

WINNER
Guitar
Awards 2009
Best Bass
Guitar Over
£1000



SANDBERG PANTHER SPECIAL

WINNER



We really enjoyed Sandberg's Panther Special - an instrument that forms a link between Sandberg's traditional and contemporary designs. Like every bass from this small but perfectly-formed German company, it's put together by hand and offered to us, the lucky punters, at a ridiculously reasonable price.

The Panther's beautifully-crafted Stingray-inspired body is half sumptuous walnut, half solid mahogany, and the bolt-on maple neck is as slim and fast as anything we've encountered this year. A neatly-finished rosewood fingerboard caps it off, and the tuners and chunky bridge are own-brand. The unusual parallelogram-shaped pickups - a Power Humbucker at the neck and a Split Coil at the bridge - are also Sandberg's own. These are hooked up to a three-band EQ: we have slight reservations regarding the highest frequencies, but aside from that it delivers the goods, and then some. You get zingy clarity in twin mode, bags of earthy detail from the neck humbucker and fine funkiness from the bridge. The build quality, playability, value for money and versatility of this beauty makes it a worthy winner in our over-£1000 category.

**Reviewed
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£1245**

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