



Universally rock with Kinney, whip-some-lass with Rose and tour with Silveria. Vater produces some heavy wood

Vater Sticks & Pads

Well, after the mighty sticks that we reviewed in the last issue, we stay in the realms of enormous drumsticks with Alice In Chains drummer Sean Kinney, Sevendust's Morgan Rose and Korn's David Silveria all benefiting from new signature models from the Vater folks. It clearly seems to me that 'big is best' here as all three models appear to have taken stick design to new dimensions!

All Chained Up

Right, it's time to juggle some wood and where better to start than with the Sean Kinney stick. Built like a support for the Golden Gate Bridge, Kinney's stick weighs in at a blistering 16.875" in length, has a diameter of .620" and comes complete with an oval wood tip that is big enough to draw a face upon! The Alice In Chains drummer clearly knows sticks as his signature model combines both Vater's Universal and Rock models, making for wood that will pound

words: Ian Croft **images:** Eckie

out rapid beats all night long and also wake up your tech should he nod off during the set. Simply aim one in his direction and due to the stick's impressive size, you can't fail to bust him up the side of the head and get his attention. The model number is VHSKW and Sean's stick features Vater's Nude Series finish that helps prevent stick slippage from hand sweat. Definitely not a pairing for wussies!

Rose's Whiplash

Morgan Rose loves big sticks too and his 'Whiplash' stick, carrying Rose's alien caricature, signature, and Sevendust logo is equally impressive and also features the Nude finish. The bulbous stick, marginally bigger than Vater's 2B model, offers an oval tip for a fat, full sound from the drums. The Whiplash stick has a length of 16.25" and a diameter of .650", making it shorter than Kinney's, but fatter around the grip area.

Here the model designation is VHMRW. Good for those expecting to welcome an invasion of aliens or those seeking to impress chicks with their wood - or both!

Korn Tour

David Silveria benefits from a further signature stick in the form of the DSK Tour stick, a somewhat scaled down version of his original DSK stick. Seems David likes the shorter length as it provides a 'quick' feel when playing fills around the set, whilst the heavier shoulder gives high durability levels during aggressive performances. Running out at an upright 16" in length and with a diameter of .590", the Silveria Tour stick will certainly have you laying down ultra-heavy beats and comes with a nylon tip for some serious cymbal clarity.

Chop Builders

So, we've got our sticks sorted and now all we need to do is practise with them. And, the very thoughtful people at Vater offer

Heads Up

PRICES:

Signature sticks:

Sean Kinney	£10.25
Morgan Rose Whiplash	£10.25
David Silveria Tour Model	£10.25

Chop Builder Pads:

12" Soft Pad	£24.95
6" Soft Pad	£14.95
6" Hard Pad	£14.95

Drinks Holder	£15.95
Buzz Kill Drum Dampers	£6.99

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REVIEW

Vater Sticks & Pads



“All three signature stick models are designed for the heavier hitters in mind”

three practice pads that will have you blazin' beats from sun-up 'til sun-down without disturbing a soul in the process.

First to attract our attention is the 12" single-sided soft Chop Builder pad that features a soft rubber surface that is best described as near custard in colour. The pad sits on a robust wooden base that benefits from a 8mm thread that will allow the pad to be mounted to most cymbal stands, though, the 12" version would benefit from being mounted into a snare drum stand during practice sessions due to it's fulsome diameter.

Response is pretty accurate in terms of emulating 'head tension' and the beats rebound with an ease of motion, whilst remaining very quiet in the process. A 6" version of the soft rubber pad is also available. As is a 6" 'hard' version that features a black rubber pad mounted on a similar rugged wooden base and comes with the same 8mm threaded hole. Rebound is slightly more aggressive, as is the sound that the sticks draw from the pad's surface, making it a little louder than the soft versions. The 6" pads are easy to slip into your travel bag for instant access.



Sup Up

After all that hard work why not sit back and cool off with a drink and handily, Vater's Drink Holder will do the job nicely. The Drink Holder has an inside diameter of 3.5", large enough for most drinks and sports bottles and securely fastens to cymbal stands with an easy-to-turn knob.

Buzz Off

Finally, Vater offers sets of Buzz Kill dampers that will control unwanted overtones that it claims can be used on both drums and cymbals! The small circular pads are reusable and can be cut to size or shape to suit your needs. The super sticky pads will adhere to top or bottom heads and can be cleaned when dirty. Each pack contains six of the little Buzz Kill discs. **D**

Conclusion

All three signature stick models are designed for the heavier hitters in mind and coupled with the Nude finish, should serve you well during those intense high-energy blast-beat gigs. The Chop Builder pads are really nice to play upon, with the soft versions being particularly quiet, yet responsive without fooling you into thinking you suddenly received an injection of speed as some practice pad heads can do. The Buzz Kill pads are very handy to have for those moments when overtones take over as the pads instantly suppress and control them very effectively.

