

# Owner's Manual

Congratulations on your purchase of a new Spector Bass and welcome to the Spector Family! In this brief manual, we hope to provide you with the information you will need to get the most out of your new Spector instrument and keep it playing like new for years to come. Should you have any questions about something not covered in these pages, feel free to contact us at:

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## Spector Bass Warranty

Spector Musical Instruments warrants this instrument to be free from defects in materials and workmanship. All Spector Performer Series Basses are covered by a 3 Year Warranty. Legend, NS Pulse, NS Dimension, and NS Ethos Series Basses are covered by a 5 Year Warranty. All Euro Series and all USA Series are covered by a Lifetime Limited Warranty when purchased from an authorized Spector Musical Instruments Dealer, subject to the limitations set forth herein. This warranty applies only to the original retail purchaser when this instrument is purchased from an authorized Spector Musical Instruments Dealer, and requires the purchaser to supply a copy of the original proof of purchase (original sales receipt with the instrument serial number and their name indicated as the purchaser thereon) at the time service is requested. Electronic components, tuning machines, and case hardware are warranted for a period of one year from the date of original purchase.

### **Where is Spector and where do they build their basses?**

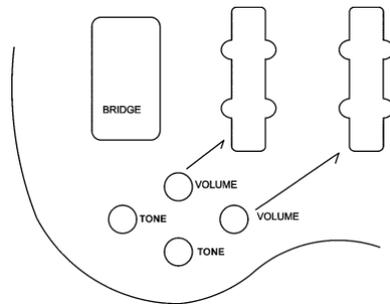
Our USA Series instruments are individually handcrafted by a small team of luthiers near Woodstock, NY. Our Euro Series instruments are built to our exacting specifications in the Czech Republic by a skilled team of craftspeople who have been building Spector instruments for over 25 years. Our Legend Classic, NS Dimension, NS Pulse, and NS Essence models are built in Korea by one of the finest instrument makers in Asia. Our Legend Standard & Performer models are built in Indonesia in a state-of-the-art facility near Jakarta. Spector is proud to offer quality instruments for all bassists.

[www.spectorbass.com](http://www.spectorbass.com)

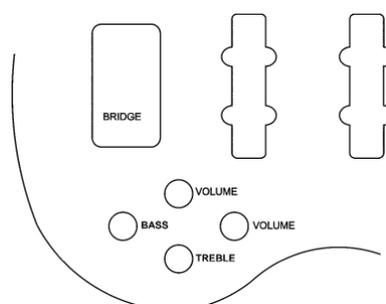
## Spector Electronics Configurations

Spector offers a wide variety of pickup and preamp combinations to suit any player's style. For specifics on your model Spector Bass, please consult the chart below to determine the corresponding diagram to better understand the layout of your instrument.

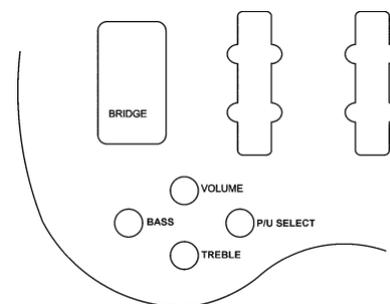
**Diagram A**



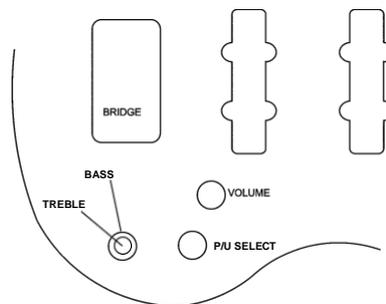
**Diagram B**



**Diagram C**



**Diagram D**



<b>Spector Bass</b>	<b>Strings</b>	<b>Neck Pickup</b>	<b>Bridge Pickup</b>	<b>Pre-Amp</b>	<b>Diagram</b>
Performer Series	4	Spector P	Spector J	n/a	A
Legend Standard Series	4-5	Spector P	Spector J	Spector +/- 12dB	B
Legend Classic Series	4-5-6	Bartolini P or Humbucker	Bartolini J or Humbucker	Spector TonePump Jr	B
Legend Neck Thru Series	4-5	Aguilar P or DCB	Aguilar J or DCB	Aguilar OBP-2	B
NS Pulse Series	4-5-6	EMG-P	EMG-J	Spector TonePump Jr	B
NS Ethos Series	4-5	Aguilar P or DCB	Aguilar J or DCB	Aguilar OBP-2	B
NS Dimension Series	4-5	Fishman Fluence	Fishman Fluence	Fishman Fluence	C
Bantam Series	4-5	EMG-35DC	EMG-35DC	EMG BTS	D
EuroBolt Series	4-5	Aguilar P or DCB	Aguilar J or DCB	Aguilar OBP-2	B
Euro LX Series	4-5-6	EMG-P or DC	EMG-J or DC	Spector TonePump Jr	B
Euro LT Series	4-5-6	Bartolini P or Humbucker	Bartolini J or Humbucker	Modified Darkglass Tone Capsule	B
Euro Classic Series	4-5	EMG-P or EMG-J	EMG-J	EMG BTS	C
NS-2	4	EMG-P	EMG-J	HAZ 9V	C
NS-4	4	EMG-35DC	EMG-35DC	HAZ 18V	D
NS-5XL	5	EMG-40DC	EMG-40DC	HAZ 18V	D
NS-6XL	6	EMG-45DC	EMG-45DC	HAZ 18V	D
Forte 4	4	Aguilar P	Aguilar J	Aguilar OBP-2	C
Forte 5, Forte 6	5-6	Aguilar DCB	Aguilar DCB	Aguilar OBP-2	C

