

INSTALLATION GUIDE ELLIPSE BLEND

Add-on soundhole electronics for the Fishman Acoustic Matrix Natural I, Acoustic Matrix Natural II and Powerjack systems. Compatible with most standard flat-top guitars. May not drop-in fit with some instruments*.



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System Requirements

These instructions support installation with the following systems:

- Fishman Acoustic Matrix Natural I & II—between Rev. 4.0 and 6.0
- Fishman Powerjack—Rev. 2.3
- Martin Gold Plus—between Rev. 4.0 and 6.0
- Martin Active Jack—Rev. 2.3

Please note that revision numbers for each pickup are printed on the circuit board inside the endpin jack.

Do not attempt to install the Ellipse Blend with the discontinued Acoustic Matrix Natural or the Acoustic Matrix Hot preamps or similar versions of the Martin Gold Plus systems. These systems can be identified by the rectangular metal box that encases the electronics.



Installation

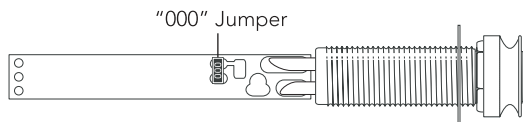
WARNING!

Installation of the Ellipse Blend is meant to be performed only by a professional repairperson. The heat from a soldering iron can easily overheat the circuit board traces and destroy the surface-mount components on the endpin preamp. Use only a low wattage (30 watts max) soldering iron and do not overheat the components.

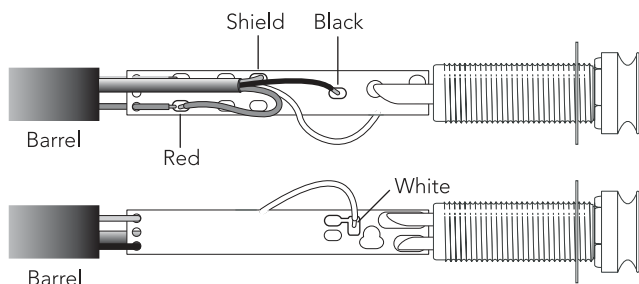
Remove the Endpin preamp and locate the revision number on the circuit board. Follow the soldering instructions that apply to the revision number.

Fishman Acoustic Matrix and Martin Gold Plus—Rev. 6.0:

1. Remove "000" jumper.



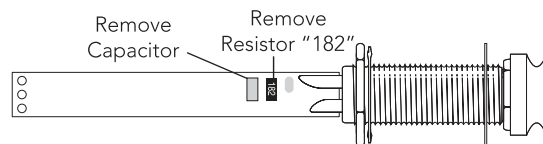
2. Thread cable assembly through barrel and solder as indicated.



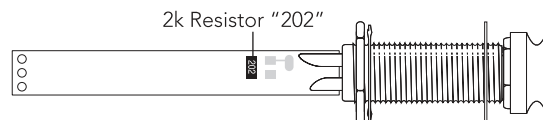
*Taylor guitars with NT neck or Larrivee guitars.

Fishman Acoustic Matrix and Martin Gold Plus—Rev. 5.0, 5.3:

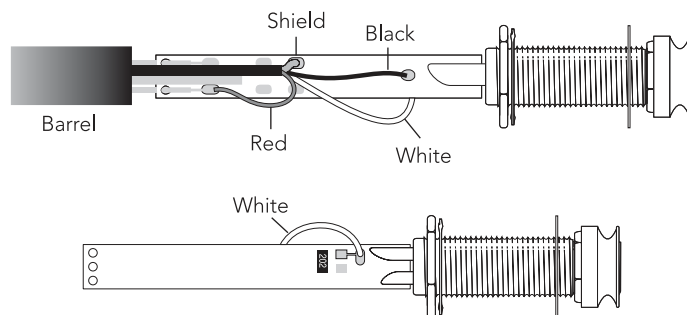
1. Remove the components from the endpin preamp as indicated



2. Solder the new 2k resistor (supplied with your VTB) to the preamp circuit board in place of the capacitor

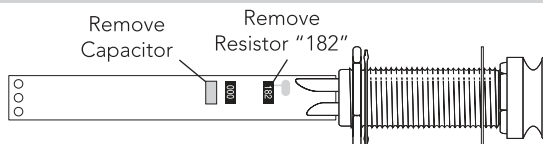


3. Thread cable assembly through barrel and solder as indicated.

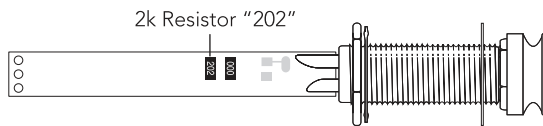


Fishman Acoustic Matrix and Martin Gold Plus—Rev. 4.0:

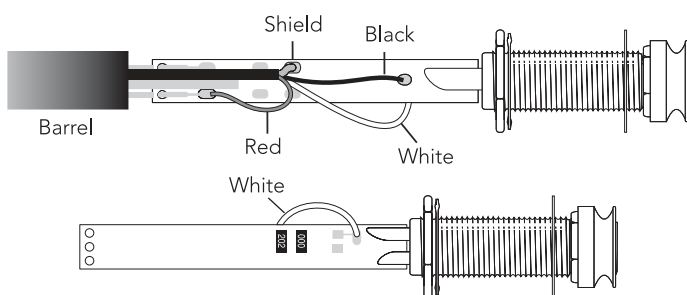
1. Remove the components from the endpin preamp as indicated



