

EGNATER RENEGADE 112

THE EGNATER RENEGADE IS TWO AMPS IN ONE VALUE PACKED PACKAGE, UTILISING THE BEST OF BOTH SIDES OF THE ATLANTIC.

BY **REG BARBER**

The founder of Egnater Amplification, Bruce Egnater, has been building guitar amplifiers for three decades. Over that time he has worked with artists ranging from Steve Vai to Dimebag Darrell, so he must know a thing or two about amp building. He was one of the first amp builders in the 1970's to start building 'cascading pre amps', allowing the guitar player to increase the distortion level without increasing the volume level, an idea that is crucial to modern rock and metal tones. His desire to satisfy the needs of guitar players also led him to design one of the first multi channel amplifiers, allowing guitarists to have the ability to switch between clean and dirty sounds without changing amplifiers. This continues today with the Egnater Renegade, which gives the guitar player the choice of either a using 6L6 or EL34 tubes in the power amp section and the ability to blend the two.

ARTHUR AND MARTHA, OH WAIT, THEY'RE THE SAME PERSON

The Egnater Renegade offers up an extremely wide tonal palette with its 65 watts of power and two separately voiced independent channels. There is the option to switch down to 18 watts if you really want to get those power tubes cooking for some tasty sustain, and both channels have a control knob to adjust the power tube mix between some beautiful 'Fenderish' clean tones to some angry EL34 Marshall style rock tones.

Both channels have independent level controls for the inbuilt digital reverb, and it is quite a tasty reverb, had me checking in the back for a reverb spring! There are two foot-switchable master volume controls, great idea for those of use who like to boost level for solos.

Each channel also has Tight/Deep and Bright/Normal switches which either affect the amount of bottom or top end content in your sound. These switches were both very effective when playing at a lower volume but had less effect when the volume was cranked and those power amp tubes were cooking, but the Tube mix control had more of an effect at higher volumes.

But the features don't stop there! On the back panel there is the option to bias the amplifier without opening it up. The Egnater Renegade has the ability to use a range of different tubes from 5881's, 6550's, 6V6's, KT66's to KT77's, along with the 6L6's and EL34's it comes with, nice! There is also an effects loop on the back that is buffered, meaning you can use pedals or rack effects with this amp. There is no level control for the effects loop, about the only feature not included in this amp I can think of.

GOOD COP, BAD COP

The Egnater Renegade, because of its two independently voiced channels and ability to blend different power tubes, can go from the most beautiful of clean tones to full on heavy rock tones and everywhere in between. This amp is no high gain metal amp but it will please the majority of guitarists who are after a nice tone. The ability to switch from 18 watts to 65 watts means you can get some nice compressed rock rhythm and lead tones without an unusable amount of volume but also switch to 65 watts and have plenty of clean headroom. Overall the Egnater Renegade is an impressive amp that is reasonably priced, especially considering the amount of features packed into it.

THE BOTTOM LINE

The Egnater Renegade is an extremely versatile amp, offering up a wide variety of usable tones. Because of its independent channels and tube mix feature it really is two amps in one. Considering the amount of features packed into this little amp, and the price range this amp falls into, the Egnater Renegade really is an amazing amplifier. **AB**

FEATURES

RRP: \$2350 (2x12 also available for \$2650)

MADE: China

POWER: 65 watts maximum into 4, 8 or 16 ohms

CHANNELS: Two independent footswitchable channels

EXTRAS: Switchable output 18/65watt, tube mix feature, tight/deep bright/normal switching, two master level controls, independent reverb controls, balanced xlr record/line output, effects send and return, footswitch for channel, effect loop, reverb and boost padded cover included



► WHAT WE RECKON

PROS

- Great value
- Two amps in one
- Plenty of usable features

CONS

- Level control for FX loop

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