

By Jim Basara - GJD

In chapter 3 of the 2009 NAMM awards, we look at some of the better guitar accessories that we found. Naturally, there were thousands of such things to look at, but these are three items that struck us as particularly innovative and “cool”.



Grab Axe – 30 years ago, I had one of the very first Dean “Z” models (explorer body style). One day at a gig, some bone-head ran across the stage, tripped over my cord, and pulled the guitar off its stand and cracked the headstock in half. I’ve since learned that this is not at all an uncommon occurrence, especially with people who lean their guitars up against their amplifiers. Mick Lindens Gig Gear has responded with a very simple and innovative device called the Grab Axe. This simple strap secures the guitar in vertical position using a strap that attaches to your amp’s handle. It works great, is super simple, and is a heck of a lot easier to carry around than a guitar stand.

Grip Studios’ “Guitar Grip” – Hanging guitars on the walls at home is becoming more and more common, and it should be. Guitars are beautiful to look at, great conversation starters, and hanging them in the open makes them more accessible. However, until now, guitar hangers have been.....well....., boring. Your choices were pretty much limited to a brown ‘U’ hanger or a brown ‘U’ hanger mounted on a piece of wood. The folks at, Grip Studios (www.guitargrip.com), however, have decided to make that lack of style a thing of the past. Using a clenched hand as a basic model, their new guitar hangers are really artistic and very cool. My only hesitation on them was that they are mounted with a single screw, but the ones they had mounted at NAMM seemed more than strong enough.

