

**FADERS**

SET the level and panning for individual tracks within a loop and you can mix them down to the stereo mixdown track, freeing up tracks 1 to 4 for more loops

FOOT CONTROLLER

THE foot controller is sold separately, but it's a pretty essential add-on. It keeps your hands free for playing guitar, and gives you easy access to your loops

OCTAVE/REVERSE

PIMP your loops and tracks with the octave button for half-speed running and downward pitching, or the reverse button to play them backwards

AT A GLANCE

TYPE: Multi-track looping recorder

CONTROLS: 45000: 4x track volume faders, dry out fader, mixdown fader, Clix tempo fader, 5x panning knobs, 2x input volume, 1x headphone output, 1x Clix level, track select, stereo mode, new loop, ext clock, quantize, reverse, punch-in, octave, record, play. Foot controller: track select, record, play, loop up, loop down

SOCKETS: 2x input, aux in, 2x output, headphone out, monitor out, foot controller, MIDI in/out, power, USB, SD card

POWER: 9V power supply (included)

CONTACT: Electro-Harmonix www.ehx.com

ELECTRO-HARMONIX 45000 & FOOT CONTROLLER

£359 & £95

Is it a looper or a multi-track recorder? Err, it's both, sort of...

EHX may call it a multi-track looping recorder, but the 45000 (an updated version of the 28000) has more in common with a PortaStudio-style multi-tracker than a standard looping pedal – it's got no footswitches, for a start! Of course, that's remedied by adding the foot controller: hook it up with a standard jack lead, and it offers all the footswitching you need for any serious live looping.

The 45000 records its loops (up to 100) as wav files to an SDHC card slotted into its side – the included 4GB card offers up to 125 minutes of recording time. There's also a USB connection, so you can transfer any loops you record to a computer or load any sound files into the 45000. There's loads of connectivity on the 45000's back panel, too, including inputs and outputs in stereo or mono plus a headphone output, which can deliver a handy onboard metronome. You can also send the

metronome to a separate monitor output, which is indispensable for keeping excited drummers in sync with your precisely timed loops.

You can record those loops freeform or use the quantize function to aid timing. A 45000 'loop' consists of up to four tracks. The first track you record sets the loop length, and you can then

reverse your sounds or run them at half-speed an octave down, while the tempo slider offers adjustment of speed and pitch.

While you can do plenty using the 45000's controls when it's sitting on a tabletop, the foot controller is essential for full functionality. It adds footswitches for record and play, track select

some cool drum loops on the SD card to play along with, or to use as a springboard for songwriting, and it's dead easy to quickly layer guitar parts on top of each other. For live use, the separate footswitch lets you keep the main unit tucked away somewhere, saving underfoot clutter and offering plenty of opportunity for creative performance.

There's a lot of choice out there in the looper market and the 45000/controller combo is by no means a cheap option, but that multi-track functionality is seriously impressive and could be exactly what experienced loop fiends are looking for.

Trevor Curwen

It's more than just a looper – it's a great tool for composition

record complementary parts on the other tracks, or overdub on any track. That means you can quickly build up some extremely complex loops – especially since each track has its own fader – and you can mix down all four tracks onto a stereo mixdown track, freeing them for re-use. That leaves you to manipulate tracks or whole loops – there are buttons to instantly

and switches for scrolling through and selecting loops. It also shows the number of the current loop on a small display, something the main unit doesn't have.

The 45000 is more than just a looper – it's a very useful machine for practice or composition with some headphones plugged in or through your amp or studio monitors. EHX has even provided

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