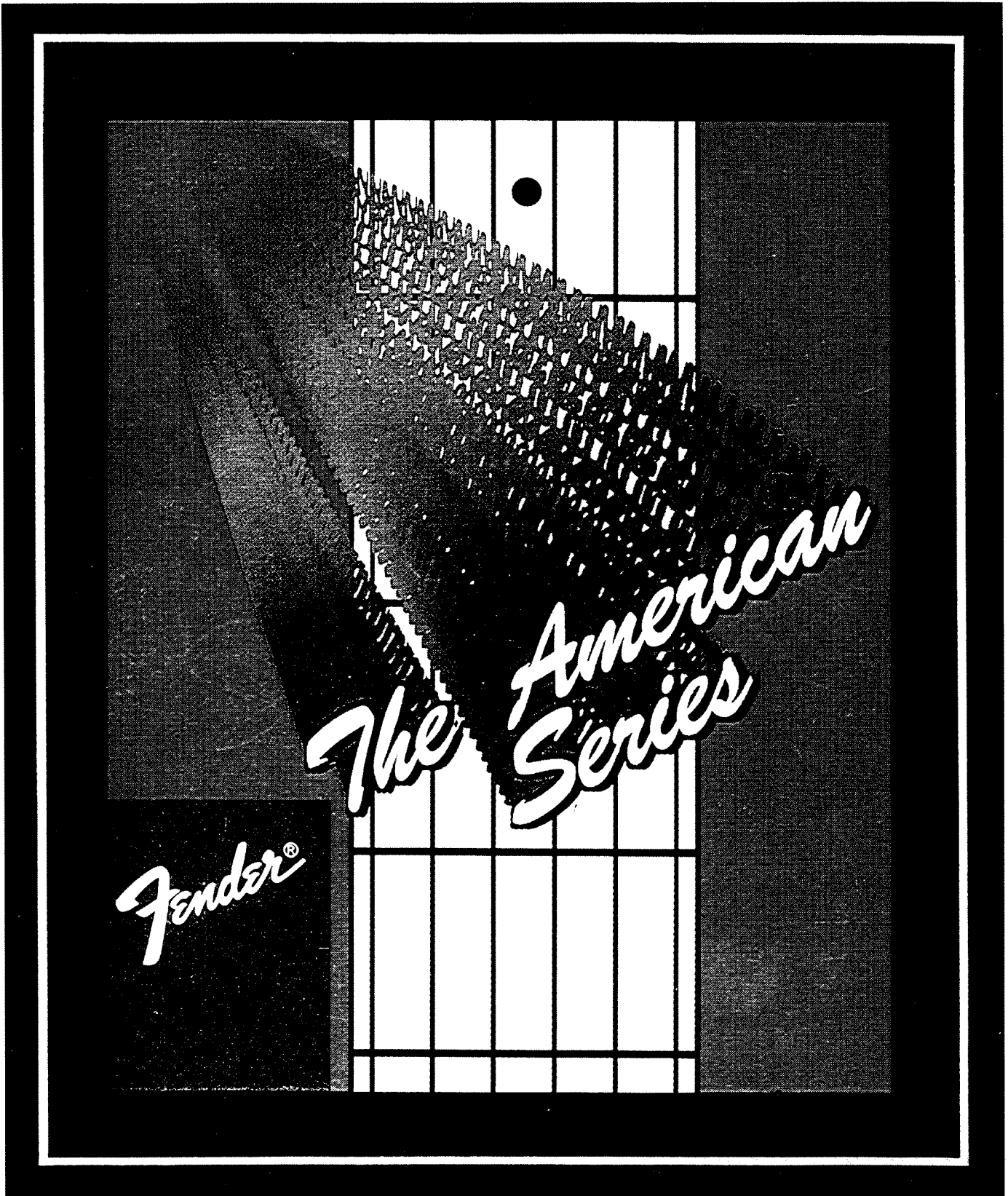


# THE AMERICAN STANDARD SERIES



Fender®

The American Series




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## Thank You . . .