2. Solder the new 2k resistor (supplied with your VTB) to the preamp circuit board

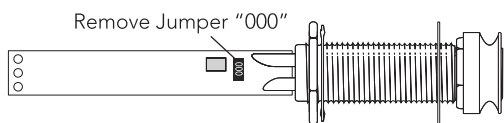


3. Thread cable assembly through barrel and solder as indicated.

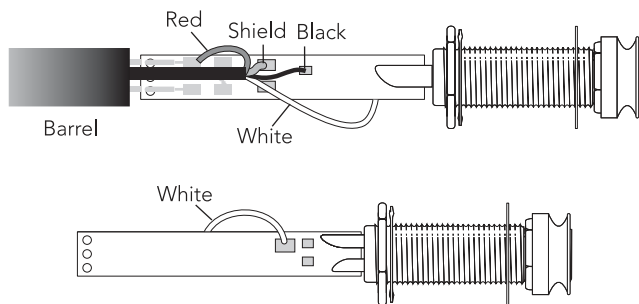


Fishman Powerjack and Martin Active Jack—Rev. 2.3:

1. Remove the "000" jumper from the endpin preamp.



2. Thread cable assembly through barrel and solder as indicated.



Preamp Module Installation

1. Locate the module flush with the edge of the soundhole, on the bass side. Center the module between the transverse brace and the bass-side x-brace (figure 1).

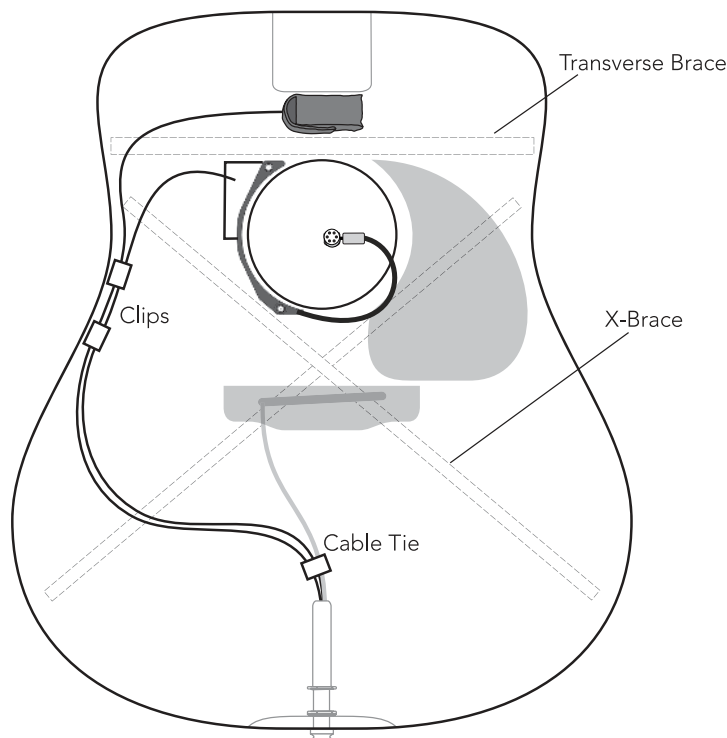


Figure 1.

2. Sand off any lacquer and/or buffing compound from the inside edge of the soundhole. Then, clean this surface with rubbing alcohol. Let dry.

Note: For the strongest bond we recommend you now apply a water-based primer/sealer to the bare wood inside the soundhole. Let the primer/sealer dry before continuing.

3. Peel back the release film on the bottom of the preamp module and fasten the preamp to the underside of the soundhole. The adhesive gains maximum hold after 24 hours.

4. You may separate the control module from the magnetic base for better access inside the guitar. To separate the module, locate the tab on the right edge of the unit and push it down, toward the back of the instrument. Once you feel the magnet let go, swing the module towards the center of the soundhole, then separate the left-side magnet.

5. Secure the wires to the side of the guitar with the included adhesive backed clips and cable tie (figure 1).

Microphone Positioning

You can position the microphone to find the "sweet spot" inside the instrument. Take the time to experiment with microphone placement until you find the position that works best in the instrument.

Plug in the guitar and move the blend slider to the left for mic only. Start with the mic capsule so that it faces the back of the guitar. Move the mic closer to the sound hole for more bass. Turn the capsule toward the sides of the instrument for less bass (figure 2).

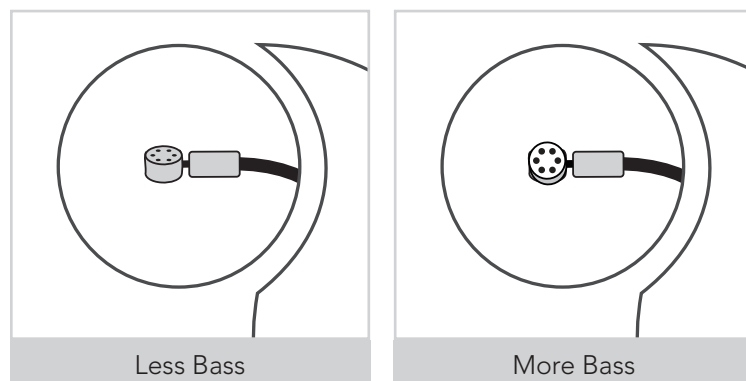


Figure 2.

Microphone Trim Control

A small circular potentiometer is recessed below the volume slider and can be accessed with a small slotted screwdriver. This is a "set it and forget it" control. Use it to calibrate the microphone balance in relation to the pickup. Set the Blend slider to the center position and adjust the trim control until both the microphone and pickup levels are balanced to your liking (figure 3).

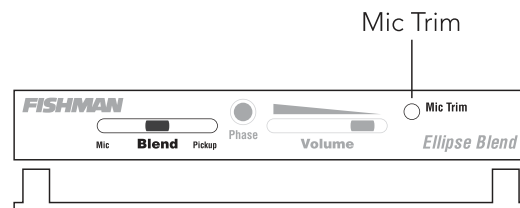


Figure 3.

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