

HELLECASTERS

Limited Edition
SIGNATURE
SERIES GUITARS

Jerry Donahue Stratocaster®



"For anyone who ever dreamed of playing a Strat and a Tele in the same tune "live", your day has arrived. This unique instrument employs custom Seymour Duncan® designed pickups, hidden "tone plate" and switching, along with optimized pickup placement, to achieve a unique combination of tones that were previously unavailable in a single guitar. In addition, the classic beauty of a stock Strat® is maintained."

*Jerry
Donahue*

Fender®

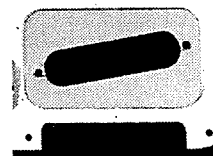
The Hellecasters Limited Edition Jerry Donahue Stratocaster®

"how it works"

With enhanced volume and master tone capabilities provided by the 1st and 3rd control knobs respectively, the middle "tone" knob now becomes a two mode, rotary A/B switch governing how the 5-way pickup selector switch operates.

In the A mode, your JD Strat works exactly as a Strat Connoisseur would know and expect with the added advantage of a Tele voiced bridge pickup. In the B mode, you are presented with some new and exciting variations. The result: A wolf in sheep's clothing; two self contained, self sufficient, legendary, Fender-tone modes in one guitar.

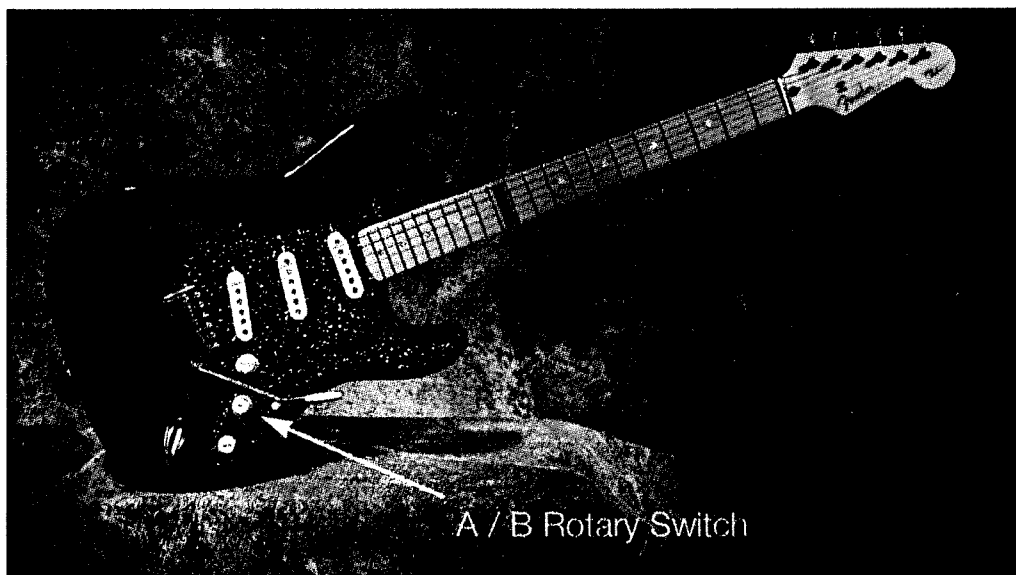
Position 1 in both the A and B modes, feature a custom designed, **Tele-voiced, bridge pickup** together with a **steel "tone-plate"** (under the pickguard), to achieve the traditional lead tone of Jerry's prized '52 Telecaster. Positions "2" and "4" in the "B" mode offer two accentuations of the popular "quack tone" found in positions "2" and "4" in the (traditional) "A" mode. In the "B" mode, positions "2" and "4" use a capacitor in series with the neck pickup that takes out just the right amount of bottom end from the neck pickup only.