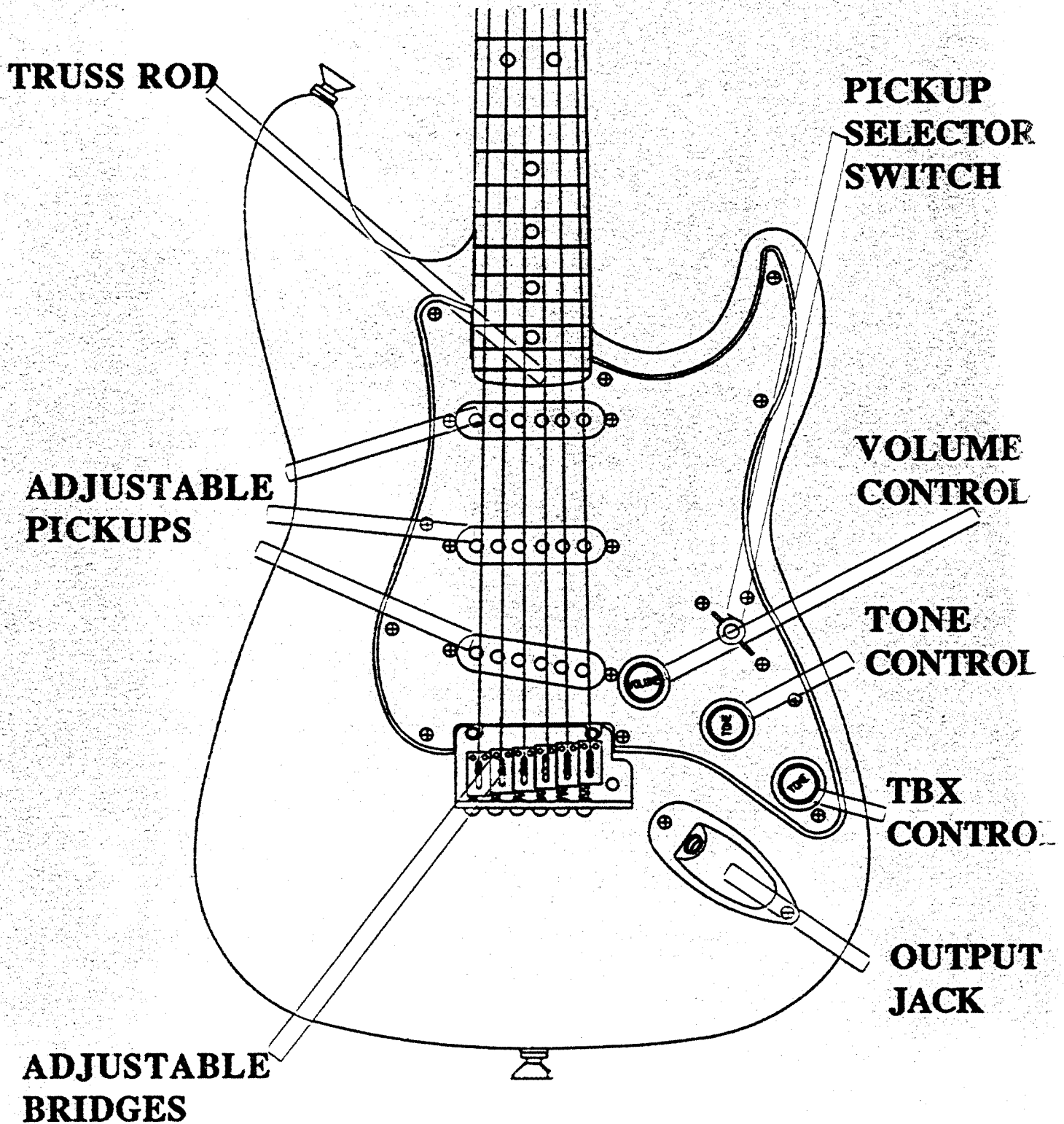
*We are pleased that you have selected one of our fine quality Fender Guitars. This instrument combines the highest quality components with the finest American workmanship and is warranted to give you complete satisfaction.*

*The American Series Guitars contain many features and new improvements developed by Fender engineers. As a result, you are assured of receiving an instrument of superior quality, lasting beauty and exceptional playability.*

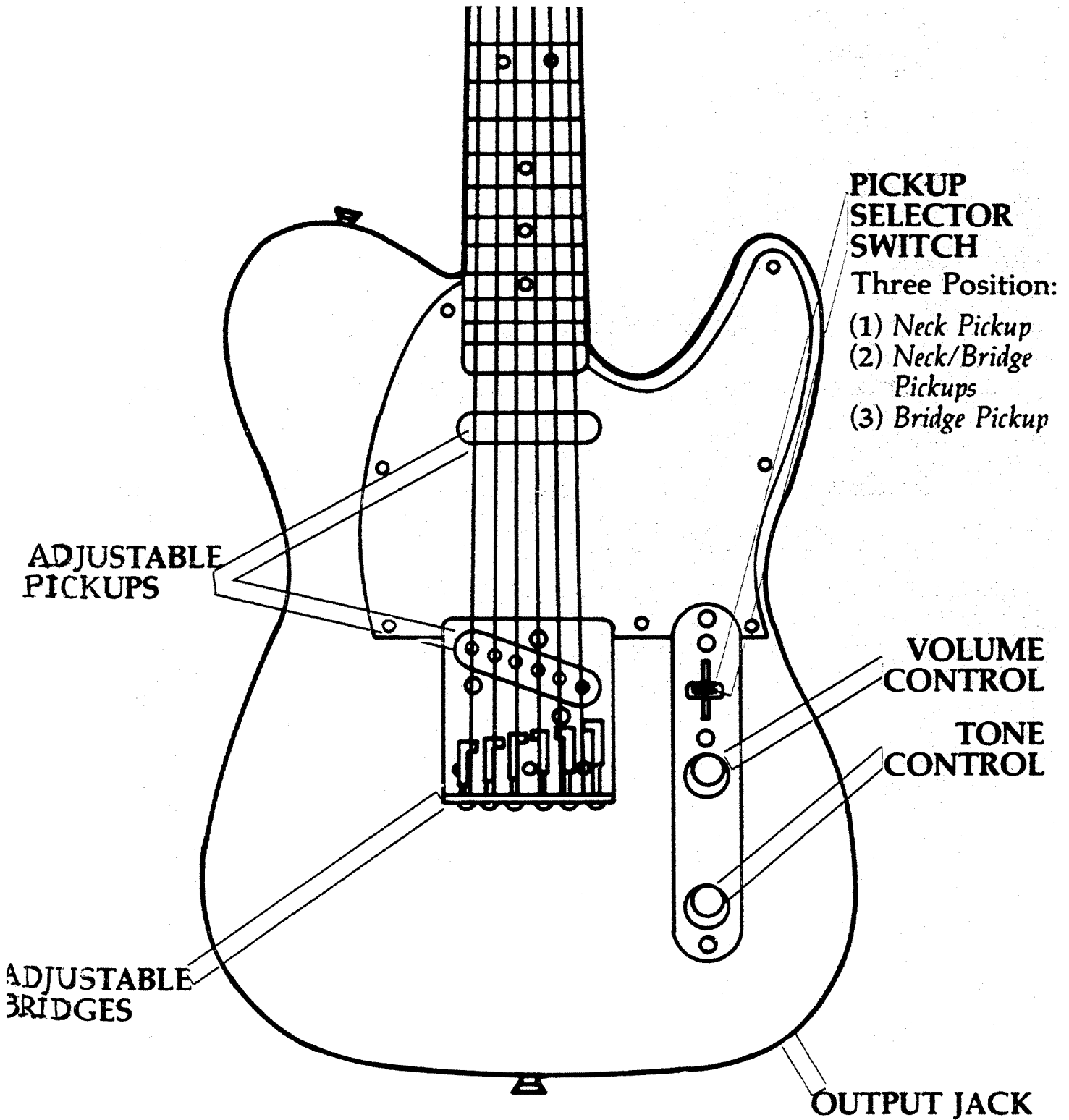
*We urge you to take the time to read this manual and familiarize yourself with the many new features and capabilities of this instrument.*

