



AMBIENT EFFECTS ROUND-UP

No matter what type of guitar player you are, there will most likely come a point where you'll require some ambient effects in the form of reverb, delay or both. While years ago, delay types came in a limited choice with analogue or digital being your main options, today delay pedals are often fully-loaded with multiple delay types, from simple analogue echoes through to ethereal, pitch-shifted and filtered repeats, taking in all kinds of vintage emulations along the way. It's the same story for reverb – gone is the sparse selection of spring, hall and studio, replaced by long, icy 'verbs that allow you to create huge soundscapes. Here, we have four pedals that will offer you ambience in spades.

Fender Tre-Verb

TRE COOL

£199

Fancy, long-tail ambience is all good, but what if you want simplicity? Well, Fender's Tre-Verb takes a different approach by basing its architecture around vintage amp reverb and tremolo. You get three types for each effect: Opto, Bias (valve-style) and harmonic vibrato and three reverbs: '63 (Fender reverb tank), '65 (Blackface amp spring reverb) and Plate (based on vintage studio-style plate reverbs). There's a load of control to hand, with the usual rate/depth/level controls for the trem, and blend/tone/dwell controls for the reverb. It's full of lush-sounding dreamy reverbs, and with both effects applied and some experimentation, it covers a lot of ground.

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

TC Electronic Hall of Fame II Mini

HALL ABOARD!

£95

The Hall Of Fame offers the same infrastructure as its delay counterpart – toneprints, utilitarian controls and a MASH footswitch for additional expression. On this pedal, the three controls are in charge of decay time, tone and reverb mix, with the MASH button assignable in the same way as with the Flashback. As with the delay, TC has made use of new pitch-shifting algorithms to add pitch effects to the reverb, in this case, the new Shimmer setting. It's a divisive sound, but one loved by many, and TC has nailed it here with a spooky glassiness. Sonically, it's a no-brainer.

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



Whether you're composing or playing live, why not explore new sounds by dipping your toe into the world of ambient effects?

TC Electronic Flashback II Mini

£95

RETURN OF THE 'BACK

Another of TC's recent additions to its 'Mini' line of pedals is an updated Flashback. As with its predecessor, the Flashback II Mini relies on TC's Toneprint library to unlock the sounds inside its brain. As such, don't be fooled by the sparse control layout – you get delay time, feedback and level controls, plus TC has added its assignable MASH footswitch. This allows you to use the switch as a continuous control rather than simply on or off. Ideal if you want to, say, fade in the level of your repeats. With so many sounds, the Flashback Mini is a delay fan's dream, and offers amazing value for money.

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

Source Audio Collider

FEELIN' SOURCY

£359

If you're looking for a no-compromise solution, Source Audio's Collider is a bright, flashing behemoth of an ambience solution. Combining the company's Nemesis Delay and Ventris Dual Reverb, it's home to five delay types and seven reverbs, 128 presets, and a whole lot of control. The Collider really does have you covered for all outcomes – simple, yet great-sounding room, hall and plates through to modern shimmer and swell reverbs. The delay side is no less limited, with the vintage 'oil can', tape, analogue meeting reverse delay. If reverb and delay are the cornerstone of your sound, the Collider allows for some extremely creative sonic experimentation.

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