Position "3" in the "B" mode offers a tone not normally found in a traditional Strat. This is the same sound as the middle position on a Telecaster®. Positions "1" and "5" are each classic Fender tones that are the same in both modes. Jerry felt that the Strat neck pickup tone in Position "5" was another classic that stood on its own with lead guitar shadings that echo the soaring, majestic blues sounds of Clapton, Hendrix, Stevie Ray Vaughan and others.

Position	"A" Mode - Standard Fender Stratocaster Switching	"B" Mode - Custom Seymour Duncan Designed Wiring Options
1	Bridge Only (Tele voiced)	Bridge Only (same as "A" mode).
2	Bridge and middle.	Middle and neck (with capacitor).
3	Middle only.	Bridge and neck.
4	Neck and middle.	Bridge, middle and neck (with capacitor).
5	Neck only.	Neck only (same as "A" mode).

(Note: Position 1 on the pickup selector is closest to the master tone control.)



A / B Rotary Switch

RE-STRINGING YOUR JERRY DONAHUE STRATOCASTER

A set of new strings add to the enjoyment and tonal qualities of your guitar. Remember to change them often for optimum performance. Dirty, corroded or worn strings cause loss of sustain, loss of treble frequencies, and faulty intonation. Furthermore, string tension on most electric guitars and basses should be left tuned to pitch for shipping.

When replacing the strings on your guitar, follow these simple guidelines:

1. Load each string through the bottom of the bridge at the back of the guitar and pull taught.
2. Next, cut each string approximately 2 1/2 tuning key post lengths past its string post. For example, the low E string should be cut between the D and G posts.
3. Insert the strings into their key access hole on the top of the key, bend and crimp the strings toward the fret side.
4. Finally, wind the strings counterclockwise around their posts.

SYNCHRONOUS TREMOLO

Your Jerry Donahue Stratocaster has a floating, fulcrum style tremolo which is tension balanced and utilizes the two outside screws as pivot posts and the remaining four screws as stabilization screws. The thick bass plate, steel spring block and hardened steel saddles help to deliver increased sustain and an extremely well balanced tonal response throughout the instrument's frequency range. Moreover, the saddles are individually adjustable for both string height and intonation.

Tremolo Arm

The tremolo arm is installed by carefully threading it into the hole adjacent to the first string. **Do not over tighten** as you may cause the arm to snap off in the block. At Fender, we recommend that you remove the tremolo arm when storing the instrument and place a small piece of tape over the receptacle hole to insure the tremolo tension spring remains in the hole and is not lost.

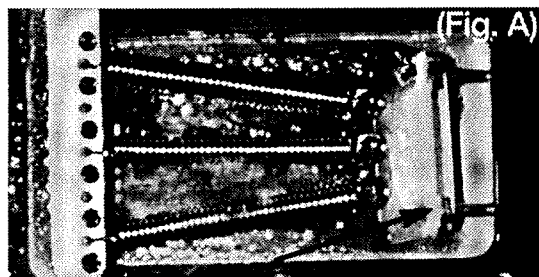
Adjusting the Tremolo

When changing the string gauge from those provided from the factory (.010, .012, .017 plain, .024, .032, .042), the tremolo tension springs in relation to the string tension may shift and the bridge angle will need to be readjusted. If you are changing to a heavier gauge set of strings, an additional tension spring may be required.

To adjust the bridge angle on your Jerry Donahue Stratocaster:

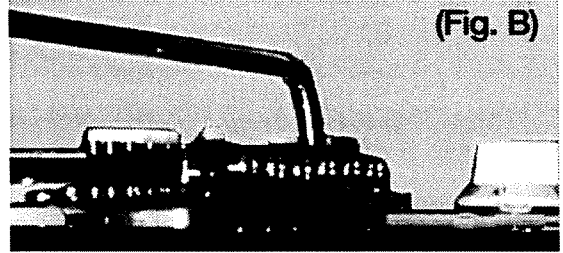
- 1) Remove the tremolo spring cover on the back of your guitar.
- 2) Next, tune your guitar to pitch. *(It is important to note that the tension of the strings plays a key role in the set-up of your tremolo system. Make sure you keep your guitar tuned to your selected pitch throughout the set-up procedures. Check and maintain your tuning after each step.)*