The Fender logo is written in a bold, black, cursive script. The word "Fender" is slanted upwards from left to right. A registered trademark symbol (®) is located at the top right of the word.

# American Standard Stratocaster and Strat Plus features:



# American Standard Telecaster features:



<b>MODEL</b>	<b>10-7400</b>	<b>10-7402</b>	<b>10-7500</b>
<b>Adjustable Pickups</b>	3 single coil	3 single coil	3 Fender-Lace <i>Golden Strat</i> Sensors
<b>Nut</b>	Cyclovac	Cyclovac	Fender-Wilkinson Needle-bearing Roller
<b>Keys</b>	Fender-Schaller	Fender-Schaller	String Locking
<b>Selector Switch</b>	5-position	5-position	5-position
<b>Controls</b>	Master Volume Tone (neck p.u.) TBX (mid & bridge p.u.)	Master Volume Tone (neck p.u.) TBX (mid & bridge p.u.)	Master Volume Tone (neck p.u.) TBX (mid & bridge p.u.)
<b>Tremolo</b>	American Standard	American Standard	American Standard
<b>Scale Length</b>	25.5" (647.7 mm)	25.5" (647.7 mm)	25.5" (647.7 mm)
<b>Fretboard</b>	Rosewood	Maple	Rosewood
<b>Radius</b>	9.5" (241.3 mm)	9.5" (241.3 mm)	9.5" (241.3 mm)
<b>Frets</b>	22	22	22, Jumbo
<b>Output Jack</b>	Body/Top	Body/Top	Body/Top

10-7502	10-8400	10-8402
3 Fender-Lace <i>Golden Strat</i> Sensors	Vintage Style (neck p.u.) & New Am Std Style (bridge p.u.)	Vintage Style (neck p.u.) & New Am Std Style (bridge p.u.)
Fender-Wilkinson Needle-bearing Roller	Cyclovac	Cyclovac
String Locking	Fender-Schaller	Fender-Schaller
5-position	3-position	3-position
Master Volume Tone (neck p.u.) TBX (mid & bridge p.u.)	Master Volume Master Tone	Master Volume Master Tone
American Standard	No	No
25.5" (647.7 mm)	25.5" (647.7 mm)	25.5" (647.7 mm)
Maple	Rosewood	Maple
9.5" (241.3 mm)	9.5" (241.3 mm)	9.5" (241.3 mm)
22, Jumbo	22	22
Body/Top	Body/Side	Body/Side

<b>MODEL</b>	<b>10-9400</b>	<b>10-9402</b>
<b>Adjustable Pickups</b>	3 Gold Fender-Lace Sensors	3 Gold Fender-Lace Sensors
<b>Nut</b>	Cyclovac	Cyclovac
<b>Keys</b>	Fender-Schaller	Fender-Schaller
<b>Selector Switch</b>	5-position	5-position
<b>Controls</b>	Master Volume Tone (neck p.u.) TBX (mid & bridge p.u.)	Master Volume Tone (neck p.u.) TBX (mid & bridge p.u.)
<b>Tremolo</b>	American Standard	American Standard
<b>Scale Length</b>	25.5" (647.7 mm)	25.5" (647.7 mm)
<b>Fretboard</b>	Rosewood	Maple
<b>Radius</b>	9.5" (241.3 mm)	9.5" (241.3 mm)
<b>Frets</b>	22	22
<b>Output Jack</b>	Body/Top	Body/Top



10-9500

1 Blue Fender-Lace  
Sensor (bridge p.u.)  
2 Silver Fender-Lace  
Sensors (neck & mid p.u.)

Fender-Wilkinson  
Needle-bearing  
Roller

String Locking

5-position

Master Volume  
Tone (neck p.u.)  
TBX (mid &  
bridge p.u.)

