



DUNLOP

EW95V Mr Crybaby Super Volume Wah

PRICE: £169

Contact: JHS 01132 865381

www.jhs.co.uk

As well as providing a regular wah, the EW95V can also function as a volume pedal. The knob on the side of the chassis sets the maximum volume, and this works in conjunction with a red switch at the side of the box that activates a clean volume boost of up to 16dB. When the boost is off, the maximum volume control is inactive and unity gain is achieved with the foot rocker fully forward.

This is a well-sorted Cry Baby. There are no vintage repro inductors inside and the effect is

buffered to interface with other effects, but it still sounds authentically 'classic' without excessive 'Q' or screeching treble. The wah switches on in the usual way, with the added benefit of a status LED. The volume control is smooth, but the transition to maximum is pretty rapid due to the limited travel range of the foot rocker. Nevertheless, it's easy to adapt and perform violin swells and tremolo effects. The side switch is convenient, too, when you need that extra push for solos.



MXR Variphase CSP-001

PRICE: £179

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This offering from Dunlop's Custom Shop transplants the guts of a Phase 90 into the body of a Cry Baby. There are two small controls on the side for Volume and Mix, plus an internal switch labelled Shallow/Deep.

Unlike a regular Cry Baby, the Variphase foot rocker is spring-loaded. There's no on/off switch: the spring pushes the foot rocker all the way back and shuts off the effect. Pushing forward activates the effect then adjusts the speed, which reaches its maximum rate in the

fully forward position. Coincidentally, we had a reissue Phase 90 on hand for comparison. They sound similar, but the Variphase introduces a boost even when its Volume is at minimum. Enormous gain boost is available - enough to push a valve amp into phasey overdrive. The Shallow/Deep switch is effective but the Mix control acts more like a second volume, and the foot rocker's on/off transition is a bit abrupt. Still, it's a new twist to an old favourite, and very expressive and fun to use.