

VIOLIN PICKUP

USER'S GUIDE

READ THIS FIRST

This is a precision device and is 100% tested when it leaves our factory. Thus, we insist that only qualified technicians do the installation to ensure product performance. Therefore, we will not warranty "home" installations.

INSTALLATION & USAGE

1. Loosen the strings and remove the old bridge. Fit the feet of the pickup bridge to the violin. Make sure the pickup wire faces the chinrest for proper balance.
2. For proper string alignment and action of the new bridge, place the old bridge on top of the pickup and trace its outline on the new bridge. Trim excess wood from the top of the new bridge and cut proper notches for the strings.
3. You may remove as much as .032" from the entire front face of the bridge to voice the violin. Carefully sand the bridge on its face on a flat surface. Above the heart, remove as much material as needed to match the old bridge. Do not sand or shape the bridge's back side where the wire connects.
4. Place the new bridge on the violin and tune the strings up to pitch very slowly. Be sure that the bridge does not bow, flex or tip at this time. Exercise care during this delicate process. The sensors are vulnerable to damage here.

5. Attach the Carpenter Jack to the area next to and just in front of the chinrest. Carefully solder the pickup to the jack following the instructions provided with the jack.

Do not put any pressure on the wire where it meets the bridge when shaping and fitting the pickup.

A preamp is not necessary when plugged into most acoustic instrument amplifiers, but the “input impedance” of whatever you plug your violin pickup into first must be at least 1 megohm or higher to get the most out of this pickup. If it sounds thin and screechy, check the impedance. For superior results, use a Baggs preamp such as the Para Acoustic D.I. or Venue D.I., then send the signal to a high-quality full-range P.A. Use as short a cord as practical between the pickup and the preamp. Do not put passive volume or tone controls between the pickup and the preamp; this will destroy the sound of the pickup.

Unless otherwise specified, the violin pickup package includes a Carpenter Jack. This professional-quality 1/4” jack attaches next to the chinrest with the same type of hardware. This jack makes a perfect mounting point to add a microphone.

If a slight bend starts to develop in the bridge, straighten it carefully. Also, do not tug on the wire. With proper care, your Baggs pickup should last for many years.