American Standard

25.5"  
(647.7 mm)

Rosewood

9.5" (241.3 mm)

22, jumbo

Body/Top

10-9502

1 Blue Fender-Lace  
Sensor (bridge p.u.)  
2 Silver Fender-Lace  
Sensors (neck & mid p.u.)

Fender-Wilkinson  
Needle-bearing  
Roller

String Locking

5-position

Master Volume  
Tone (neck p.u.)  
TBX (mid &  
bridge p.u.)

American Standard

25.5"  
(647.7 mm)

Maple

9.5" (241.3 mm)

22, jumbo

Body/Top

## **VOLUME CONTROL**

The Volume Control allows you to control the volume level at the instrument.

## **TONE CONTROL**

The Tone Control allows you to modify the instrument's tonal characteristics. Some of the American series guitars have a unique tone circuit that features Fender's new TBX Tone Control (Patent Pending).

The TBX Control provides both the conventional Fender sound and unique new sounds. Rotating the knob counterclockwise from the detent position gradually filters off high frequencies, moving the sound from bright to more mellow to provide all the Fender tonal characteristics previously available. Until now this has been the primary method of making tonal adjustments on electric guitars, but with the TBX Control, you also now have the option of adding presence and brightness by actually shifting the frequency response of the pickup. This is done by advancing the knob clockwise from the detent position. With this added capability, the TBX provides a whole new range of sounds not previously available.

## **PICKUP SELECTOR SWITCH**

The pickup selector switch does just what it implies—it selects the pickups either alone or in combination. Dual pickup models are supplied with a three-position switch, while the three pickup models are equipped with a five-position switch.

## AMERICAN STANDARD TREMOLO

The Strat Plus and American Standard Stratocaster models are equipped with an American Standard Tremolo Unit. This is a floating, fulcrum style tremolo, similar in function to the classic Fender Vintage tremolo. It differs in that it features two large pivot posts, instead of the six screws found on the Vintage style unit. These pivot posts are "V" grooved and are mated to the knife edge slots that are cut into the bridge bass plate. The bridge saddles are made from stainless steel, due to its superior wearability factor and resistance to corrosion. They are weight balanced to provide optimum sound transfer. These, coupled with the thicker bass plate and steel spring block, help to deliver increased sustain and an extremely well balanced tonal response throughout the instrument's frequency range.

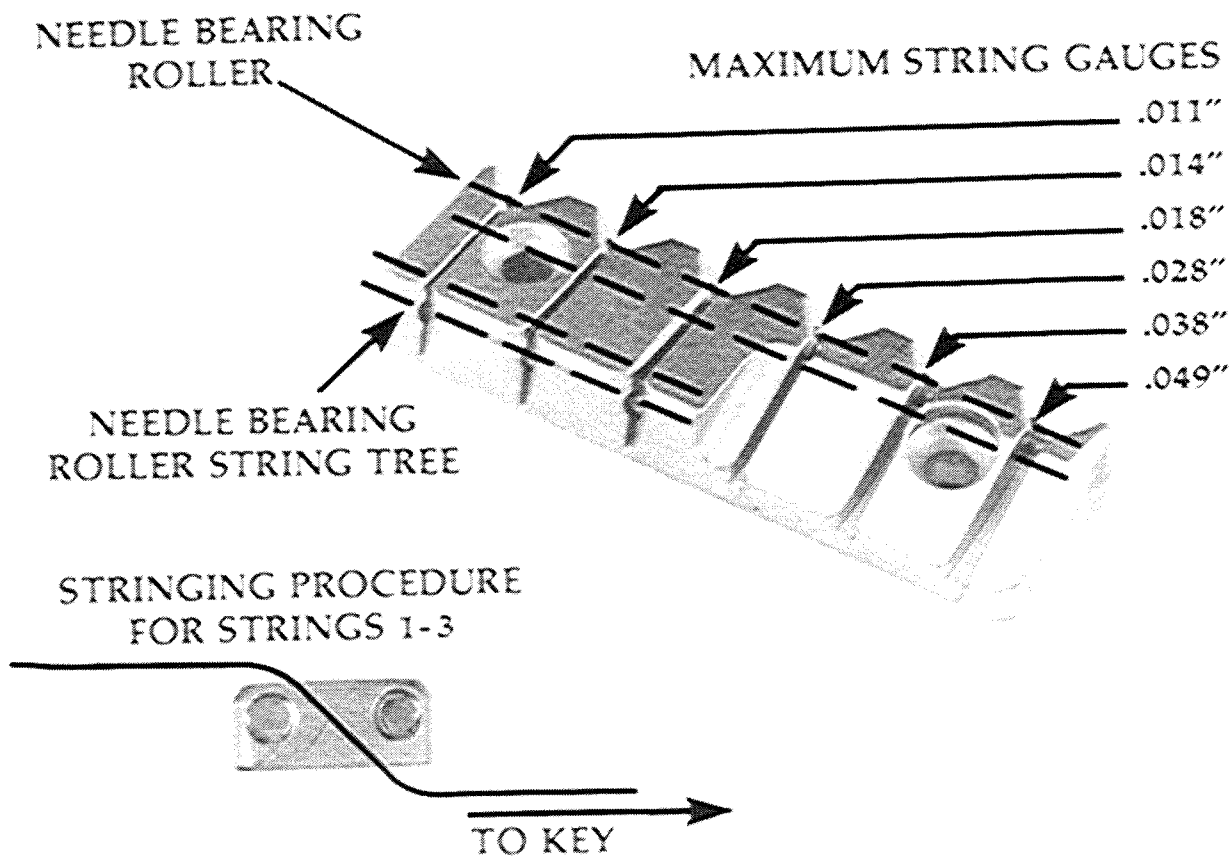
The saddles are individually adjustable for both string height and intonation. (These adjustments are described in detail on pages 14 and 19.) The bridge is adjustable for tremolo travel by adjusting the spring to string balance (as described on page 15).

