





BOSS KATANA AIR EX £544

More Air, vicar? Boss pump up their popular wireless desktop amp

Ever since its introduction, the Boss Katana range has become a byword for affordable digital modelling, with a wide range of amps covering home, studio and stage use. In the home amp market, small is often beautiful, and the Katana Air stereo desktop amp is a popular choice, pushing out up to 30 watts through a pair of three-inch speakers, with a wireless guitar transmitter and battery power

regular jack sockets for guitar and headphones, there's a docking port and charger for the Katana Air EX's wireless transmitter, which provides up to 12 hours of play time. On the rear panel, there's a useful pair of stereo line out jacks, together with an aux in and a USB type 'B' port, direct recording into your computer. Bluetooth provides audio streaming and remote control from the Boss Tone Studio mobile app, enhanced by an optional

crunch and lead tones together with a dedicated voice for bass and acoustic instruments. There's also the wonderful 'Brown' custom lead sound from Boss' acclaimed Waza Craft head, which sounds terrific when teamed with a brawny humbucker. You can take your pick from over 60 assorted boosts, overdrives, delays and modulations and store your favourite patches in six on-board memory slots. The stereo line-outs mean the Air EX isn't restricted to home use – you can easily plug it into a console and use it on any size of stage, with enough power from the larger speakers to handle rehearsals and maller un-mic'd gigs, with wireless freedom removing the distracting tangle of leads that can be pulled out or tripped over.

If you're looking for a desktop amp that crosses over into serious recording, rehearsals and more, the Katana Air EX is an ideal choice.

Nick Guppy

“A DESKTOP AMP THAT CROSSES OVER INTO SERIOUS RECORDING”

to remove untidy wires and cables. Now Boss have added yet another option to the range, for those who like the wireless thing but want more: the Katana Air EX.

The Katana Air EX is physically bigger than the original Air, with a ported wood cabinet housing a pair of specially-designed five-inch loudspeakers. With a tough textured black finish, recessed control panel and silver accents to the speaker grille, the Air EX has more of a professional amp look and feel. As well as

wireless footswitch and expression pedal. Like its smaller brother, the Katana Air EX can run off mains power or batteries, with an optional rechargeable power pack giving up to 16 hours of cable-free use.

In use, the bigger loudspeakers and stereo sound make the Katana Air EX satisfying to play and record, with practically zero latency from the wireless transmitter. The five amp voices aren't modelled on specific designs but include superb clean,

1 GUITAR TRANSMITTER IN DOCKING PORT

The Katana Air EX comes with a Wi-Fi guitar transmitter providing up to 12 hours of play time in between charges and nearly zero latency.

2 AMP TYPE VOICE SELECTOR

The Katana Air EX's five amp voices range from clean to lead, including a dedicated acoustic/bass model and the fantastic Waza Craft 'Brown' sound.

3 EFFECTS CONTROL KNOBS

There are over 60 effects to choose from, with deep editing via the Tone Studio mobile app and an optional wireless footswitch and expression pedal.

AT A GLANCE

TYPE: Digital modelling 2x5" stereo combo

CHANNELS: Five amp voices and six on-board memory slots

OUTPUT: 35 watts RMS on mains power, reducing to 20 watts on batteries

CONTROLS: Amp type, gain, volume, bass, middle, treble, effects select x2, reverb level, master volume, Bluetooth pairing, power, patch store/select.

SOCKETS: Guitar in, headphones out, transmitter dock/charge. Stereo line out, USB Type B port for direct recording to computer/DAW

LOUDSPEAKERS: Two 5" special design

WEIGHT: 5.6kg

DIMENSIONS: [HxWxD] 236 x 414 x 192mm

OPTIONS: The EV-1WL wireless expression pedal retails for £163, while the FS-1WL wireless footswitch is £112. As an alternative to AA batteries, the rechargeable BTY-NIMH/A power pack gives up to 16 hours of playtime and sells for £108.

CONTACT: boss.info/uk

SUMMARY	FEATURES	★	★	★	★	★
	SOUND QUALITY	★	★	★	★	★
	VALUE FOR MONEY	★	★	★	★	★
	BUILD QUALITY	★	★	★	★	★
	USABILITY	★	★	★	★	★
	OVERALL RATING	★	★	★	★	★