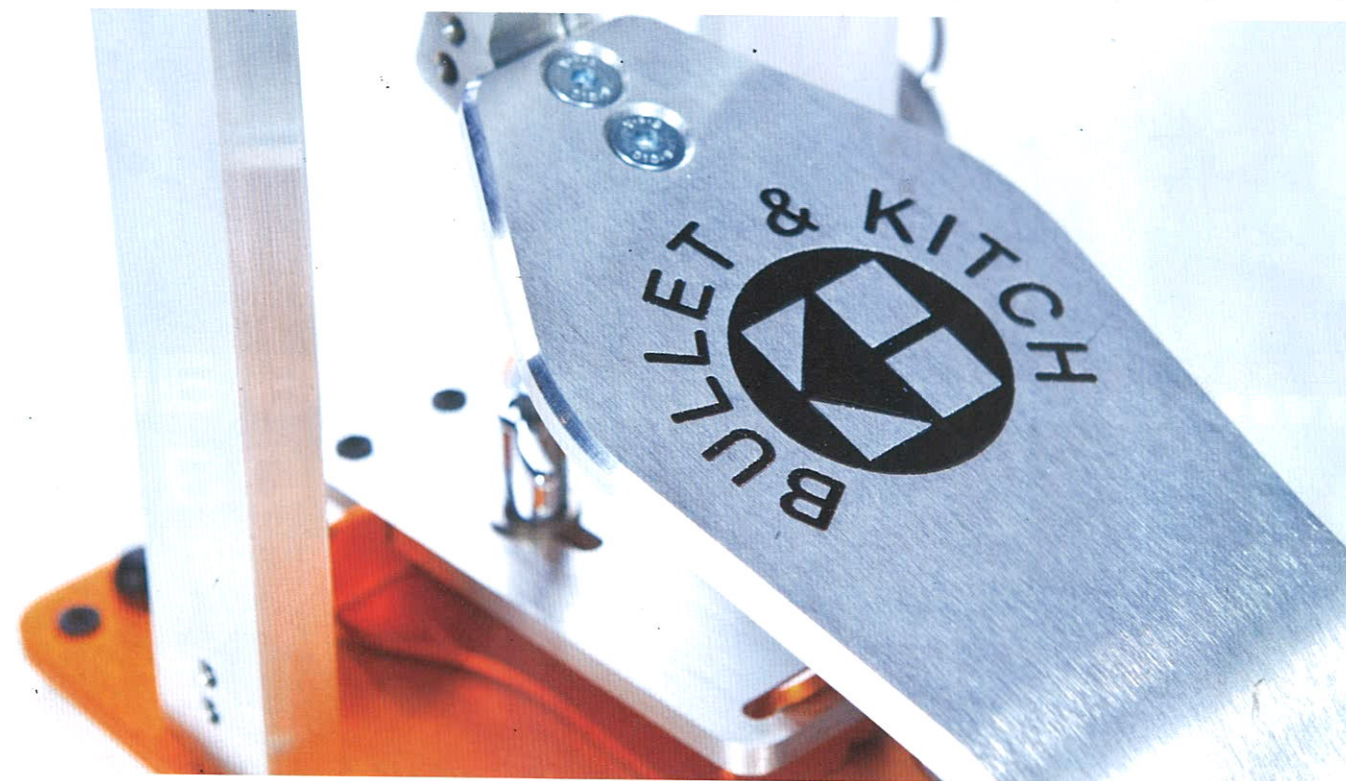
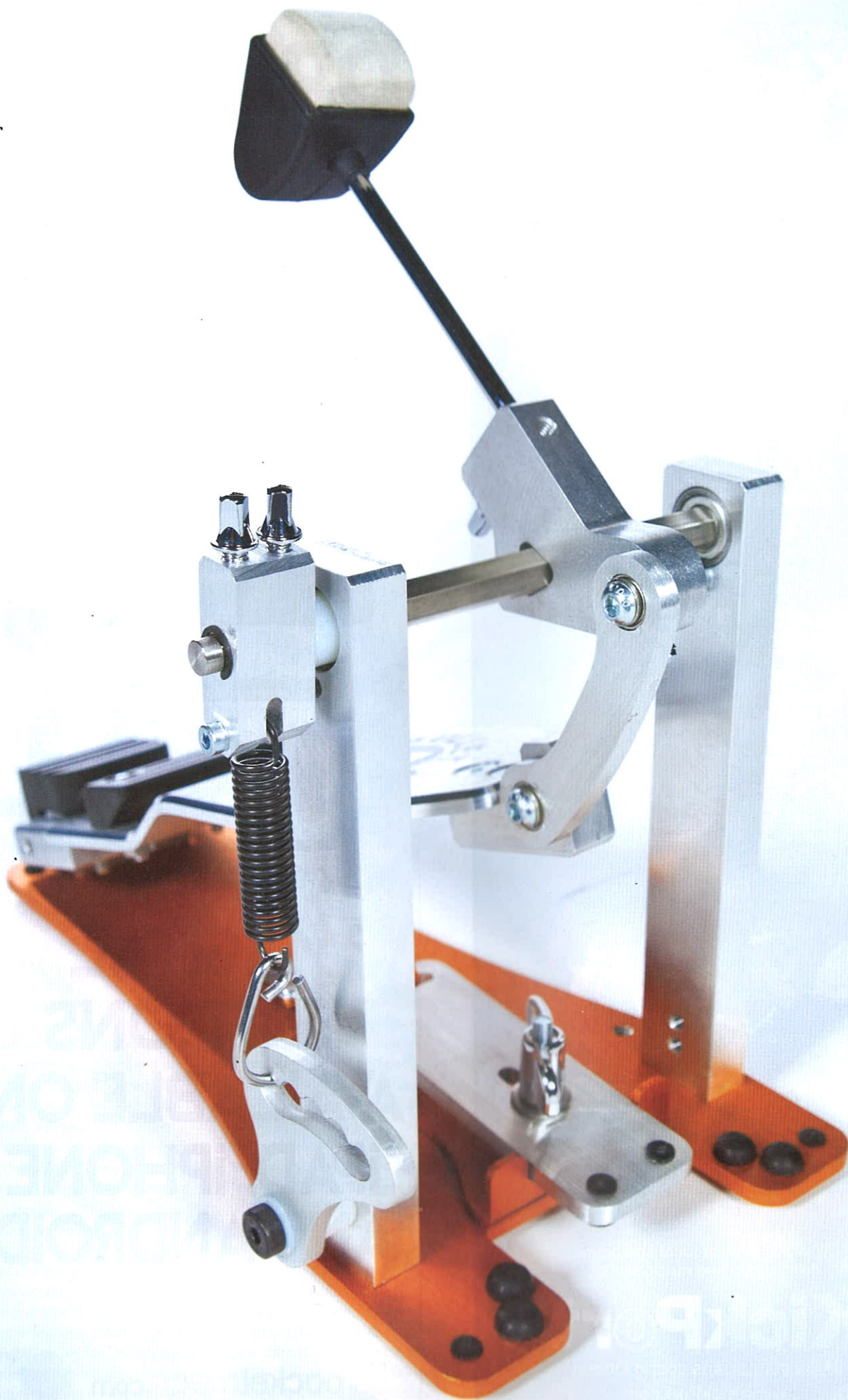


