



Heavy instrument? Add a helium balloon - or buy a cushioned strap

Mono

GS1 Guitar & Bass Straps

As well as high-quality bass and guitar gig bags, Mono also makes a range of comfort straps for the discerning stringed instrumentalist. Like many other purveyors of fine straps, Mono offers two lengths: short, which is adjustable from approximately 1040mm to 1170mm (41"-46"),

and long, offering lengths from roughly 1205 to 1460mm (47.5"-57.5"). There's no creaky leather on show here; Mono uses 100 per cent man-made materials including a tough, durable neoprene underbelly and hanging ends which are formed from a very rigid plastic composite that requires a major initial effort to slip over your guitar's strap buttons.

Different materials are used for the top: we've got sharkskin in steel grey and ultra-suede in the strangely appealing 'clay' option - and the materials also dictate the slight differences in price. For comfort purposes Mono uses memory foam stitched into chunks 12mm or 1/2" thick, the straps being 76mm or 3" wide for the vast majority of their length. On the inside of the non-adjustable end you'll find a 'hidden' pocket big enough for picks or slides, but it does not, mercifully, accommodate a mobile phone.

RRP: £31

RRP: £37



FINAL SCORE

Build Quality	20/20
Playability	19/20
Sound	17/20
Value for Money	16/20
Vibe	18/20

TOTAL **90%**

Good for... High quality, ultra durable, long lasting comfort

Look elsewhere... If the budget won't stretch or you simply must have leather

Anyone who's tried memory foam mattresses or pillows knows just how comfortable they are, and the stuff works just as well with guitar straps. This, combined with a generous width, really cushions your instrument's weight - and this, given the 4.5kg payload of many modern basses, is not to be sneezed at, especially as it means there's less strain on shoulder and back.

VERDICT

As well as looking cool, Mono straps offer top-notch axe-hanging comfort at a price that forces you to give them a serious look.

Contact: Madison & Fifth 01858 446782

Web: www.madisonandfifth.co.uk