3) Using a Phillips screw driver, turn the two claw screws in the back cavity of the guitar (see fig. A) to the desired angle. A clockwise turn increases the tension springs lowering the tremolo bridge plate to the body. A counterclockwise turn decreases the tension springs raising the tremolo bridge plate away from the body. **IMPORTANT: Adjustments to the claw screws must be made together in even increments.**



Jerry's personal preference is to adjust the tremolo base plate so it rests flush against the guitar's body. Although this set up allows a downward action only of the tremolo, it will ultimately minimize the chance of the guitar falling out of tune in the event a string breaks. This set up is particularly beneficial if string breakage occurs during a "live" performance. Likewise, there is an additional advantage. When performing string bending techniques, the pitch of the other strings remains constant.

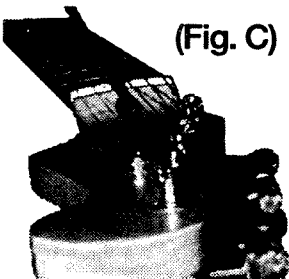
If you prefer to adjust the tremolo so it "floats" (up / down action), we recommend an approximate 1/8" (3.2 mm) of gap between the bottom surface at the rear of the bridge plate, to the top surface of the body (see fig. B). If you prefer to set the bridge flush with the body, turn the two claw screws clockwise until the bridge plate is resting on the body.



TRUSS ROD ADJUSTMENT (NECK CURVATURE)

Each Jerry Donahue Stratocaster is carefully adjusted at the factory with the truss rod and string height set for optimum action and playability. Under normal tension, the neck should have a slight concave (under bow) 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 tension on the rod is adjustable so the correct curvature can be achieved by regulating the neck's resistance to string tension.

To check the truss rod setting for a guitar, tune the guitar to playing pitch. Install a capo at the first fret, depress the 6th string at the last fret. Using a feeler gauge, check the gap between the bottom of the 6th string and the top of the 8th fret. The string clearance should be approximately .010" (.25 mm).



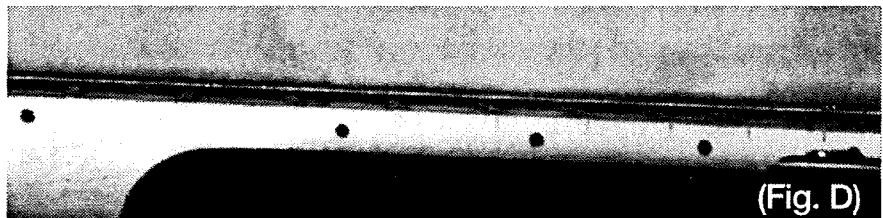
If an adjustment is necessary, insert the appropriate Allen wrench into the truss rod adjustment socket at the head-stock of the guitar (see fig. C). If the neck is too concave (under bowed), turn the Truss Rod Nut clockwise. If the neck is convex (over bowed), turn the Truss Rod Nut counterclockwise. Remember to periodically check the gap with the feeler gauge and check the tuning.

Caution: DO NOT continue adjusting: 1) If extreme resistance is felt while adjusting in either direction, or 2) If the neck has a convex bow that remains when the truss rod nut is loosened. Take the instrument

to the nearest Authorized Fender Dealer or Service Center for inspection.

ACTION ADJUSTMENT

The optimum height adjustment varies from player to player due to differences in technique, playing styles, string gauges, etc. To check your string height, use a ruler and make the



necessary adjustments (see fig. D). 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" (2 mm) +/- 1/64" (.4 mm)
Strings 5 - 6: 3/32" (2.4 mm) +/- 1/64" (.4 mm)

Remember, these dimensions are the factory recommended settings only.

