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3 Paul Reed Smith

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1 FRONT PANEL
Despite slightly fewer controls compared with the 50-watt models, the Sonzera 20 packs plenty of tonal flexibility on both clean and gain channels.

3 PR-YES!
One of the most coveted badges in guitardom can now be on your backline. Behind it, the Sonzera 20 packs a superb Celestion V-Type loudspeaker

2 EFFECTS LOOP
Plug your time-based effects into the Sonzera's series loop for the best results. Other effects, like compressors or wahs work best in the input jack



PRS SONZERA 20 COMBO

£749

A cool tone at even cooler prices from PRS's new amp range

PRS's massively popular Asian-made SE range has been going for nearly 17 years now bringing ultra high-end PRS guitars down to previously unheard-of price points. Now, Mr Smith aims to repeat that offshore success with the company's all-new Sonzera amplification range, designed in Stevensville and made in China. Sonzera (which means cool/awesome/stunning sound in

valves are bolted direct to the chassis and wired to the PCB for improved reliability. The Sonzera 20 is a proper two-channel design with volume, bass and treble controls on the clean channel, while the overdriven side gives you gain, volume and a three-band EQ, together with a bright switch. Global presence and reverb controls round off the front panel; on the rear, you'll find a series effects loop and comprehensive

those more subtle mild overdriven tones but the Sonzera is equally inspiring with the drive control set low, especially with a dash of spring reverb. If you want to really rock, pushing the gain higher adds multiple layers of thick, harmonic-laden overdrive, with so much sustain you probably won't need to unpack your stompboxes. This is top-drawer tone, and the beauty of the Sonzera 20's low-powered output stage is that you can drive it hard at less than earsplitting volume levels for a superb touch-sensitive dynamic response that makes it sound considerably bigger than 20 watts: perfect for club/pub gigs.

PRS has hit the bullseye with the Sonzera 20 – it's an ideal grab-and-go amp for stage and studio and you can have one of the world's most coveted badges on your backline for a realistic price.

Nick Guppy

IT'S AN IDEAL GRAB-AND-GO AMP FOR STAGE AND STUDIO

Brazilian Portuguese) consists of a 50-watt head and combo, together with this amp, the 20-watt Sonzera 20 1x12.

Compact and portable, the Sonzera 20 easily fits on a car seat and has a smart, business-like appearance. Inside the tough steel tray chassis, the electronics are mostly PCB-mounted with one large main board and smaller ones for front and rear panel stuff. The preamp valve bases sit on the main board, but the two 6L6 power

speaker outlet choices, as well as bias test points and adjuster pot.

The Sonzera isn't fussy about what guitar you use; humbuckers and single coils sound equally good with a crisp blackface-inspired clean channel that produces plenty of low-end punch, while the lead channel's hot-rodged Plexi-inspired tones cover everything from blues to modern rock, with a good scooped-mid effect. It's often the case that amps with a lot of gain lose out on

AT A GLANCE

TYPE: All-valve preamp and power amp 1x12 combo
OUTPUT: 20W
SPEAKER: 1x12" Celestion V-Type
VALVES: 1 ECC83S, 3x 12AX7, 2x 6L6GC
CONTROLS: Clean channel: volume, bass, treble; Gain channel: drive, bass, mid, treble, level, bright switch; Global: presence, reverb
SOCKETS: Guitar input, effects send/return, footswitch, 4-ohm speaker out x2, 8-ohm speakers x2, 16-ohm speaker x1
WEIGHT: 19kg
DIMENSIONS: [HxWxD] 460x495x260mm
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SUMMARY	FEATURES	☆☆☆☆
	SOUND QUALITY	☆☆☆☆
	VALUE FOR MONEY	☆☆☆☆
	BUILD QUALITY	☆☆☆☆
	USABILITY	☆☆☆☆
	OVERALL RATING	☆☆☆☆