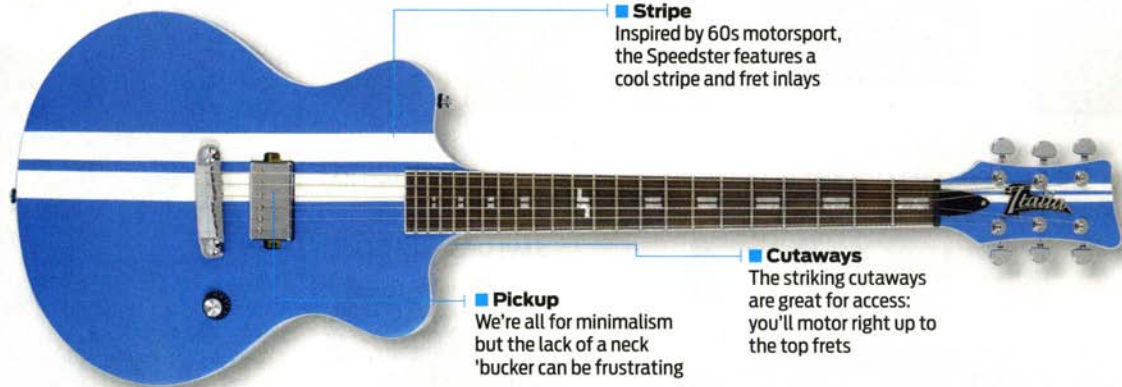


# Italia Maranello Speedster1

£449

Ciao bella!



#### ■ Stripe

Inspired by 60s motorsport, the Speedster features a cool stripe and fret inlays

#### ■ Pickup

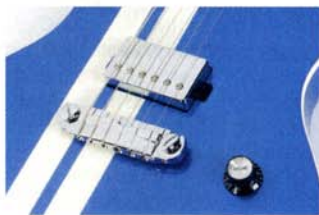
We're all for minimalism but the lack of a neck 'bucker can be frustrating

#### ■ Cutaways

The striking cutaways are great for access: you'll motor right up to the top frets

**S**mall boys of the 60s either wanted to be Jimi Hendrix or Stirling Moss. Now we can be both (sort of) thanks to the Maranello Speedster1, which indulges dual schoolboy fantasies with its racing stripe and go-faster fret inlays, combined with a spec that's been cut back to meet weight regulations. Nice concept.

Like a Mercedes that's been parked in Moss Side, the Italia Speedster1 has been stripped of parts. But you won't mind



when you're ripping out solos. The snub-nosed doublecut is as functional as it is attractive, the maple neck is a good all-rounder, while the Wilkinson bridge humbucker combines with

hefty helpings of korina (a sibling of mahogany) for a punchy, characterful tone that has a bit more mid-range brightness than your average Gibson derivative. Good thing we like it, because the lack of tonal options is frustrating for £449. It will take a good amp with a proper EQ to get you a lush rhythm tone.

**Conclusion:** The Speedster1 is not perfect. It's the most expensive here. It offers fewest features. You might even say

it looks a bit daft. But still, there's something about this guitar's cracking korina-fuelled humbucker roar that marks it out among a sea of faceless mid-price sloggers. When you play this guitar, you'll remember it. And when you gig it, people will remember you.

#### SUMMARY

**For:** Memorable korina-powered tone

**Against:** Price, lack of sonic options



**TG says:** It's earned its stripes

#### At a glance

##### Italia Maranello Speedster1

**TYPE:** Solid korina

**NECK:** Maple, set

**FINGERBOARD:** Rosewood with 'accelerating' inlays

**FRETS:** 22

**SCALE:** 24¾-inches

**PICKUPS:** 1x Wilkinson vintage-voiced humbucker

**CONTROLS:** 1x volume

**HARDWARE:** Die-cast

**FINISH:** Blue [pictured],

Yellow, Red, Black, Cream

**LEFT-HANDED:** No

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