

The lunchbox is perfect for the player who wants to be able to sound like AC/DC or Hound Dog Taylor or anyone in between at any volume — all with one low-priced amp.

“In most situations, all you really need is a 15- or 30-Watt amp,” says David Jenkins of [True Tone Music](#), a vintage guitar store in Santa Monica, California. It’s especially true in bars or smaller venues where most musicians play, or even in bigger places where the amps are properly miked, he says.

One of the best-sounding lunchboxes of the dozen we played is being made by Bob Burriss of Lexington, Kentucky. His company, Burriss Amps, makes two models, both around \$1,000. The [Dirty Red](#) is made for crunchy, distorted lead sounds, and the [Royal Bluesman](#) produces glassy, warm blues tones.



Burriss’s amps are hand-wired, meaning all the interior connections are soldered by hand. It’s what the famous British amp companies of the 1960s did, and among amp connoisseurs, it’s a term synonymous with superior workmanship. Most of the lunchboxes we played at NAMM are hand-wired.

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