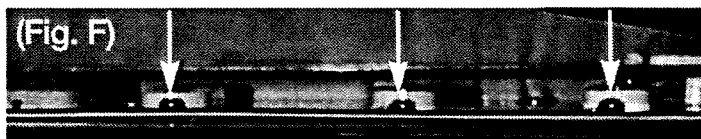
Each saddle can be adjusted by using the two Allen socket screws located on the top of the saddle (see fig. E). A clockwise turn raises while a counterclockwise lowers each saddle. Be sure that both height adjustment screws on each bridge saddle rest firmly against the bridge plate and that each saddle is parallel to the bridge plate after adjustment.



PICKUP HEIGHT ADJUSTMENT

The pickups on your Jerry Donahue Stratocaster are fully adjustable for height. Adjustments are made by turning the height adjustment screws located on either side of the pickup. To raise the pickup, turn the adjustment screws clockwise; to lower the pickup, turn the screws counterclockwise.

To check for proper pickup height adjustment, press on all strings at the 22nd fret. Next, check the distance from the bottom of the 1st and 6th strings to the top of the pole piece (see fig. F). The measurement should be as follows:



Bass side
6/64" (1.6 mm)

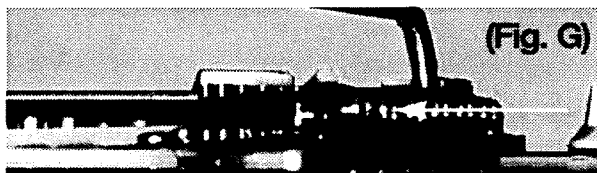
Treble Side
5/64" (1.2 mm)

INTONATION ADJUSTMENT

The quality of strings affects intonation as does the gauge of strings. If changing from the factory equipped gauge, insure that all of the previous steps have been followed before adjusting intonation.

For optimum results, these adjustments should be made when the strings are in new condition. With the pickup selector switch set to the neck pickup position and the volume control at the maximum setting, tune the guitar. 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 (1/100th of a semitone). Small adjustments in the position of the bridge saddle make a noticeable difference in the intonation. Be sure to move the bridge saddles in small increments. Procedures for doing this are as follows:

If the fretted note is sharp, turn the intonation adjustment screw at the end of the bridge clockwise to lengthen the string by moving the saddle back (see fig. G). If the fretted note is flat, turn the Phillips screw counterclockwise to shorten the string by moving the saddle forward. After each adjustment, retune and retest until both notes produce the same pitch.



SPECIAL PERSONAL INTONATION SETUP TIP FROM JERRY

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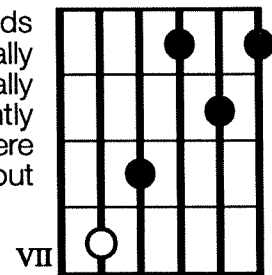
"Until fairly recently, I felt that a guitar couldn't really play in tune unless each string's 12th fret harmonic and 12th fret note had the exact same reading on the electronic tuner. However, by circumstance I've since learned that a much more satisfactory overall intonation can be achieved by a slight moving of two of the saddles away from an exact "A" 440 reading."

"By utilizing the common practice of "perfect" saddle intonation adjustment, as I used to, the guitar's inherent problems are exposed (i.e.; one chord shape sounds in tune while another sounds sour). By adopting the following revised method of intonation, the inconsistencies are greatly minimized."

"Ready?... Adjust the "D" string bridge saddle intonation screw so that the "D" string's 12th fret note is marginally flat of the 12th harmonic. Then, check out the "G" string. The note should be only slightly sharp of the 12th fret harmonic. Are you with me? Now tune the guitar with the open "G" string reading around A439 and the others at A440. Final adjustments can be made by ear when you compare first position E major and minor chords. The E major's G# note (third string, 1st fret) should no longer seem sharp in the chord; and the open "G" string should still be perceptively in tune within the minor chord."

