

## Bench Tests

# Crunch Time

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We tested using a Fender Strat and a Tele, and a Gibson SG and Flying V. Amps included a Fender Deluxe Reverb, a Vox AC30, a 50-watt Marshall and 4x12 cab, and a Bad Cat Hot Cat combo.

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Fulltone  
Distortion Pro



### Fulltone Distortion Pro

One of the first builders of boutique stompboxes, Michael Fuller set the standard for high-end pedals. His latest release, the Distortion Pro (\$219), is a unique design that features a rugged steel enclosure and a single PC board that bears an ultra-quiet circuit. Two mini trim-pots are mounted inside the case for adjusting overall gain structure. What makes the Distortion Pro special, however, is that it packs not only volume and distortion knobs, but also the following *exterior* trim pots that let you really fine tune your tones:

- Resonance. Adjusts overall bass response.
- Voicing. A tone control that adds touches of distortion.


- Saturation. Alters the dynamic response to simulate the effect of playing through a spongy amp.

- Highs. Adjusts overall treble response.

Even before you start tweaking the trim pots, however, the Distortion Pro sounds killer. The distortion knob delivers dynamic tones that range from Robben Ford-like chirp to heavier grind, and the output control can unleash amp-clobbering levels. With some fine-tuning, however, the Distortion Pro really flexes its muscles. In particular, the Saturation control allowed me

to do the previously unthinkable: Run a wide-open distortion pedal into an unforgiving Fender Twin Reverb loaded with JBL speakers. By turning up the Saturation, I was able to morph the fierce attack into a creamy tone reminiscent of a low-wattage combo. Then, by tweaking the Voicing control, I could restore some of the bark and detail that was lost in the process. Amazing!

Unlike most distortion units, the Distortion Pro lets the sound of your guitar and amp really come through. No matter how much gain you use, there's no loss of tonal character and the sound cleans up startlingly well when you turn down your guitar. The Distortion Pro is an extremely versatile and musical distortion pedal.

The Ratings Game		Tone	Workmanship	Vibe	Value
Fulltone Distortion Pro		★★★★	★★★★	★★★★	★★★★