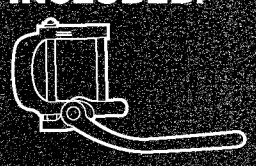
BEFORE YOU BEGIN

TOOLS AND MATERIALS REQUIRED TO INSTALL THE BIGSBY® B5™ VIBRATO

INCLUDED:



BIGSBY B5 VIBRATO

MOUNTING SCREWS (4) | TENSION SPRING | PLASTIC WASHER | ALIGNMENT STRING

TOOLS REQUIRED:

DRILL BITS: 3/32" (2.30 mm)
DRILL
PHILLIPS HEAD SCREWDRIVER

SET UP NOTES:

READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE YOU BEGIN. MAKE SURE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE IN GOOD WORKING CONDITION AND THE GUITAR IS SET UP PROPERLY. INDICATE ANY NECESSARY PRE-INSTALLATION ADJUSTMENTS.

- ☐ TUNING PEGS _____
- ☐ NUT _____
- ☐ TRUSS ROD _____
- ☐ NECK ANGLE _____
- ☐ ACTION _____
- ☐ INTONATION _____
- ☐ BRIDGE _____
- ☐ STRING GAUGE _____

1 POSITION THE VIBRATO

- REMOVE THE GUITAR STRINGS. MARK THE LOCATION OF THE EXISTING TAILPIECE USING MASKING TAPE AND A GREASE PENCIL, AND REMOVE IT FROM THE GUITAR.
- POSITION THE VIBRATO SO THE TENSION ROLLER SITS WHERE THE FORMER TAILPIECE WAS LOCATED. IF THIS LOCATION BLOCKS ACCESS TO THE TONE AND VOLUME KNOBS, OR IF THE VIBRATO HANDLE IS TOO FAR BACK FOR PLAYING COMFORT, ADJUST THE POSITION OF THE VIBRATO ACCORDINGLY. **FIG. 1**

TIP

THERE ARE MANY OPTIONS FOR TREATING HOLES LEFT FROM REMOVING THE ORIGINAL TAILPIECE. DISCUSS OPTIONS WITH A LUTHIER, OR VISIT WWW.BIGSBYGUITARS.COM TO SEE WHAT OTHERS HAVE DONE.

2 CHECK THE ALIGNMENT

- THREAD THE ALIGNMENT STRING AROUND THE LOW E TUNING PEG, DOWN TO THE LOW E STRING PIN ON THE VIBRATO (GOING UNDER THE TENSION ROLLER), OVER TO THE HIGH E STRING PIN, UNDER THE TENSION ROLLER AGAIN AND BACK UP TO THE HIGH E TUNING PEG. **FIG. 1A**
- POSITION THE VIBRATO SO THE ALIGNMENT STRINGS RUN STRAIGHT DOWN THE GUITAR NECK. CHECK THAT THE STRINGS SIT PROPERLY IN THE NUT AND BRIDGE. **FIG. 1**
- CHECK THAT THE STRINGS CLEAR THE BACK OF THE BRIDGE. IF THEY DON'T, MOVE THE VIBRATO FURTHER BACK ON THE GUITAR.
- ADJUST THE VIBRATO AS NECESSARY UNTIL IT IS CENTERED.
- LIGHTLY MARK THE SCREW HOLE LOCATIONS BY HAND WITH THE 3/32" (2.30 mm) DRILL BIT.

TIPS

USE MASKING TAPE AND AN ALL-SURFACE OR GREASE PENCIL WHEN MARKING HOLE LOCATIONS TO PROTECT THE GUITAR FINISH.

USE DOUBLE-SIDED TAPE TO TEMPORARILY AFFIX THE VIBRATO WHILE CHECKING ITS ALIGNMENT ON THE GUITAR.

DRY BAR SOAP ON WOOD SCREW THREADS MAKES A GOOD LUBRICANT. SCREWS WILL DRIVE EASIER WITH LESS HEAD STRIPPING.

