

1



2



3



4



1 IBANEZ TUBE SCREAMER MINI £59

ORIGIN: Japan
TYPE: Overdrive pedal
FEATURES: True bypass
CONTROLS: Tone, Level, Overdrive, bypass footswitch
CONNECTIONS: Standard input, standard output
POWER: 9V DC adaptor (not supplied)
DIMENSIONS: 51 (w) x 93 (d) x 55 mm (h)

Headstock Distribution
0121 508 6666
www.ibanez.com

There are plenty of advantages to having save-spacing mini pedals on your pedalboard, and there are lots of options available from companies that offer budget Chinese-made pedals as well as boutique manufacturers. Now, one of the major long-term brands, Ibanez, has got in on the act with four mini pedals.

The Tube Screamer is such a classic pedal that it was inevitable we'd see a mini version eventually. This one offers exactly the same three-knob control setup as its larger siblings and features the same JRC4558 chip at its heart.

Sound-wise, it does what you'd expect a Tube Screamer to do. We tried it next to our full-sized TS808 and, although there were some minor tonal differences, we didn't note any shortcomings in how it did the business in front of an amp. This is overdrive with a touch of midrange boost that can kick things up a notch when you need a little extra. **[TC]**

VERDICT A chance to own a tiny but original version of possibly the most cloned model in pedal history

8/10

2 IBANEZ ANALOG DELAY MINI £75

ORIGIN: Japan
TYPE: Delay pedal
FEATURES: True bypass
CONTROLS: Repeat, Blend, Delay Time, bypass footswitch
CONNECTIONS: Standard input, standard output
POWER: 9V DC adaptor (not supplied)
DIMENSIONS: 51 (w) x 93 (d) x 55mm (h)



While Boss had its DM-2 back in the day, Ibanez had the AD9 – and this new mini pedal surely takes its inspiration from that. It's a true BBD analogue delay pedal with a delay time range from 20ms to 600ms, covering everything from metallic-toned reverb through to the range of delays set by a full-size knob.

Two mini knobs take care of the other parameters: a Blend knob runs from totally dry to a 50/50 mix between dry and first repeat, while the Repeat knob starts with a single repeat and adds more until you get past about midday, where (depending on the delay time) self-oscillation sets in and you can get that familiar build-up of runaway repeats until you ease the knob back. The repeats are nicely voiced, not too clean but not too mushy, blending naturally with guitar tone as they decay away. There's no modulation like you'll get on MXR's Carbon Copy, but we didn't miss it. **[TC]**

VERDICT A true analogue delay with everything you need in one superb and tiny package. Cool as...

9/10

3 IBANEZ CHORUS MINI £65

ORIGIN: Japan
TYPE: Chorus pedal
FEATURES: True bypass
CONTROLS: Depth, Level, Speed, bypass footswitch
CONNECTIONS: Standard input, standard output
POWER: 9V DC adaptor (not supplied)
DIMENSIONS: 51 (w) x 93 (d) x 55 mm (h)



Long after its heyday in the 80s, chorus still seems to be a popular effect among guitar players, judging by the amount of chorus pedals on the market and the fact that Ibanez has chosen chorus to be the first modulation effect in its Mini series.

Chorus speed is adjusted with the big central rotary, while depth gets relegated to one of the smaller knobs. The overall effect is controlled by the other tiny knob and enables you to blend in the chorus effect with your dry sound from the sense that 'something is going on with the signal' up to a richly effected sound.

Always musical, even with the depth control on full, the various knob juxtapositions allow a great number of satisfying tones to be coaxed from the pedal, ranging from classic chorus through to faux rotary speaker. If you want stereo, walk away – but for mono chorus in this size and price range, it's pretty unbeatable. **[TC]**

VERDICT As good a chorus as you'll find in its size range and its price is pretty good, too

9/10

4 IBANEZ SUPER METAL MINI £75

ORIGIN: Japan
TYPE: Distortion pedal
FEATURES: True bypass
CONTROLS: Edge, Punch, Attack, Level, Drive, bypass footswitch
CONNECTIONS: Standard input, standard output
POWER: 9V DC adaptor (not supplied)
DIMENSIONS: 51 (w) x 93 (d) x 55 mm (h)

The original Ibanez Super Metal pedal, the SM9, which first saw the light of day in the 1980s, was discontinued, and has never been reissued until this Mini version. Where the original had five individual knobs, Ibanez recreates the same control using dual-concentric pots. Three of these – Punch, Edge and Attack – are EQ knobs offering bass, midrange presence and treble. These are capable of combining for quite wide-ranging tonal changes to the basic dirty sound, which has more to do with a supercharged TubeScreamer-style overdrive than high-gain metal. There's enough output here for use as a boost with a bit of edge and EQ shift, but as you turn up the Drive knob you increase the raunch factor through a range of driven amp tones to cranked stack territory.

While the pedal retains its original name, 'metal' is probably a misnomer: this has a more stack-in-a-box vibe. **[TC]**

VERDICT A more than decent rock overdrive and distortion pedal for the compact 'board

7/10