

THE UK'S NUMBER ONE BASS GUITAR MAGAZINE

Bass

Guitar Magazine

STEVE LAWSON

THE LORD
OF THE LOOPS
ON HIS QUEST
FOR A UNIQUE
BASS VOICE!



JOHN TAYLOR
DURAN DURAN

STEVE BAILEY

DAVID ELLEFSON
MEGADETH

LEE POMEROY

JAMIE MATHIAS
BFMV

HENKKA SEPPÄLÄ
CHILDREN OF BODOM

DAVID HUNGATE
TOTO

BILL NASH
NASH GUITARS

www.bassguitarmagazine.com UK £4.35 Ir£4.95 122 October 2015



RADIAL ENGINEERING

Tonebone Bassbone V2

Need to bone up your tone? Joel McIver stamps on a serious contender

Radial Engineering
www.radialeng.com

Shure Distribution
www.shuredistribution.co.uk/brands/radial



TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

Price | £200 (approx)

Made In | Canada

Features | Two channels, each with level controls and EQ (three presets for Channel 1; Bass, Mid, High pots for Channel 2); loop wet/dry control, signal boost, 'power booster' / mute footswitch (assigned by recessed switch), three-position loop assign switch to one/both/neither channel, high pass filter for Channel 2, loop on/off footswitch; guitar/tuner/effects loop/XLR in and out; ground lift; recessed switches for piezo booster; channels blend and XLR pins reverse to avoid phase or feedback

Dimensions | (LxWxD), 203 x 107 x 48mm

Weight | 2.5lb

Power | 15v DC (supplied, securable with cable clamp)

Warranty | Three-year Radial transferable

WHAT WE THINK

Plus | The ability to precision-engineer your tone and set-up; solid build; versatile

Minus | Slightly crowded interface

Overall | A mighty command centre for semi-pro and pro bassists

BGM RATING

BUILD QUALITY
SOUND QUALITY
VALUE



Radial Engineering's first-generation Bassbone was a highly useful DI box for anyone faced with the immortal challenge of getting a bass guitar hooked up to a PA, recording console or amp and making the damn thing sound good at the same time. The new version, snappily titled the V2, takes its predecessor's generally impressive functionality and adds some cool tweaks, as follows.

Whip the Bassbone V2 out of its box, attach the rubber 'feet' if so desired, plug in with the included power supply (yes – a victory for common sense) and you're faced with several scenarios. The simplest is where you want to send your bass to an amp and feel that you need more EQ options than your instrument or head supplies, in which case you have a bunch of tone options. You'll have fun toggling between the two channels if you set each EQ radically differently.

"IT'S OBVIOUS THAT THE DESIGNERS HAVE THOUGHT ABOUT USERS' REAL-WORLD NEEDS"

I'm not sure you really need this bit of gear for a simple, one-bass set-up, though: the V2 is aimed at professionals or semi-professionals who need its more advanced functions. However, if you're gigging with two basses, or one electric plus a double bass, you may well require the V2's ability to manage two different channels with differing tone options. It also offers options for piezo boost and electro-acoustic basses via 'set and forget' switches recessed into the sides of the unit. Now that's genuinely useful for anyone in need of multiple tones from different instruments.

Add a power booster for solos, accessible via a footswitch that also can be used as a mute for on-stage tuning, and it's obvious that the V2's designers have thought carefully about users' real-world needs. A third stomp button lets you activate the effects loop, modulated by a wet-dry control so you're in command of the original tone versus the effected one, and you're set.

Send to your amp, tuner or PA via the usual set of outs and there'll be little foreseeable reason to complain, especially as the box is so tough in construction. There's even a power cable clamp to stop the gizmo getting unplugged when the idiot guitarist in your band falls over it.