The tremolo arm is installed by carefully threading it into the hole adjacent to the first string. Do not over tighten, as you may snap the arm off in the block.

Do not remove the tremolo arm once it has been installed, or the spring in the receptacle hole could be lost. To store the instrument in its case, simply swing the tremolo arm towards the corner of the case where the output jack is located.

## FENDER/WILKINSON NUT

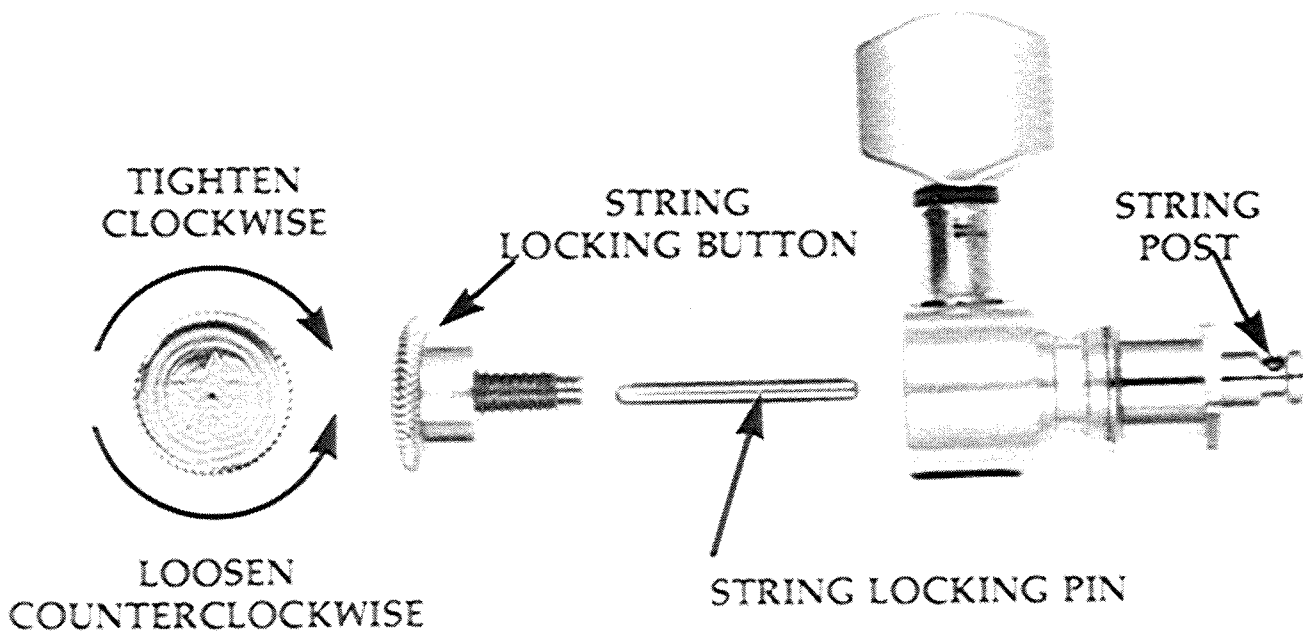
The Strat Plus features the Fender/Wilkinson Nut, which utilizes a completely new, revolutionary needle-bearing roller design with integral needle-bearing roller string tree for strings 1-3. (Some models feature 2 sets of rollers for all six strings.) This unique design reduces string binding and friction, and eliminates the need for a locking nut when using the tremolo system. The nut height is set at the factory for recommended settings with the Fender-Lace Sensor



and locking keys. However, since the optimum height adjustment varies from player to player due to differences in technique, playing styles, string gauges, etc., additional precision-rolled, stainless steel shims are available (.010", .005", .002") to adjust the roller nut height for your playing preference.

