

MINISTAR™

OWNERS MANUAL

HOW TO SET UP YOUR MINISTAR AND BASSTAR

BRIDGE ADJUSTMENT

You can adjust the string height at the bridge end of your MINISTAR or BASSTAR by loosening the screws that secure the bridge to the end of your instrument. Gently tap it up or down, left or right, and even tilt it to find the best string height for your playing style. Once you have achieved your desired action height, tighten the bridge screws to secure the setting.

THE ADJUSTABLE NUT

To adjust the nut, loosen the 2 screws closest to the headstock end of the guitar/bass, and then raise or lower the metal plate/nut assembly by turning the 2 adjustment screws located next to the nut until all the strings are just barely touching the 1st fret. Then, raise the plate about ½ to 1 complete turn on each screw so that the strings just barely clear the 1st fret. Re-tighten the 2 screws at the rear of the plate.

THE TENSION ROD

Lay the instrument with its back down on your lap. Use a finger of your left hand to push the 1st string down firmly against the 1st fret. Use the LITTLE FINGER of your right hand to push the 1st string down firmly against the highest fret (22-24.) You have now established a straight line (the string) to indicate how close to perfectly straight the curvature of the neck is. Use the thumb of your right hand to push the string down at the 12th fret. You should be able to easily see any up and down movement of the string to indicate the clearance and therefore the amount of curvature. 1/32" clearance between the string and the 12th fret is a good average measurement when holding the string down at the lowest and highest frets.

If, when you are holding the 1st string down at the 1st and the highest fret, the string is touching the 12th fret, you need to loosen the neck rod. If there is too much clearance between the top of the frets and the bottom of the strings at the 12th fret, you need to tighten the rod. The access to the rod adjustment is located at the end of the fingerboard. Insert the "L" shaped adjustment wrench into the adjustment rod nut with the long end of the "L" pointing upward. To tighten the rod, turn the adjustment nut in a clockwise direction. To loosen the rod for more string clearance, turn the adjustment nut in a counter-clockwise direction. Never turn the rod more than ¼ turn before checking the clearance again at the 12th fret. A neck rod that is too tight will result in an unplayable instrument, and we will not be responsible for this condition. If you have buzzes and rattles, LOOSEN THE ROD until the proper curvature is attained. Now re-check all of your settings and fine-tune them until you are satisfied.

You now have the "BEST PLAYING GUITAR OR BASS IN THE WORLD!" Mother nature will not permit the most expensive guitar/bass in the world to have a closer action than that which you can attain with your MINISTAR or BASSTAR.

CONTROLS & FUNCTIONS

VOLUME AND TONE CONTROLS

The “STACKED VOLUME and TONE CONTROLS” offered on some models allow adjustment of the output volume, (the smaller top knob,) and the tone quality (the outer/lower control.) Turning clockwise increases volume or treble, and turning counter-clockwise lowers the volume or cuts higher frequencies.

PICKUP SELECTOR SWITCHES

Several models have a pickup selector switch. The TESTAR and LESTAR feature a 3-position switch. The rear position turns on the neck pickup, and the forward position selects the bridge pickup. When in the center position, both pickups are on. The CASTAR has a 5-position switch set up as follows. The rearward, or 1st position turns on the neck pickup. The 2nd position turns on both the neck and center pickups. In this position, these pickups are “out of phase” and also operate as a “humbucking” pickup. The center #3 position turns on the center pickup. #4 position turns on both the center and the bridge pickup. In this position, these pickups are “out of phase” and operate as a “humbucking” pickup. Position # 5 turns on the lead/bridge pickup for maximum treble.

PHASE SWITCH

The TESTAR features a “PHASE” switch that operates as follows. When the pickup selector is in the center position with both the lead and rhythm pickups on, the phase switch is used to change the sound from a normal sound to the “hollow out-of-phase” sound. The phase switch has no discernible effect unless both pickups are on with the pickup selector in the center position.

ATTACHING THE RODS

There are 3 rods included with your MINISTAR. The body extension rod that is inserted in the rearward hole on the top of the Ministar, the horn extension rod that inserts upward through the hole in the bottom side of the Ministar, and the sit rod, which is used to replace the horn rod for playing while sitting. Be sure to tighten the knurled knob securely. If the palm/arm rest block is not already installed, remove the strap button on the body extension rod, and slide the palm/arm rest onto the rod, replacing the strap button. The palm/arm rest is used to simulate the body of a conventional guitar. If you look at most well used guitars, you will see a worn area where the player’s arm rested while playing. Move the palm/arm rest to a comfortable position for your playing style. The sit rod can be installed forward facing or rearward facing. When sitting, you can control the guitar position easily with your right arm on the rest.

MINISTAR PRODUCTS - INCHEON, KOREA