



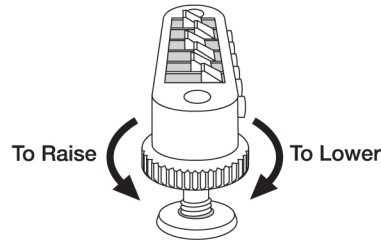
HAMER OWNER'S MANUAL / WARRANTY

Congratulations, and welcome to the world of Hamer. Your new Hamer USA guitar represents the pinnacle of guitar-building artistry, and is your membership card to an exclusive club that includes many of the world's most innovative and influential players.

Please take a few moments to review this manual to familiarize yourself with your Hamer's controls, operation and maintenance in order to take full advantage of the guitar's potential. Many of the suggestions in this manual can be utilized immediately and will greatly enhance your performance capabilities, however, we find that our customers are the best at pushing the boundaries of what can be done with Hamer guitars, so we welcome your input on this state-of-the-art instrument.

SET-UP:

Your Hamer USA guitar comes professionally set-up, intonated and ready to play with a .010"-.046" nickel-steel string set. Instruments leave Hamer with an action that is low by some standards, but we feel that it is a more accurate representation of the instrument's potential, as you can always raise the action. The string height at the bridge is adjusted by turning the bridge wheels (thumb wheels) either clockwise to lower the action or counter-clockwise to raise the action.



A word of caution: most action-related problems are usually created by seasonal, or weather related neck shift, which is typical for all guitars. This kind of problem can be solved with a simple truss rod adjustment. Check to make sure that this is NOT the case before you try to fix a buzzing problem by adjusting the bridge height.

If you have any questions regarding these procedures or any other functions on your guitar, please contact

Hamer Customer Service at
1-877-4HAMER1 (1-877-442-6371), in the U.S.A.

Thank you for choosing Hamer USA guitars, we hope you enjoy playing your instrument as much as we enjoyed making it!

KMC Music Inc.,
Mission Statement

We are dedicated to maintaining a position of industry leadership by offering a wide range of music products and the highest quality service to our customers.

Visit HAMER GUITARS online at
www.hamerguitars.com

Address service correspondence to-
Hamer Guitars
37 Greenwoods Road, New Hartford, CT 06057

For your records, we suggest you make a note of Model, Serial Number, and the date you purchased your Hamer guitar:

Model # _____ Serial# _____ Date of Purchase ____ / ____ / ____

ELECTRONICS:

At Hamer, we concentrate on function and tone, exhaustively ear testing each model as though it were our own personal instrument. The character that is built into every Hamer must find its way to the amp, and this is where the electronics come into play. The timbre of the instrument is its signature, and pickups must be matched in such a way that the essence, the personality of the guitar shines through. We feel that this can be achieved by using different pickups in each of the positions to tailor the sound. This way each setting is extracting the maximum tonality from the instrument, and it adds a unique voice when different pickups are mixed together. Your Hamer USA guitar comes equipped with Seymour Duncan pickups.

Hamer uses potentiometers with a custom taper that matches the response curve of the pickups. Careful matching allows the volume to be controlled smoothly throughout the first 9/10ths of the knob's rotation, with a quick boost at the very end. That small boost that occurs between 9 and 10 is great for quick transitions between lead and rhythm, and once you master it you'll wonder why no one else thought of it before.

Every Hamer USA guitar's control cavity is sprayed with a heavy coat of premium nickel-based paint; then covered with a conductive aluminum plate to ensure that your guitar will be free from unwanted noise.

CLEANING AND POLISHING:

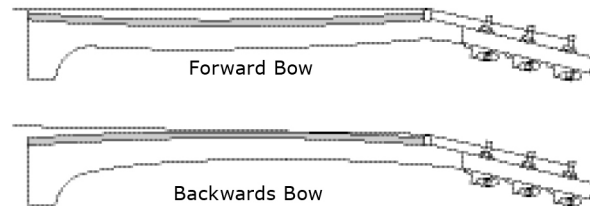
Hamer USA guitars are built to last a life time of hard use, and with a little care your Hamer should serve you indefinitely. The entire instrument can be wiped clean with a high quality guitar polish such as Dunlop Formula 65 on a soft cotton cloth. Be sure to avoid solvents or abrasive substances, as these can quickly ruin the finish on your guitar. The fretboard should be oiled occasionally with light mineral oil, being sure to wipe up any excess. It is important not to over-oil the fingerboard, as this can lead to excess wood swelling, which can upset the straightness of the neck and possibly unseat the frets. When oiled lightly on a regular basis, the fingerboard will resist moisture and maintain its new appearance.

If you are not comfortable performing any of the adjustments described here, take your guitar to a qualified technician.

ADJUSTING THE NECK:

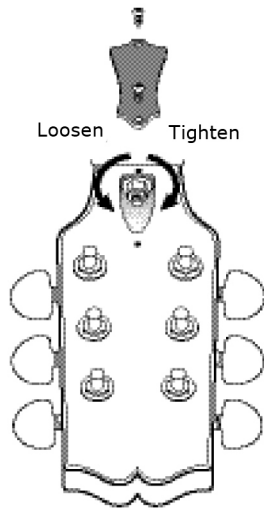
Hamer necks are reinforced with a low-mass steel truss rod that is adjustable from the access hole under the plastic cover on the face of the peghead. The truss rod is under tension at all times, which allows it to stiffen the neck, as well as move it forward and backward in response to the changing seasonal humidity. As the humidity in the air increases (as in the Spring and Summer), the fingerboard will swell slightly, creating a slight backwards bow. This will result in fret buzz that increases in intensity closer to the nut. Conversely, when the humidity is low (as in Winter), the fingerboard loses moisture, causing the neck to "bow" forward. This results in a high action towards the middle of the neck. If buzzing occurs with this condition, it is usually on the end towards the bridge.

When adjusted correctly, there should be a slight forward bow in the neck. The proper amount of bow can be determined by holding the low E string down at the first and last frets at the same time, and viewing the gap between that string and the top of the 7th fret. There should be a gap of about .010" (.25mm), or about the thickness of your high E string. If the gap is less than that, you need to loosen the truss rod to move the neck forward. If the gap is more than .010" (.25mm), you may want to tighten the truss rod.



ADJUSTMENT PROCEDURE:

Tighten (clockwise when facing the end of the rod) or loosen (counterclockwise) the nut at the end of the rod with the 5/16" tool provided in the case pocket. You should turn the nut about 1/8th of a turn at a time, and then check the gap. When you make an adjustment, the neck moves about 90% of the way immediately, then the remaining 10% over the next 5-10 minutes. This is due to the compression characteristics of wood. Take this into account when you set the neck, and don't put the truss rod cover back on. Immediately play the guitar for a little while to make sure it's exactly the way you want it before replacing the cover. It is VERY IMPORTANT to remember (or write down) how far you have turned the nut in any direction so that you can go back to where you started if you get a poorer result than when you began! This way you can go back to the beginning and start over.



INTONATION:

If you decide to change brand or gauges of strings on your Hamer, you may need to adjust the intonation. Adjust the intonation by moving the individual string saddles either forward or backward. Your guitar should be checked only after tuning it to a standard A=440Hz pitch using an electronic tuner and fresh strings. Play the harmonic at the 12th fret and compare it to the fretted note at the 12th fret. These notes should read the same on the tuner. Determining the direction that the saddle needs to move is important before adjusting the intonation. If the 12th fret harmonic pitch is lower than the fretted note, the saddle needs to be moved back. If the 12th fret harmonic is higher than the fretted note, the saddle needs to be moved forward.

