



MXR M116 Fullbore Metal **£149**

In a reggae band? You probably won't need one of these then...

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A great metal tone should be equal parts gain, aggression and dynamics, and the Fullbore Metal provides an impressive choice of tones, even though it's hard to obtain anything other than skull-crushing overdrive.

The pedal includes a scoop button and, best of all, a noise

gate, which can be fine-tuned via an internal micro-pot, while three super-bright LEDs will illustrate the various functions on even the darkest stage.

Sounds

If you're looking for subtlety, the M116 won't be for you, but if

you want to experiment with a variety of high-gain and very expressive metal tones, you should give it a whirl. The gain control offers discernible increments of gain, while engaging the scoop pot not only drops the mids, but ups the treble and low-end rumble too.

The provision of a trio of independent EQ pots enables you to easily tailor the waves of crunch to allow your notes to always be heard and the gate pot, internally adjustable remember, is precise and as unobtrusive as any simple gate could be.

Verdict

The stripped-down metal vibe and hardy construction fits the genre to a tee and it does provide more than its fair share of tones, albeit suited just to the hardcore metal fraternity. That being said, if your amp already possesses such a tone you may feel hard pushed to justify buying the Fullbore. Still, it's worth spending some time with the pedal to prove that there's far more than just one generic tone for metal. **[SB]**

The Bottom Line

We like: Great look; intuitive features; built like an ingot

We dislike: It really is just for metal. Not a thing else...

GUITARIST RATING ★★★★★

