, Sub, Low, bypass footswitch

**CONNECTIONS:**

Standard input, standard output (TRS)

**POWER:** 9V DC adaptor (not supplied) or 9V battery

**DIMENSIONS:** 70 (w) x 119 (d) x 55 mm (h)

**Sound Technology**

01462 480000

[www.soundtech.co.uk](http://www.soundtech.co.uk)

[www.dod.com](http://www.dod.com)

**DOD's 2015 take** on the Meatbox adds modern features and updated components. More than just an octave pedal, the Meatbox adds a lower octave to your original note, plus a synthesised note 30Hz below that. You can dial in the amounts of octave and sub with separate knobs, while the Low knob tweaks the bottom end at the output to suit your signal – the pedal's effect goes really low, so if you're worried about your speakers, you can split the output using a TRS jack to send the Octave/Sub signal to something better equipped to handle it.

Now, on a standard-tuned guitar, you can use the Sub and Low knobs for overall EQ, but the octave effects lose potency above the lowest octave. Drop-tuned guitars and baritones fare better, but the effect seems tailor made for basses, where you'll get everything from solid tone-thickening, through doubling with a low octave, to floor-shaking synth bass with no dry sound present. **[TC]**

**VERDICT** A powerful bottom-end enhancer. Just what you'd expect to find in a meatbox: plenty of beef!

7/10

## 2 DOD GONKULATOR RING MODULATOR £154

**ORIGIN:** China

**TYPE:** Ring-modulation pedal

**FEATURES:** True bypass

**CONTROLS:** Gain, Dist, Output, Freq, Ring, bypass footswitch

**CONNECTIONS:**

Standard input, standard output

**POWER:** 9V DC adaptor (not supplied) or 9V battery

**DIMENSIONS:** 70 (w) x 119 (d) x 55 mm (h)

**Ring modulation might** not be a universal choice as an essential pedalboard item, but when used judiciously, it's a really interesting effect that can range from a mildly otherworldly texturing to almighty levels of atonal freakout. With very few ring-modulation pedals on the market, DOD's re-imaging of the increasingly rare Gonkulator is most welcome.

What you are getting with this new variant is two effects in one: there's the ring mod, but there's also raucous fuzzy distortion that runs in parallel. The two can be heard individually or layered, dependent on the position of the Ring and Dist knobs. The Freq knob adjusts the ring mod's carrier frequency over a range of several octaves, so you can tune it to suit your playing and key or dial in some dissonance. The result transforms your whole dry sound with weird metallic cadences. Mix in some of the variable-gain distortion for some off-kilter blends – a lot of distortion with some ringmod adding flavour underneath probably being the most musically useful. **[TC]**

**VERDICT** Distortion with a weird edge, or metallic textures doubled with dirt. Take your pick...

7/10