## Pickups and Pre-amps

### Passive Pickups

- **Performer & Legend Standard** -

Designed by Spector, a passive, high impedance pickup offers full output characteristics combined with a broad frequency response and clear tone.

- **Custom Bartolini** - Designed and built by Bartolini in their San Luis Obispo, CA facility. This passive pickup has a big sound, traditional feel, wide frequency bandwidth, “punchy” tone, and hum cancelling design.

- **Aguilar 4P/J-HC** – Designed and built by Aguilar in New York City. This well-balanced pickup set provides a flexible array of tones, whether using each pickup alone or in combination. Now you can get the thunderous lows of the neck pickup or the midrange cut of the bridge – or both – without 60 cycle hum!

- **Aguilar DCB** - Designed and built by Aguilar in New York City. The DCB® pickups use a dual-ceramic bar design to capture all the detail and character of your tone. The pickup’s uniform magnetic field ensures that no information is lost, making this a great pickup for dynamic playing styles. Full-bodied tone with a rich sustain characterizes the sound of the DCB series, bringing out the best qualities in any instrument.

### Active Pickups

- **EMG-P and EMG-J** - The active pickup that changed the bass pickup business in the late ‘70’s. Voiced after the original P® design with a preamp built into the pickup for extended frequency response, high output, and noise free operation. The EMG-J offers a similar voicing to the original J with the same benefits of the EMG design.

- **EMG-35DC, EMG-40DC & EMG-45DC** - These are part of the EMG Extended Series. The DC dual coil features side-by-side coils that widen the magnetic aperture delivering a deep, full low end with slightly accentuated midrange.

- **Fishman Fluence** - The Fluence Bass Soapbar pickup provides revolutionary Fluence Multi-Voice performance, dynamic range, and articulation. Based on Fishman’s convention-disrupting Fluence Core technology, a single bass pickup can now produce multiple timbres and sounds, each untethered from the other. Original and totally re-imagined, Fluence Multi-Voice pickups for electric bass are free from the hum, noise and frustrating inductance issues that plague even the most coveted wire-wound pickups, revealing pure, uncorrupted bass tone.

Fluence Bass Soapbar Pickup Voicings:

Voice 1 (Passive): Classic, fat and round

Voice 2 (Active): Full frequency, full dynamics

Voice 2 (Active with mid contour): Funk, Hi-Fi scooped

Single Coil Mode: Same voices as above but with Jazz Bass string window.

## Pre-amps

- **EMG-BTS** - Active Bass and Treble Control features two controls that can independently boost or cut both bass and treble frequencies up to 12dB. FLAT (no cut or boost of frequency) on the controls is in the center, detented (a little “click”) position. In addition, a set of DIP switches mounted on the main circuit board allow you to select among 4 widely different center frequencies ranging from the high midrange to treble region (2100, 3500, 4500, and 7000Hz).
- **Spector +/- 12dB** – This circuit appears in our Legend Standard instruments. We worked with our manufacturing partners in Asia to provide a versatile and useful pre-amp that is reminiscent of our classic Spector sound, but with slightly less gain and higher headroom.
- **Aguilar OBP-2** The OBP-2 was designed to give bassists fat tone while being small enough to fit into tight control cavities. Wire this preamp with one 9-volt battery and it will fit into just about any instrument. With +/- 18dB of boost and cut at 40Hz and +/- 16dB of treble boost and cut at 6.5 kHz you have can emphasize just the right frequencies to make your bass sound great in any mix.
- **TonePump & TonePump Jr.** - The Spector TonePump debuted in our Euro models in the early 2000’s. This low output impedance design is meant to provide a musical and useful tones at nearly any setting. The 2-band EQ is continuously variable, meaning the frequency spectrum changes as the knobs are adjusted. There are no center detents to determine a “flat” sound, rather this circuit allows players to determine their own “normal” tone and enhance the treble & bass frequencies from there. This pre-amp design is also very hot, offering up to 18dB of boost in the TonePump and 12dB of boost in the TonePump Jr.
- **Modified Darkglass Tone Capsule** - Darkglass’ Tone Capsule has quickly become a favorite among modern bass players. Spector worked directly with Darkglass’ engineers in Finland to modify their Tone Capsule to better suit our Euro LT basses. The result is a versatile pre-amp that allows for both aggressive and mild tones that pair perfectly with our custom Bartolini pickups.
- The **Original Spector Pre-amp** or **HAZ Pre-amp** – This classic circuit features active bass and treble controls with the ability to cut and boost, providing the player with complete tonal flexibility. The original circuit was a 9v circuit and is still found to this day on the NS-2. This is the circuit heard on countless recordings since the late 1970s. The 18v Spector/HAZ circuit is an updated version of the classic with added headroom and clarity. These cherished circuits are only available in our USA Series instruments.

