

MAJIK BOX KRUSH DISTORTION £229

Munkying around with monstrous metal tones

AS hinted at with the reverse 'R' on the label, the Krush is a signature distortion pedal made for Korn guitarist, Munky. To that end, there are two markers set out around each control – one red, one white – representing two of Munky's favourite settings. We decide to kick off with the red setting over a clean tone, which transforms even the most timid little amplifier, bringing it kicking and screaming into a world of heavy metal meltdown, with rich harmonic overtones.

Even if you're not a Korn fan, it's impossible to deny just how good this sounds for high-gain rhythms and leads alike. There's plenty of scope to dial back to

a lighter crunch or upwards to even more insanity from here, but what really impresses us is how different the white setting sounds. This is designed to be used with an already distorted amp to warp the sound into a throaty lo-fi tone that Munky uses for breaks, intros and the like. The focus and tone controls help here, with the focus essentially acting as a mid shift.

We're usually very sceptical of distortion pedals that breach the £200 mark, but frankly this is one of the best high-gain pedals we've ever heard. Forget the Korn association if it bothers you – if you're a high-gain junkie, you need to try this pedal.

Alun Lower



AT A GLANCE

TYPE: Distortion
CONTROLS: Level, drive, tone, focus
SOCKETS: Input, output, power
BYPASS: True bypass
POWER: 9V battery, PSU (not included)
CONTACT: Sounds Great Music
 0161 436 4799 www.majikboxusa.com

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

JOYO BRITISH SOUND £29

Chinese-made, best of British

WE first encountered Joyo pedals back in issue 232, where we looked at the Analog Delay, and we were hugely impressed by the quality of tone that we were getting for so little money. The British Sound is a preamp that looks to emulate classic Marshall tones, and we can't wait to see if Joyo can pull off a repeat performance.

The controls on the pedal are fairly straightforward, with the gain control taking you from a slight break-up through to a reasonably saturated drive, which works perfectly for classic rock. It has grit and raunch in spades, but you're only unlocking half the pedal's power if you ignore the voice control, which is the key to getting the most out of the British Sound. Set it down low and the

gain range goes right down with it, giving you the vintage response of an old combo pushing a warmer, sweeter drive out of its smaller speaker. Turning it clockwise takes you closer to a modern stack voice, with increased gain to match. Mastering the EQ here can be a little tricky, and with the voice switch set to the left, it's easy to overload your sound with too much gain. Keep experimenting between controls, though, and you'll find a surprising range of sounds that react to your touch and attack in just the right way.

For such a modestly priced pedal the British Sound really impresses. It's built to last, and packs much more versatility than we expected, offering a simple one-stomp solution for classic rock and blues.

Alun Lower



AT A GLANCE

TYPE: Preamp
CONTROLS: Low, mid, high, level, voice, drive
SOCKETS: Input, output, power
BYPASS: True bypass
POWER: 9V battery, PSU (not included)
CONTACT: Coda Music 01438 350815
www.joyoaudio.com

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