3 ATTACH THE VIBRATO

- DRILL SCREW HOLES USING THE 3/32" (2.30 mm) DRILL BIT.
- FASTEN THE SCREWS BY INSTALLING THE TWO SCREWS CLOSEST TO THE BRIDGE FIRST. CHECK THE ALIGNMENT AFTER TIGHTENING EACH ONE.
- RESTRING THE GUITAR WITH NEW STRINGS. THE BALL END OF THE STRING RUNS UNDER THE TENSION ROLLER, OVER THE STRING BAR AND HOOKS ON THE STRING PIN. LEAVE THE STRINGS LOOSE. **FIG. 2**
- PLACE THE PLASTIC WASHER INTO THE CUP UNDER THE HANDLE AND INSERT THE TENSION SPRING.
- TIGHTEN THE STRINGS TO TUNE.

TIPS

PRE-DRILLING HOLES WITH A HAND DRILL AND BEVELING THE EDGES OF THE HOLES WILL PROTECT THE GUITAR FINISH.

TO PREVENT DRILLING TOO DEEP, MARK THE DEPTH OF THE SCREWS ON A DRILL BIT WITH MASKING TAPE BEFORE DRILLING PILOT HOLES.

BEND THE BALL END OF THE GUITAR STRING AT A RIGHT ANGLE TO HOOK IT ONTO THE STRING PIN. **FIG. 2**

FIG. 1

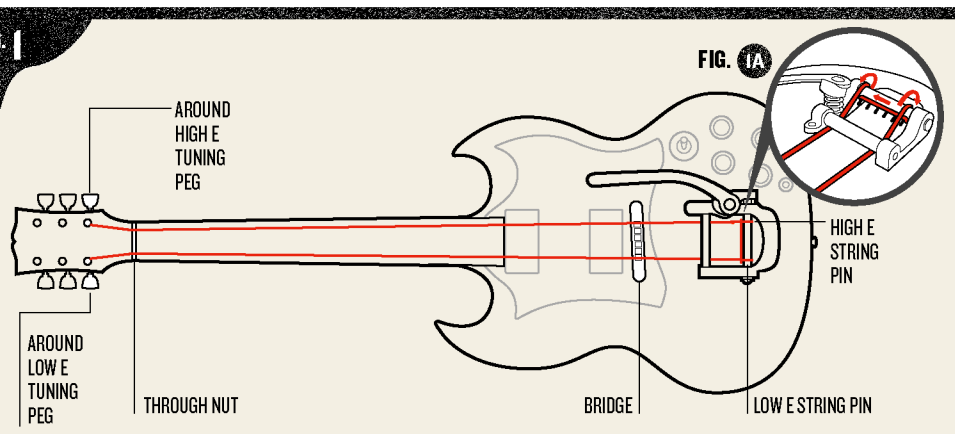
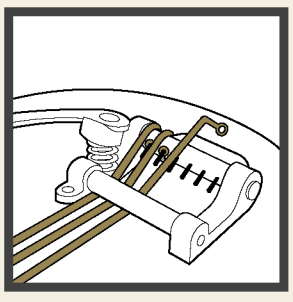


FIG. 2



BEFORE YOU FINISH

TEST THE VIBRATO TO ENSURE THAT IT IS INSTALLED PROPERLY.

- BE SURE THE STRINGS ARE STRETCHED AND SECURED AT THE TUNING PEGS.
- CHECK THE BRIDGE AND NUT SADDLES TO ENSURE THAT THE STRINGS CAN MOVE FREELY. FILE AS NECESSARY.
- CHECK THE ACTION - ADJUST THE TRUSS ROD AND NECK ANGLE IF NECESSARY.

PERFORMANCE TIPS

A SMALL AMOUNT OF GRAPHITE (SUCH AS SOFT PENCIL LEAD) IN THE NUT AND BRIDGE WILL ALLOW STRINGS TO MOVE FREELY.

TO RAISE THE HEIGHT OF THE HANDLE, PLACE A COIN UNDER THE SPRING. TO LOWER THE HEIGHT OF THE HANDLE, REMOVE THE PLASTIC WASHER. STRING GAUGE WILL ALSO AFFECT THE HEIGHT OF THE HANDLE.

FINAL ADJUSTMENT NOTES:

- ☐ TUNING PEGS _____
- ☐ NUT _____
- ☐ TRUSS ROD _____
- ☐ NECK ANGLE _____
- ☐ ACTION _____
- ☐ INTONATION _____
- ☐ BRIDGE _____
- ☐ STRING GAUGE _____