



## Operator's Manual

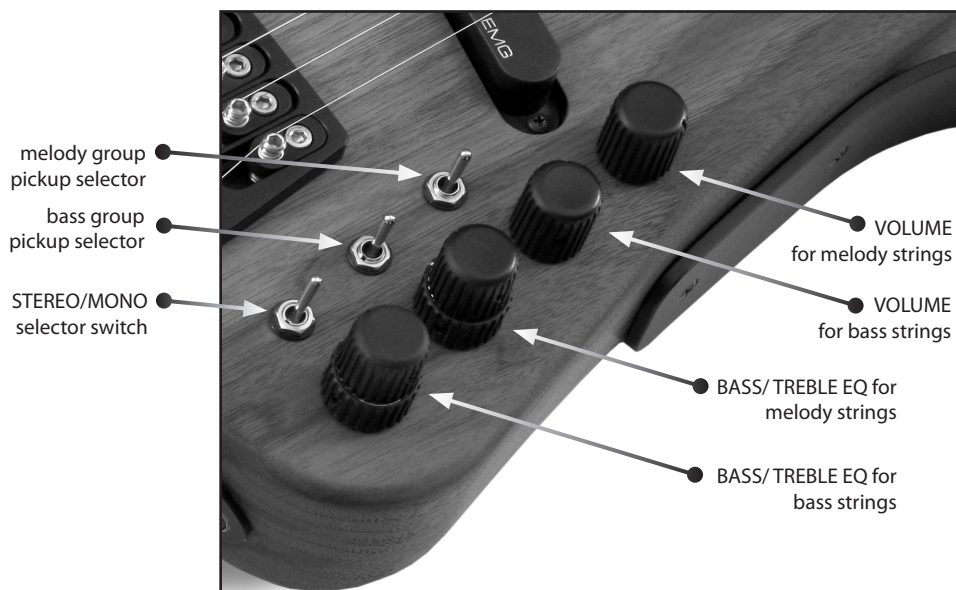
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### ELECTRONICS

Your NS/Stick is equipped with four active EMG Front Tele™ stacked humbucker pickups, one pair for each set of four strings (melody 1-4 and bass 5-8). Each pair of pickups has an independent pickup selector switch and volume, bass and treble controls. The three-way pickup selector switches allow you to choose NECK, BRIDGE or BOTH (center switch position) pickups. The NECK pickup blends in harmonics closer to the fundamental, producing a warm, mellow tone on both melody and bass string groups. The BRIDGE pickup senses the higher harmonics along with the fundamental, producing a sharper, more biting tone to both string groups. Or you can select BOTH for a punchy, full-frequency sound. Any combination of pickup settings is possible (BRIDGE on the bass strings and BOTH on the melody strings, for example).

A STEREO/MONO switch controls the overall output, with each group of four strings on its own channel (stereo) or all eight strings on the bass channel (mono). This toggle switch flips toward the tail end for STEREO and toward the frets for MONO.

Active tone and volume controls allow you to shape the sound of the bass and melody strings separately. BASS and TREBLE EQ controls are on stacked pots for each string group, the lower knob for bass and the higher knob for treble. Because the system is active, the EQ bands of both string groups can be boosted or cut, enabling a very wide range of sounds.



### BATTERY

The active electronics are clean and dynamic, powered by two 9-volt batteries. Battery life is approximately one year of normal use.

Remember to unplug the instrument when not in use, as the jack is a switching jack that activates the batteries.

To replace the batteries just remove the backplate.

*see reverse for:*  
**STRING CHANGE**  
**TRUSS ADJUSTMENT**  
**CARE AND CLEANING**

## STRING CHANGE

### TAKE OFF OLD STRINGS

1. Using the fine tuners **A**, detune strings to their loosest tension with string retainer blocks **B** at their innermost position, closest to bridge set screw **C**.
2. Remove string ball end from string retainer block.
3. Loosen string locking screws **D** on rear of nut assembly using Allen wrench in provided set.
4. Pull old strings out of their nut tunnels **E**.

### CLEAN THE FRETBOARD

5. Wipe graphite fretboard clean with damp rag, rubbing off accumulations, if any, then wipe with dry rag.

### PUT ON NEW STRINGS

6. Place ball end of string in string retainer block **B**.
7. Maintain pulling tension while extending other end of string toward headless nut.
8. Thread uncut end of string through its angled nut tunnel **E** and pull excess string inward from under nut **F**.
9. Tighten locking screw **D** while pulling string tight.
10. Snip off excess string length close to locking screw.
11. Align each string on nut's side-saddle setscrew **G** with string bent toward melody side of preceding pin **H** and toward bass side of side-saddle.
12. Align each string on bridge's side-saddle setscrew **C**, lifting string over setscrew to rest on inner side of side-saddle.
13. Tune strings to approximate pitch using fine tuning knobs **A** at outer end of bridge assembly. String retainer block **B** travel should start from innermost position for greatest tuning range.
14. Fine tune to exact pitch.

### CHECK YOUR SETUP

1. Before making any setup adjustment, make sure neck is straight by checking truss adjustment (see below). Latch damper **I** in disengaged position.
2. Check string heights at first fret with damper disengaged, viewing close up from melody side of nut. Adjust nut side-saddle heights if necessary so that all strings just barely clear the first fret.
3. Check string heights at bridge, viewing close up from melody side. String tops should form a flat but slight up-slope from melody to bass strings. Highest pitched melody strings should just barely clear each higher fret when pressed and held down at each succeeding fret. If fret clearances can be gotten lower without buzzing against higher frets when string is tapped medium hard, adjust string height a bit lower at bridge setscrew.

## TRUSS ADJUSTMENT

*Like all fretboard tapping instruments, the NS/Stick is easiest to play when the neck is perfectly straight. If string action is too high off the fretboard around 12th fret then tighten truss rod. If notes are fretting out near nut, then loosen truss rod.*

1. Insert the larger hex wrench provided into socket head of truss adjustment screw **J** on rear of neck by nut assembly, and turn in small increments to straighten neck.
2. Check action after each small adjustment and continue until straight.

## CARE AND CLEANING

1. Use a dry cloth to rub off accumulated dirt on body and around pickups and hardware.
2. Use the nails of your thumb and forefinger to clean each string after playing.  
This prevents rust and corrosion, and extends string life of the strings to four months and longer.

