

Lehnert GoGo

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Competent All Tuber!

A dear child has many names, as the Swedish proverb says, and Lehnert's GoGo actually has the nicknames; Booster /Overdrive/Preamp/ Microamp.

It is yet another result of the product development at Lehnert Amps, where the neither the innovativeness nor the soldering iron ever seems to cool down.

But the multitudes of names are justified.

GoGo is a versatile little rascal with all the functions the names suggests. To only label it as something along the lines of "hand built, tube-driven distortion pedal", would have been both inadequate and even misleading.



GoGo can also be described as a 2-channel Boost and Overdrive pedal that can also be used as a Preamp and/or practice amp. Despite that small format Ola has managed to squeeze a lot of functions powered by two 12ax7 preamp tubes. The tubes are running on no less than 300Volts, and as this requires more than a small 9-volt battery, the GoGo comes with a power supply.

Boost and Overdrive are set with four controls; Gain, low, high and level. The gain-knob regulates the input volume and the amount of boost or overdrive. The low and high-knobs have their respective neutral setting at 12 o'clock, and thus decreases counter clock-wise and increases clock-wise. Level sets the output volume of the pedal.

Two foot-switches control the bypass (green LED), boost (blues LED), and overdrive (red LED). One switch selects boost or overdrive, and the other activates the bypass mode. No unnecessary stomping required! A knob on the side of the pedal balances the level between boost and overdrive.

GoGo is built like a tank, with rugged knobs and two sturdy steel hoops protect the tubes.

FACT SHEET

Lehnert GoGo

- Tube-driven boost- & Overdrive pedal with Preamp and Microamp functionality.
- Tubes: Two 12AX7.
- Controls: Gain, High Low, Level.
- Connections: Line In/Out, Speaker Out.
- Power Supply included.
- Price: 4995 SEK
www.lehnert-amps.com

Sound and Handling

Grasping how the GoGo works just takes a matter of seconds. On the other hand, spending a while experimenting with the various controls, especially the amount of gain, is time well spent. But let me return to that later on.

In the boost-mode Gogo offers a transparent, dynamic base sound, which is very honest, both against your instrument and playing. You have a fat tone and the over-tone register feels just “right”. It just sounds “tube” plain and simple, and has the ability to embellish a good base-tone without violating it. Talk about a real improvement, both in volume (if you like) and in quality. The GoGo works really well for giving that extra push for lead when you want more beef and presence. This is where the gain-knob experimentation mentioned earlier comes into play. If you find the appropriate gain setting it becomes easier to affect sound and dynamic with the guitars volume control and your own playing technique.

The overdrive mode (red LED) adds a healthy boost to start with, and everything turns more “rowdy” as Ole Lehnert himself puts it. The sound becomes slightly compressed and fattens up in the midrange. We’re not talking any major EQ-changes; the sound character stays within the same neighborhood as earlier. But you will get a lot more “marrow” all essence all around. You can add healthy amounts of gain without gearing off course. With a muscular P-90 or a humbucker you’re in for a ride! “Serious business” as grandpa put it, but with core and tone in the bottom. A very good and inspiring overdrive tone!

As I mentioned, GoGo can also be used as a practice amp, thanks to the speaker output and a 0.5Watt effect. You can connect anything from a 6” speaker to a 4x12, according to the manual. I tried it out using an old home-built speaker cab, equipped with a 10” Celestion, and GoGo proved itself here as well. The volume is low (of course), slightly brown and veiled, but very smooth and singing. It works excellent for home-practice, and would probably sound much better through a better cab than the one I used. Unfortunately, I never had the opportunity to try the GoGo as a preamp, that is, straight into a power amp.

The bypass mode is true bypass, that is, the signal passes through the pedal without being affected by any active circuit.

Final Judgment

The Lehnert GoGo is a tube-driven, very competent and great sounding boost/overdrive pedal, in the same league as many boutique-counterparts on the market. It delivers honest, inspiring and enriching guitar sounds with a classic tube character – in a way that few tube driven pedals can manage. The boost sound in itself is remarkably good and could in essence been enough. That you in addition get a very good overdrive sound and the extra functions of the preamp and practice amp, makes the GoGo well worth the price.