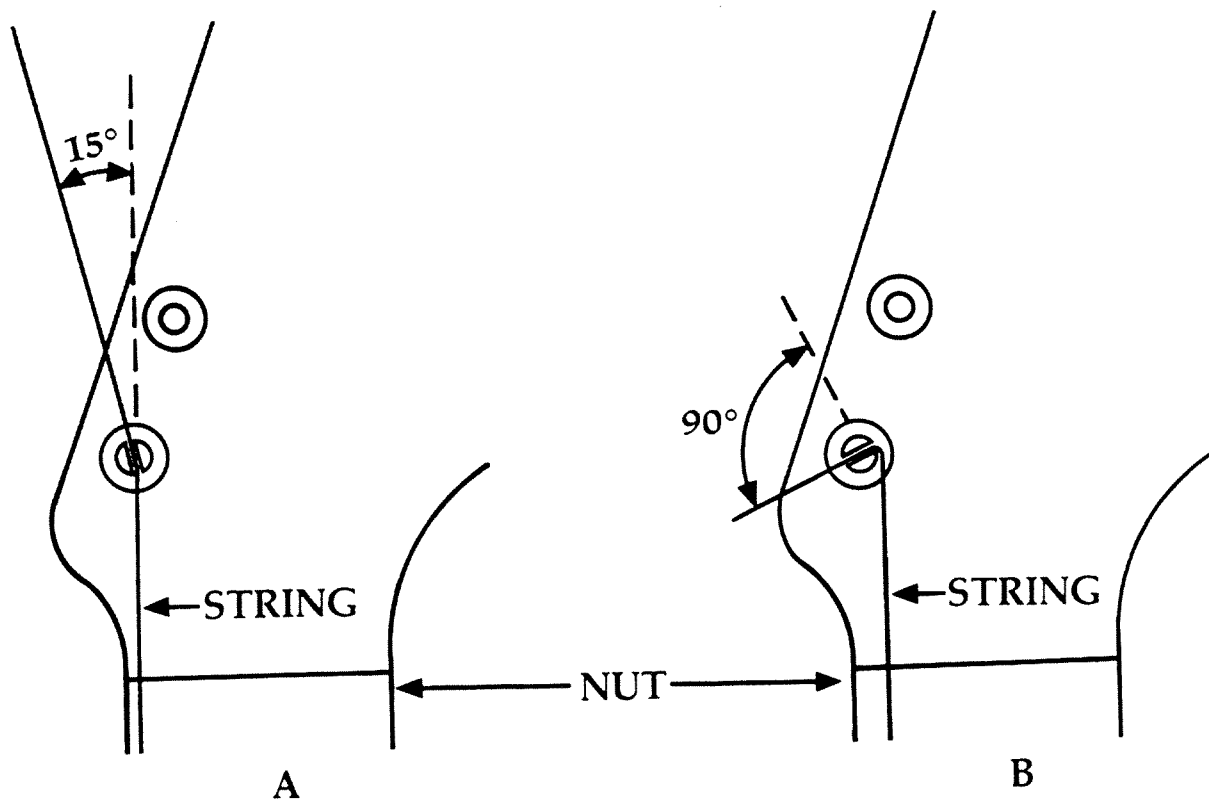
### LOCKING KEYS

The Strat Plus models are equipped with locking keys that also feature "zero" string backlash. These unique keys provide a positive string lock to the post (with minimal string wrap) that keeps the guitar in tune during tremolo use.



## Stringing Procedure

To fasten a string to the locking key, follow the winding directions illustrated:



Be sure the string hole in the string post is at approximately  $15^\circ$  (A) to the left of a line perpendicular to the nut. Draw the string through the hole, tautly, and lock in place by turning the String Locking Button clockwise. Then turn the key until the string hole rotates counterclockwise approximately  $90^\circ$  (B). Tune to pitch.

**Caution:** Because of the positive locking action of the locking keys, when changing strings, tension should

first be relieved by turning (loosening) the key; no tension should be applied to the strings.

## **TRUSS ROD, ACTION, AND INTONATION ADJUSTMENTS**

Because of travel effects, changes in string gauges, climatic conditions, and differences in playing styles, you might have need to adjust your Fender guitar. If it becomes necessary, the following procedure outlines the standards set at the factory.

To make these adjustments, you will need a few simple tools:

- 1 - .050" Allen Wrench (supplied)
- 1 - 1/8" Allen Wrench (supplied)
- 1 - Capo
- 1 - Feeler Guage
- 1 - 6" (15.2 cm) Mechanic's ruler (with 1/64" increments)

### **1. Tuning**

Tune the instrument to standard pitch.

### **2. Adjust Neck Curvature (Truss Rod)**

Each Fender guitar is carefully adjusted at the factory. The truss rod and string height are set for optimum action and playability with regular gauge strings.

Under normal tension, the neck should have a slight concave curvature. By creating a counteracting

force, the truss rod prevents the neck from bending excessively under the stress placed on it by the strings.

The unique Bi-Flex Truss Rod allows adjustment of the neck in two directions—convex and concave. To check the truss rod setting, tune the guitar to playing pitch. Install a capo at the first fret, and depress the 6th string at the fret where the neck joins the body. Using a feeler gauge, check the gap between the bottom of the 6th string and the top of the 8th fret. The recommended string clearance is approximately .010".

If an adjustment is necessary, insert the wrench (supplied) into the truss rod adjustment hold. Rotate it gently until you feel it engage in the hex socket.

If the neck is too concave, turn the wrench clockwise. If it is too straight or convex, turn the wrench counterclockwise while periodically checking the gap with the feeler gauge. Continually re-check tuning for standard pitch.

If extreme resistance is felt while adjusting in either direction, or if the neck has a convex bow that remains when the truss rod nut is loosened, **DO NOT** continue adjusting. Take the instrument to the nearest authorized Fender dealer or service center for inspection.

**Note:** The nut should not be left loose, but should have at least a quarter turn.

### **3. Set Bridge Height**

The recommended string clearance at the 17th fret (measured by the distance between the bottom of the



string and the top of the fret) is:

Strings 1-4:  $5/64''$  (2mm)  $\pm$   $1/64''$  (.4mm)  
Strings 5-6:  $3/32''$  (2.4mm)  $\pm$   $1/64''$  (.4mm)

The above dimensions are the factory recommended settings only. The optimum height adjustment varies from player to player due to differences in technique, playing styles, string gauges, etc. The instrument should be adjusted so that it provides you the ultimate in playing content.

Each saddle is individually adjusted by using the two set screws located on the front of the saddle. Clockwise raises and counterclockwise lowers. Be sure both height adjustment screws of each bridge saddle rest firmly against the bridge plate. Also be sure each saddle is parallel to the bridge plate after adjustment.

