



BOSS RC-5

Compact dimensions with expansive features

£169



For some, the only functionality required from a looper is to track chords to jam over at home, but others will need far more capabilities as they explore the potential of multiples tracks and samples onstage. Boss has earned itself an impressive reputation in the field (including the most famous looper on the planet thanks to Ed Sheeran using the RC-30 for years). The RC-5 pitches itself in a very inviting position; compact like the RC-1 and RC-3, but offering upgrades.

It's the traditional winning Boss pedal chassis dimensions here with that reassuringly-sized area for stomping on and activating key

controls. The new 32-bit processing puts it ahead in sample and definition quality over its compact brethren (unlimited uncompressed overdubs) and is worth the extra investment for those who will be layering. The clear LED screen shows you the progress of your loop which is really handy for keeping on top of timing visually simultaneously with your ear.

There's memory for 99 separate looping compositions and much more loop time than the RC-1's 12-minutes with whopping 13 hours for all memories (1.5 hours for one track). But there's features here that are especially useful for home players— you can upload

backing tracks to the looper or jam along and build loops over the 57 in-built drum grooves with two variations for each, customised patterns and seven kit types. We found it really encourages experimentation for solo players – just remember to put the RC-5 in the effects loop of your amp if you're using its overdrive to avoid adding any unwanted distortion etc to the drums.

The combination of all this justifies the extra cost over the RC-1 and is the most impressively featured compact looper we've ever used.

Robert Laing

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

AT A GLANCE

TYPE: Looper pedal with onboard rhythms

CONTROLS: Memory/ Loop Level knob, Memory button, Setup button, Rhythm On/Off button, Rhythm Tempo button, Pedal switch

SOCKETS: Input A/ Mono and Input B, Output A/ Mono and Output B 1/4-inch; Stop/Memory control jack: 1/4-inch TRS; USB type B port; MIDI In/ Out, DC in

BYPASS: Buffered

POWER: 9V battery (approx two hours life) or AC adaptor

CONTACT: Boss.info

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