## The Spector Bridge

### How to Adjust It:

The Spector Locking Bridge is found on all basses with the exception of the Performer Series & NS Dimension Series. The design consideration is that while this bridge is sophisticated, it is actually very simple and easy to adjust. Another profound benefit of the Spector Locking Bridge is that it locks. You cannot adjust it, until you unlock it. Once adjusted, lock it and it will stay where you put it. To adjust, leave the strings on the bass and tuned to normal pitch. Loosen the set screw on side of bridge with Allen wrench. Using same Allen wrench as above, adjust height of each string saddle as needed to suit your playing style. Adjust the intonation of each bridge saddle by moving the saddle away from the neck (if the higher register notes are playing sharp) or toward neck (if the higher notes are playing flat) as needed. For optimum performance, each of the saddles should be tilted back toward the ball end of the string at the same angle as the headstock tilt (but opposite in direction). Tighten set screw on side of bridge and now the saddles will stay in place even when strings are changed. This solid contact also adds to the overall sustain and tone of the Spector Bass.

### Spector String Spacing Specifications

Inquiring minds want to know, so in response to many requests:

Scale Length	Nut Width	At 12 <sup>th</sup> Fret	At Bridge	Fingerboard Radius
4 String 34"	1.645"	2.065"	.75"	16"
5 String 35"	1.84"	2.415"	.66"	16"
6 String 35"	2.19"	3.015"	.66"	16"

## Preventative Maintenance

### **“High Gloss” Finishes:**

Spector “High Gloss” Finishes are practically maintenance free. Simply clean them occasionally with a good quality guitar polish available from several manufacturers of guitar and bass accessories. If the back of the neck (which is a matte finish) should require cleaning, we recommend Lemon Oil. As far as a “polishing cloth”, a clean, 100% cotton tee-shirt (as long as it’s clean, older is even better-they get softer with age and repeated washings) is your best bet. Besides, recycling helps the environment!

### **Spector “Matte” or “Satin” Finishes:**

It’s a great idea to regularly clean and protect the neck and body of your Spector Bass with a good quality microfiber cloth. This should remove dirt and oils from the surface of your instrument. Do not use any cleaners that contain polish or oil, as these will cause your finish to appear glossy. If you need to do a deeper cleaning of your instrument, please use a cleaner that is safe for “matte” or “satin” finishes.

### **Fingerboards:**

For Pau Ferro or Rosewood fingerboard, use Lemon Oil. This will clean and protect your fingerboard, replenishing the oils that the fingerboard, protecting the wood from excessive dryness. For Maple fingerboards, treat similarly to a “Matte” or “Satin” finish, as stated earlier.

### **Hot-Cold-Dry-Damp:**

In most areas, the spring and summer months usually bring with them humidity. While basses (and other musical instruments made of wood) like to have some humidity, too much is not a good thing. You wouldn’t leave your pet in your sweltering car in the summer heat, don’t do it to your Spector bass. Heating systems in Winter remove moisture from your home and your bass! We highly recommend a humidifier for you and your bass, at least for the room in which you store your instrument. At the very least, store your instrument in its case, away from the heating ducts. In general, basses like to be where you like to be: 70 degrees and moderate humidity.

## **The Truss Rod - What It Is What It Does How to Adjust It**

If thinking about removing that little plate and taking out an Allen wrench makes you feel a bit faint, please see your local guitar shop (where you bought your Spector) and have them help you out. All Spector Basses have an adjustable rod located in the neck which runs the length of the neck. The truss rod opposes the force exerted by the tuning of the strings and keeps the neck from warping under that pressure.

Many of our basses also have graphite rods that run parallel to the truss rod and act to evenly distribute the forces of the truss rod. If “sighting down” the neck indicates that there is a warp or “dip” in the neck, the adjusting nut should be tightened. If there is a reverse warp or “hump” in the neck, the nut needs to be loosened.

When in doubt, please consult with your local Spector dealer or qualified guitar repair shop!

**CAUTION:** There are very extreme forces involved in basses and bass strings. BE SURE TO LOOSEN STRINGS before attempting to tighten the truss rod!

**IMPORTANT:** If you have ANY question about your comfort level in doing neck adjustments on any instruments, we highly recommend that you return to your Spector Dealer and ask them for assistance.

**VERY IMPORTANT:** Truss rods can be tightened. They can also be can be tightened too far! When in doubt, seek professional advice.