#### **4. Adjusting Spring Tension (Bridge/String Balance)**

The American Standard tremolo on the American Standard Stratocaster and Strat Plus models utilizes a spring adjustment system that is identical to a Vintage style system—two Phillips head wood screws drawing a claw back and forth with one end of the springs (3 to 5) attached while the other end is attached to the bridge sustain block. First, remove the six screws that hold the back tremolo plate in position and remove the plate. The tremolo arm should be depressed so as to raise the back of the bridge. Place the  $5/32''$  (4mm) spacer block between the bridge and

the body. Allow the bridge to return back to the body, trapping the block. Tune the guitar up to pitch. If the bridge raises and fails to trap the block, tighten the two claw screws clockwise until the spring pressure will trap the block with the strings all tuned to pitch. Stretch all strings out completely (sometimes it helps to hold the bridge down with one hand while stretching the strings with the other). Now remove the spacer block by depressing the tremolo arm. The pitch of the strings should now be raised. Using your tuning source (preferably an electronic tuner) and a Phillips tip screwdriver, turn the screws which adjust the claw, counterclockwise, until the strings return to pitch. This should raise your bridge and return the bridge to the proper balance point. Make any final tuning adjustments using the fine tuners on the bridge.

#### **5a. Set Pickup Height (Conventional Pickups)**

The pickups on the American Standard Stratocaster and American Standard Telecaster guitars are fully adjustable for height. Adjustments are made by turning the Pickup Adjustment Screws located at each end of the pickups. (On the American Standard Telecaster the bridge pickup has 3 screws, but the adjustment procedure is the same.)

Depress all strings at the highest fret. Check the distance from the bottom of the 1st and 6th strings to the top of the pole pieces (or to the top of the pickup cover in the case of the Telecaster neck pickup). The measurement should be as follows:

1st string: 1/16" (1.6mm)  
6th string: 3/32" (2.4mm)

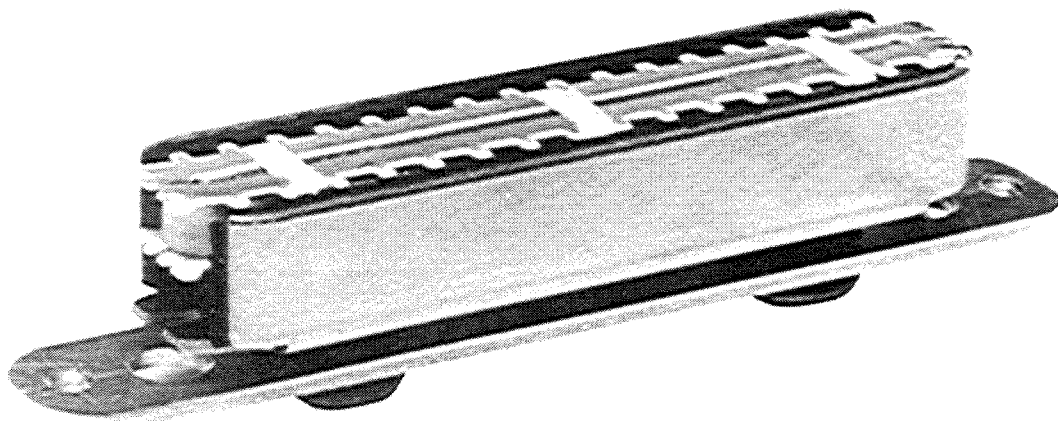
Pickups are adjusted in the following manner: to raise the pickup, turn the adjustment screws clockwise; to lower it, turn the screws counterclockwise. The recommended string clearance is measured between the pickup and the 1st and 6th strings when fretted at the last fret on the fingerboard.

**Note:** Conventional pickups set too close to the strings can cause false tones and loss of sustain due to magnetic pull on the strings.

#### **5b. Set Pickup Height (Fender-Lace Sensors)**

The Fender-Lace Sensors (patented) on the Strat Plus and all Deluxe models are fully adjustable for height. Adjustments are made by turning the Sensor Adjustment Screws located at each end of the sensors.

Depress all strings at the highest fret. Check the distance from the bottom of the 1st and 6th strings to



the top of the Sensor. The measurements (set at the factory) should be as follows:

1st string: 1/16" (1.6mm)

6th string: 3/32" (2.4mm)

However, because of the low magnetic pull on the strings, best results are often obtained by having the Sensors set closer to the strings.

Sensors mounted on the pickguard are adjusted in the following manner: to raise the pickup, turn the adjustment screws clockwise; to lower it turn the screws counterclockwise. The recommended string clearance is measured between the pickup at the 1st and 6th strings when fretted at the last fret on the fingerboard.

**Note:** Contrary to conventional polepiece pickups, the strings set close to the Fender-Lace Sensor produces increased dynamic range, balanced frequency response and optimum fast, easy action due to the low magnetic pull on the strings. This also improves the tremolo function as well, since there is no interruption of the normal orbital vibration of the string. The string is "heard" as long as it continues to vibrate.

## **6. Check for Fret Rattles**

With the instrument plugged into your amplifier and the pickup selector switch set to the neck pickup position, pick in the area between the neck and bridge pickups. Play each fret position, holding the pick

parallel to the plane of the body, to determine that the strings do not buzz or rattle against successively higher frets.

