

SHUBB DELUXE CAPO

■ This latest update to the ever-dependable Shubb capo features a few important tweaks to the classic design. Most significant is the new roller mechanism, which runs along a raised track ensuring precise alignment with the hinged section that grips the underside of the neck.

As with the original Shubb capo, the deluxe model uses an 'over-centre' locking system, which basically means that, as you close the capo onto the neck, it goes through a point of resistance (the 'centre') and then eases off, fixing into position. The difference in pressure between these two points has been termed the 'drop-off'. On the original Shubb capo, the amount of drop-off varies slightly at either end of its range, which can cause problems on guitars with extra thin or thick necks. The roller mechanism on the Deluxe model solves this problem by

moving upwards in an arc, rather than a straight line, which effectively equalises the drop-off.

Simply put, this means that the strings aren't held too tight, bent over the frets or pulled off centre, keeping your guitar in tune. It's also worth mentioning that the Shubb Deluxe capo is made from stainless steel, rather than the nickel or brass used on the original model, which should make it slightly more resistant to general wear and tear.

Having retained the solid feel and ease of use of the original design, the added improvements make the Deluxe model a worthy addition to any guitarist's gigbag. The original Shubb capo is still five quid cheaper, so if you already have an original, then you may not feel an immediate need to buy this Deluxe model. However, if you lose capos as

often as we do, the opportunity to upgrade is bound to come along before too long! **NW**

GBRATING



■ The roller mechanism helps prevent the capo from pulling the strings sharp