

# Bench Tests



## Fulltone Clyde Deluxe



### Fulltone Clyde Deluxe \$289

A handsome hunk with its powder-coated welded-steel enclosure, the Clyde Deluxe offers three wah flavors (Wacked, Jimi, and Shaft), variable volume boost, an on/off status LED, and an internal control for adjusting the filter resonance. Accessing the 9-volt battery requires removing the bottom plate, but a DC power jack is included. The Clyde's workmanship is outstanding, and the boutique touch is apparent in the high-quality parts, the handwired circuit board, the clean soldering, and the neatly routed wiring. Other nice touches include the use of shielded cable in critical areas, and shrink-tubing strain relief on many of the connections. This is a very well-made pedal!

### Editor Assessments

"A very sweet sounding wah with lots of flexibility. One of the three voicings will almost certainly work for any guitarist. The Wacked mode is extreme in a good way, and the boost is a great added feature." —MB

"The Clyde Deluxe wins the award for having three *amazing* wah sounds. On the Jimi setting, the Clyde rivals the Vox in smooth, vintage tones. The Shaft position yields extended top-end without being overly quacky, and the Wacked setting adds throaty groan to heavy riffs. The only thing better than the Clyde's sounds is its flawlessly handwired interior—a virtual textbook in the art of stompbox craftsmanship." —DF

"When it comes to raw musicality, this pedal knocks your socks off. Dial up some nice clean tones through a Vox AC30 or a Fender Twin, and you'll hear more than just an EQ sweep—you hear an *acceleration* of tone. On the Shaft setting, the highs are crystalline, and higher-voiced chords seem to leap out of the speakers in a delicious roar. On the browner end of the spectrum, the Wacked setting was the most musical and Mu-Tron-like of any of the pedals tested. The Clyde Deluxe has enough flexibility to suit a wide range of situations, yet its artfully integrated features preserve the vintage feel." —JC

"The Clyde Deluxe is possibly the most articulate-sounding wah of the bunch, offering tones that are lush, but more distinct and focused than many of the other wahs. In particular, the

Wacked mode kicks out plenty of fat booty, but it doesn't make you sound overly obese." —SH

"No matter where I rocked my foot, I was loving life—there isn't a less-than-stupendous tone available here! The Wacked setting is perfect for lo-fi, low-end eruptions that can approximate The Edge's tortured warble on U2's 'Mysterious Ways.' The Shaft tone packs funk-approved bite without being obnoxiously shrill, and Jimi's bag delivers passionate, vocal-like colors. Beyond the tonal goodies, I dug the volume-adjust feature and the LED that explicitly informed me if my clumsy foot didn't click the pedal off." —MM

"Easily the most complex sounding wah of the bunch, the Clyde Deluxe offers three distinct wah vibes—all of which sound superb. The Jimi setting is my pick for all-around cool, though the Shaft and Wacked positions add glassiness and low-end grunt (respectively) for funkier or heavier sounds. The sense of dimension in the tones rivals that of the best vintage wahs I've heard, and by tweaking the internal resonance control, you can revoice the wah for a sharper or softer response. Factor in the Clyde's variable boost and superb workmanship, and what you've got here is a definitive modern classic." —AT

| The Ratings Game  | Tone  | Workmanship | Features | Vibe  | Value |
|---|-------|-------------|----------|-------|-------|
| Fulltone Clyde Deluxe  | ★★★★★ | ★★★★★       | ★★★★★    | ★★★★★ | ★★★★★ |