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Awards 2010
Best Guitar
Amp Over
£1000



LAZY J 20

Reviewed:
May
21/07
£1249

Lazy J hit the ground running. When we reviewed this update on the 5E3 tweed Deluxe, builder Jesse Hoff could already name Doyle Bramhall II and Pete Townshend as customers. Six months later Joe Walsh, Joe Bonamassa, Mike Campbell, Paul Weller and Noel Gallagher can be added to the list.

So what's the big deal about Lazy J amps? You might suppose it's the ultra high-quality components wired point-to-point on traditional eyelet board. Maybe it's because power levels have been raised from 12W to a more giggable 20W thanks to 6L6 power tubes and a beefier output transformer. Or perhaps it's the incomparable Celestion Blue speaker and the bypassable attenuation control for cranked-up tone at practice levels. Our review amp came with switchable mid-boost and a valve-driven spring reverb, with reverb Level and Tone controls mounted inside the handmade finger-jointed pine cabinet. You can opt for a valve tremolo, too.

Lazy J's popularity is probably down to a combination of all these factors, but we think the true explanation is Hoff's passion. In this era of massive corporations with huge offshore production facilities, here's a man who just wants to make the best amps he possibly can to please his customers. Old-fashioned? Certainly, but long may he continue.



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