Bend the first and second strings up one whole tone in pitch at the 12th, 15th and 17th frets. The notes should ring true, without choking off.

Due to differences in playing styles and picking techniques, action settings that produce no string rattle for one player may rattle when another player plays the instrument. If you have followed all the adjustment procedures listed and set the string action at the recommended setting, but are still experiencing fret rattle, you may require a slightly higher than normal setting to accommodate your style of playing. If you still experience difficulties, take the guitar to an authorized Fender dealer or service center.

## 7. Intonation

For optimum results, these adjustments should be made when the strings are in new condition. Tune the guitar. With the pickup selector switch set to the neck pickup position and the tone and volume controls at the maximum settings, check the intonation of each string with an electronic tuner by playing the open string harmonic at the 12th fret and comparing this note with the note produced by fretting the string at the 12th fret. The pitch should be the same + or - 1 cent (1/100 of a semitone). If the fretted note is sharp, the string must be lengthened by moving the saddle back; if the fretted note is flat, the string must be shortened by moving the saddle forward. After each

adjustment, retune and repeat this test until both notes produce the same pitch.

Adjust the slot screw at the end of the bridge clockwise to lengthen the string and counterclockwise to shorten, depending on whether the string is sharp or flat in relation to the open 12th fret harmonic. Retune and retest after each adjustment.

## NECK ANGLE ADJUSTMENT

The Fender instruments feature 4-bolt neck angle adjustment for adjusting the pitch of the neck to the body. Fender instruments are designed using almost no neck angle. They are adjusted at the factory to maximize the adjustment features of the bridge section.

You can custom adjust the neck angle to change the height of the strings from the body surface. This requires readjusting the bridge height to accommodate your playing style.

If you wish to increase or decrease the amount of neck angle, be sure to check the height of the bridge saddles to ensure they are not already at the extreme limits of adjustment. They will determine how much neck angle you can have. You cannot increase or decrease the neck angle beyond the adjustment range of the bridge saddles.

To adjust the neck angle, loosen the four neck mounting screws. The two screws located toward the center of the body should be loosened approximately 2 turns.

Insert the special 1/8" Allen Wrench (supplied

with the instrument) into the hole in the neck mounting plate. Rotate the wrench, gently, until you feel it engage in the hex head slot. Turn the wrench clockwise if you wish to increase the amount of neck angle; turn it counterclockwise if you wish to decrease the amount of neck angle.

After the adjustment is complete, re-tighten the four neck screws in the proper sequence—the two furthest from the neck angle adjustment hole then the two closest to the hole, being careful not to over-tighten. The screws should be tightened until they are seated, but should not be forced. Overtightening can cause the screw to strip out the corresponding threads in the neck. If the neck angle does not require any tilt, after tightening the four anchoring screws, be sure to turn the Allen screw clockwise until you feel resistance. This will prevent the Allen screw from causing unwanted vibrations.

## **CARE OF YOUR GUITAR**

Your new Fender guitar is precision-made to give you many years of satisfaction. A few simple maintenance procedures will help you keep your instrument playing like new. After you have finished playing, thoroughly wipe the entire guitar, including the strings, with a clean, soft cloth. Regular cleaning with Fender Polish is recommended.

Avoid exposing the guitar to any chemical or substance that might mar the finish, or to direct sunlight or other sources of excessive heat, humidity or shock.

**Caution:** It is important to avoid sudden changes in temperature, since this causes the wood to expand at a different rate than the finish, which may result in checking. While this condition does not affect the tone, it does mar the appearance.

Let the instrument warm up in its own case. Then open the case slowly, allowing warm air to enter gradually. After the instrument is removed, leave the case open so it too can warm up thoroughly.

String tension should be reduced during shipping to avoid possible damage.

Dirty, corroded or worn strings cause loss of sustain, loss of treble frequencies, and faulty intonation. Fresh strings add to the enjoyment and tonal qualities of your guitar. Change them often, using Fender strings. All American Series guitars are set up at the factory with Fender 3250L Super Bullets® Nickelplated Steel Roundwound strings.

If your guitar needs repair work, refer all such work to your Authorized Fender Dealer whose trained personnel and complete service facilities will assure your satisfaction.



## LIMITED WARRANTY

This limited warranty against defects in material and workmanship applies only to the original retail purchase. **IMPORTANT: PLEASE RETAIN YOUR SALES RECEIPT, AS IT IS YOUR PROOF OF PURCHASE COVERING YOUR ONE YEAR LIMITED WARRANTY.**

Defective parts will be repaired or replaced without charge if the product is returned to any Authorized Fender Dealer or Fender Service Center. Any service performed by other than an Authorized Fender Dealer or Fender Service Center is not reimburseable under the warranty. Transportation costs are not included in this warranty.

This warranty becomes void if the serial number is defaced or removed, or the product has been damaged by alteration, misuse, accident, or neglect; or the product has been serviced by persons not authorized by Fender Musical Instruments. The company assumes no liability for property damage of any sort which may result from the failure of this product. Any warranties implied by law are limited to the duration of this express limited warranty.

Some states do not allow limitations on how long an implied warranty lasts, so the above limitation may not apply to you. Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitations of incidental or consequential

damages, so the above limitation or exclusion may not apply to you.

This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you also have other rights which vary from state to state.

Have service performed by any Authorized Fender Dealer or contact:

Customer Relations  
Fender Musical Instruments  
1130 Columbia Street  
Brea, CA 92621