Bullet and Kitch FB-007

Innovative pedal design to enhance your heel-toe technique

Words: Nick Carter Photo Credit: Thru-A-Lupe Photographic



Launched at The London Drum Show, the FB-007 is a unique pedal that drew a lot of attention at the show, and when this prototype model landed here at *Drummer HQ*, we couldn't wait to get started...

IN DETAIL

The first unique innovation to note is the curved footboard, which the company dub the 'Joggle Board'. It's designed to aid and enhance heel-toe technique and allow faster, smoother double strokes. The board is adorned with a hard plastic control block roughly a third of the way down, which accommodates the heel when using this technique. It's easily adjusted with two traditional drum screws, which means it can be used by drummers of all foot sizes. Neatly, the drum key is housed underneath the footboard.

There's also a pivoting heel block, which, when in place, makes the footboard act like a regular flat version for traditional heel-down playing. Flicking the heel block backwards into the off position brings into play the heel drop technique, which means that as you play a regular stroke in a heel-up position, if you continue through with the stroke and allow your heel to hit the control block, a second note is delivered into the head. The innovations don't end with the footboard however. The pedal also has a couple of other neat features, including a specially designed mounting bracket underneath, whereby the clamp is not only adjustable in its hold, but also has three different depth settings to accommodate hoops of different widths. Combine this with the pedal's rubber grips and it ensures that the pedal will

fit comfortably and securely to a range of hoop sizes. Another feature of note is the spring tension mechanism. Different to the regular screw-type adjusters, the pedal houses a five position 'wave tensioner', which is a quick and very easy way of adjusting tension between slack to high, although if you are a player who likes their spring somewhere between high to tightly coiled catapult, the pivot of the mechanism can be moved down into a lower, pre-tapped hole underneath where the wave tensioner originally sits. Similar fine adjustments can also be made on the direct drive mechanism that connects the footboard to the cam. Again pre-drilled holes offer a choice of two positions where the link attaches to the cam, and a further three where the link attaches to the footboard, so there are a number of options for

pedal-board angle and drive feel. The pedal is given an overall feeling of sturdiness and weight due in no small part to the chunky orange baseplate, which features small rubber grips on the underside that, when coupled with the rest of the reassuringly heavy aspects of the pedal, mean that it doesn't move an inch in use, even under the weightiest of playing.

IN USE

This pedal is a serious piece of design and innovation, and you know straight away it's going to be interesting to play. Attaching onto the kick drum hoop is a breeze thanks to the clever clamp design, and once the adjustable depth is set, the small and effective rubber grips work perfectly to make sure that the pedal stays in place. The pedal feels extremely comfortable and smooth with the heel block in

