#### CLASSIC SERIES BANJO PICKUP INSTALLATION GUIDE

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## Read Me First!

Installation of this product is a simple procedure, but we recommend this job only if you are an experienced repair technician.

## Requirements

The Classic Series Banjo pickup is designed for installation on banjos with dual coordinator rods.

#### Parts list

- Banjo Pickup
- Jack Assembly with: Switchjack<sup>™</sup>; Curved Bracket; <sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub>" Nut; <sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub>" Dress Washer; <sup>15</sup>/<sub>32</sub>" Dress Washer; Plastic Spacer for Jack; 2 Plastic Spacers; 2 Off-center Washers; 2 Flat Washers; 2 10-32 x <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" Screws; 2 Locknuts; Blue Steel Shim (sensing element)

#### **Tools required**

- 1/8" Hex Wrench
- ¾" Wrench
- ½" Wrench
- Soldering Iron

## Installation

#### Mount the pickup

1. Remove the backing paper from the small rectangular blue shim to expose the sticky-back adhesive. Attach the shim to the head (inside the instrument) so that the shim is centered under the coordinator rods, perpendicular to the rods and about ½" (12.7mm) from the edge of the middle bridge foot.



2. Loosen the wing nut and position the pickup directly over the blue shim. The magnet will self-locate the pickup over the shim. For a darker response, leave the pickup positioned directly over the shim. For brighter response, move the pickup 1/4" away from the shim, towards the neck.

3. Set the pickup about  $\frac{1}{16}$ " from the surface of the head. You can make a  $\frac{1}{16}$ " spacer cut from the box for this pickup and use it to set the gap between the head and the face of the pickup.



4. After the pickup is secured to the coordinator rods, disassemble the jack then attach the curved bracket to the flange. To accommodate different styles of flanges, we provide two types of washers (sets of standard and off-center washers).





5. Re-assemble the jack assembly. Wind the pickup wire several times around the coordinator rod, then route the wire through an opening in the flange.

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#### Solder the wire to the jack



**1.**  ${}^{15}_{32}$ " Dress Nut; **2.**  ${}^{15}_{32}$ " Dress Washer; **3.** Plastic Spacer; **4.** Curved Bracket; **5.**  ${}^{3}_{8}$ " Dress Washer; **6.**  ${}^{3}_{8}$ " Dress Nut

Remove the shielding barrel from the jack, run the wire through it, then solder:

- Red wire to Tip (shortest terminal)
- White wire to Switch (longest terminal)
- Shield to Ground (hooked terminal)

Attach a 9 Volt alkaline battery to the battery clip. Slip the battery into the holder on the back side of the pickup.

### Specifications

| Pickup Coil:                         | Stacked Humbucking                         |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Preamp:                              | Low Noise, Discrete,<br>0 Feedback Circuit |
| Nominal Output:                      | -10dBu                                     |
| Noise:                               | -94dBu, A Weighted                         |
| Output Impedance:                    | 3k Ohm                                     |
| Minimum Suggested<br>Load Impedance: | 10k Ohm                                    |
| Power:                               | 9V Alkaline Battery                        |
| Battery Life:                        | Over 5000 Hours                            |

## Alternative Installation

## Adapter for banjos with a single coordinator rod

Two adapter blocks can be made to fit the pickup to a banjo with a single coordinator rod. A hard wood such as maple is suitable for the blocks.

1. A split block can be made by first drilling a hole one drill size larger than the diameter of the coordinator rod through one of the blocks. Trim the block as thin as possible on the pickup side to minimize offset and cut in half as per the illustration.

2. To provide friction between the clamping surfaces and the rod, take a fine grit open mesh sanding sheet and wrap it around the rod's circumference. Fit the split block around the sanding sheet. If sanding sheet isn't available, glue pieces of 220 grit sandpaper to the drilled surfaces of the block and fit it around the coordinator rods.

3. Now cut a solid block, equal in width to the split block fitted in place. This will fit in the other half of the clamp assembly. Note that the rubber strips should be removed from the inside of the clamps when fitting the pickup in this manner. There will now be a small offset between the ideal center of the pickup and the center of the middle foot of the bridge, but the pickup should still function properly. Follow the rest of the instructions for pickup installation.