"Since the problem we are addressing here occurs only when playing chords close to the nut and gradually disappears as you move the chord shape further up the neck, the adjustment I mentioned would result perhaps in a perceived flatness on the "G" string within the chord during the course of the climb. However, since the "G" string saddle is intentionally adjusted sharp, you get a much sweeter result."

"Here's another for instance... An "A" chord barred at the fifth fret sounds fine. But when the nearest "E" chord is played (see fig. H) it typically sounds "off". The major third is the culprit ("D" string, 6th fret): it typically sounds sharp. But since with my adjustment the 12th fret note is slightly flat, the problem no longer exists. There's a small margin of error here which works to the guitarist's advantage. Remember, life is about compromise... check it out!" -- Jerry Donahue



(Fig. H)

CARE OF YOUR GUITAR

Your Jerry Donahue Stratocaster is precision made to provide years of satisfaction and musical enjoyment. A few simple maintenance procedures will help maintain your instrument and keep it playing like new.

It is important to avoid sudden changes in temperature, since this causes the wood to expand at a different rate than the finish. If the wood expands at a different rate than the finish, this can result in checking (finish cracks). Although checking does not affect the tone, it can affect the guitar's appearance. If your guitar has been brought into a building after it has been out in the cold, let the instrument warm up while still in its case. Next, slowly open the case allowing warm air to gradually enter. After the instrument is removed, leave the case open so it too can warm up thoroughly.

After you have finished playing, thoroughly wipe the entire guitar, including the strings, with a clean, soft cloth. A 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.

ONE YEAR LIMITED WARRANTY

This One Year Limited Warranty covering defects in materials and workmanship begins at the date of original purchase from an authorized Fender dealer. This warranty is limited to the original retail purchaser. **IMPORTANT:** Please retain your SALES RECEIPT, as it is your proof of purchase covering your One Year Limited Warranty and must be presented to obtain warranty service.

All transportation, insurance and freight charges associated with warranty service and repairs on Fender guitars are the responsibility of the purchaser, as is any service initiated for the purpose of customizing adjustments beyond standard factory specifications. Standard setup and adjustment of the instrument and its components are considered normal dealer preparation.

The following items and conditions are excluded from warranty coverage:

1. Frets, strings, and batteries.
2. Splits, cracks, or warpage in the body or neck due to exposure to sun, moisture, or conditions of excessive or deficient temperature and/or humidity.
3. Finish or wood defects due to usage wear and normal aging or damage due to accidents, abuse, neglect, or acts of God.
4. Instruments which have been modified in any way or serviced by persons not authorized by Fender, or which have had their serial number defaced, altered, or removed.
5. Finish, wood or component defects resulting from the application of polishes, compounds, or chemicals not supplied with the instrument.
6. Case wear and tear.

Fender assumes no liability for property damage resulting from failure of this product nor for any loss of income, satisfaction, or damages arising from loss of use of same due to defects or availability of same during service. Any warranties implied by law (including warranties of merchantability or fitness) 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 limitations 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 may also have other rights which vary from state to state.

In the event your guitar requires servicing, please contact the dealer where the original retail purchase was made or your local Fender Authorized Guitar Service Center. If you have any questions, you may contact the Fender Product Service Department for instructions and information as to how such warranty repairs or servicing can be obtained.

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HELLECASTERS



From the depths of Hell came the HELLECASTERS... three screaming guitarists on a mission to spread The Gospel according to Fender. Having three lead guitarists in one band is definitely out of the ordinary, then again Will Ray, John Jorgenson and Jerry Donahue are not striving for the ordinary. The HELLECASTERS eclectic fusion of rock, country, jazz and wacko humor is a musical playground for these three axe slinging champions where nothing is ever considered too outrageous or too absurd. Be sure to check out the Official Hellecasters Web Site at:

<http://www.Hellecasters.com/>

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