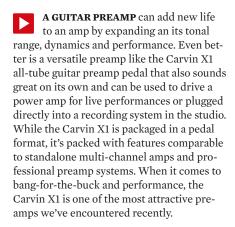




## **Hot Box**

## **CARVIN X1 ALL-TUBE GUITAR PREAMP PEDAL**

**Bv Chris Gill** 



FEATURES The X1 is designed to offer the tones and versatility of Carvin's esteemed X-100B amplifier in a compact format, and as a result it's packed with more features than many combo amps. The X1 is driven by two

12AX7 tubes that provide four gain stages to deliver everything from pristine clean tones to extreme high-gain distortion. Individual Rhythm and Lead channels provide instant access to two separate tones.

All of the controls are mounted in a recessed chamber on the top panel and consist of individual volume controls for the Rhythm and Lead channels, a Rhythm channel bright switch, a drive control for the Lead channel, bass, mid, treble and presence EQ controls shared by both channels, master volume, a bypass/loop switch (for selecting standard bypass or engaging the pedal's effects loop with the bypass footswitch) and a 2x12/4x12 switch for the cabinet simulation feature. A graphic EQ provides +/-12dB gain for 75Hz, 150Hz, 500Hz, 1.5kHz and 3kHz, and a pair of switches allow users to set the graphic EQ so it's automatically engaged for either, both or none of the channels. Four footswitches

engage bypass/loop, graphic EQ, Drive channel gain boost and channel switching functions. Rear panel jacks consist of 1/4-inch input and output, mono send and return and a 1-watt output that can drive an external 4 or 8 ohm speaker cabinet.

**PERFORMANCE** Much more than a Carvin X-100B in a box, the X1 delivers a multitude of stunning clean, overdrive and highgain distortion tones suitable for any style of music from smooth jazz to extreme metal. The cab simulation delivers dynamic and harmonically rich direct recording tones, and the unit greatly expands any amp's tonal versatility whether it is plugged directly to an amp's input or effects loop. Thanks to its two-channel design and footswitchable graphic EQ section, the X1 can instantly expand the tonal versatility and sound quality of even the humblest guitar rig.



STREET PRICE: \$449 **MANUFACTURER:** Carvin Corp., carvinaudio.com

The Rhythm channel with its bright switch and Lead channel with switchable gain boost and drive control provide instant access to two distinct guitar tones

The five-band graphic EQ can be assigned to either, both or no channels and switched on and off with its own dedicated footswitch

## THE BOTTOM LINE

The Carvin X1 is one of the most versatile preamp pedals available on the market today, providing the tonal versatility of a multi-channel amp in a compact package that's ideal for any live rig or studio setup