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## TECH 21 TRADEMARK 60

Tech 21 made a huge splash in 1989 with their famous SansAmp pedal—arguably the first convincing amp simulator for guitar. This highly versatile piece of equipment allowed players to achieve a wide range of usable guitar sounds without the need to crank an amp. The company now produces a full line of guitar and bass amps, numerous SansAmp pedals, and other accessories. This year the company expands upon its acclaimed Trademark 60 model (1X12) by adding two new configurations: 2X12 and 4X10. For this review, I was given the 4X10 model.



### FEATURES

The Trademark 60 is a classic-looking amp with hints of both modern and vintage stylings. The top-mounted controls lend a clean, uncluttered look and make for easy adjustment while standing. The amp seems extremely well-built, and the 4X10 model is a very manageable 46 pounds. On the back is an extremely handy XLR direct output for recording or live PA use, an effects loop, and a headphone jack.

Both channels feature level, drive, and mid controls (labeled “punch” on channel 1 and “growl” on channel 2). An additional “bite” switch on channel 1 tightens the low end and adds some brightness, while a “weep” switch on channel 2 thickens the tone and increases even harmonics. A master section provides treble, bass, reverb, and boost controls. The three-button footswitch controls channel-switching, effects loop switching, and reverb/boost.

### SOUND

When I first plugged in and cranked up, I was truly impressed by the Trademark 60. This did not sound like all the other modeling amps I’ve played through. None of the harsh, brittle qualities I’ve come to expect from those amps were there. It simply sounded like a great amp, period.

The versatility of the amp is equally stunning. Fender-like, clean and half-dirty tones were easily possible, as well as full-on Marshall dirt. The bottom end was especially impressive on both channels, and the sensitivity of the mid controls allowed for wildly varied sounds. The boost is an incredibly useful feature and makes me wonder why it’s not standard on all new amp designs, while the reverb was just altogether pleasant. The direct out provided a very usable sound as well, though I’d recommend a bit of compression to handle the spikes.

All in all, the Trademark 60 seriously delivers in many areas. (The only real limitation I found was the shared bass and treble controls. However, it’s not even something I thought about after I began experimenting with the mid controls.) If you’re looking for a true all-around amp that won’t break the bank, you simply can’t go wrong here.

### IN A NUTSHELL

- 60 watts, 2 channels (footswitchable)
  - Level, drive, and mid controls on each channel
  - Low, high, footswitchable reverb and boost controls in master section
  - XLR direct out, headphone out, effects loop (footswitchable)
  - Additional “bite” (ch. 1) and “weep” (ch. 2) switches for further tonal shaping
  - 4 x 10” Eminence speakers, footswitch included
- \$1095.00** ([tech21nyc.com](http://tech21nyc.com))

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