

Guitar Player

MAXIMUM OVERDRIVE Six Stompboxes Go for the Gain

by Joe Gore

With all due respect to the “Fuzzbox Revival,” there’s still a place on the pedalboard for boxes that sound more like the smooth overdrive of a tube amp than a swarm of killer bees pollinating a Skill saw. The half-dozen contenders surveyed here go for the sort of real-life distortion that, at its best, adds girth without compromising the innate color of your guitar or amp...

Dredge-Tone Audio Dredge Overdrive

You’ve got to love the simplicity of the Dredge Overdrive (\$125) - its only controls are an on/off switch and a “more” knob. Despite the absence of tone pots, the Dredge delivers the sort of overdrive sought by many ‘90s rock players, adding pumped-up lows and a high-end fuzziness that manages to sound raucous without overshadowing your sound. It offers convincingly tube-like response, especially at lower settings. In fact, you might even leave the Dredge permanently engaged in order to add girth to a guitar with less-than-sturdy pickups. The lack of separate level and gain controls means you can’t really get a semi-clean solo boost, but you may be surprised by how this seemingly inflexible pedal administers precisely the jolt you seek... The Dredge-Tone Audio Dredge Overdrive is a great sounding distortion booster for those who like to keep it simple.



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