

TECH 21 BOOST COMP

Tech 21's dual-channel Boost Comp is practically a fully-featured, all-analog, FET preamp, being outfitted with not only compression and clean boost, but also considerable powers of equalization. The comp-EQ section and the boost section are independent, and each channel has a dedicated footswitch. The boost comes last in the signal chain, and provides 21 decibels of clean, unaffected wallop that, when combined with the compression and EQ, can transform a tube amplifier without robbing it of dynamics and personality. The Boost Comp's compression circuitry is the main attraction though, and it is lovely indeed.

It can function as a subtle, transparent tone enhancer or a

ruthless dynamic vise, all without burying the guitar sound in goop or detracting from its natural tonal qualities. The Tone and Presence controls are thoughtfully designed, with the presence functioning as a pre-compression attack enhancer, while Tone can cut or boost the signal substantially after it leaves the compressor. This is superb for alleviating that dark tonal quality that heavy compression can sometimes imbue to an audio signal. The Tech 21 Boost Comp is as high quality a compressor as can be found in pedal form, and its other impressive functions are just icing on the cake.

