

Installation Instructions



String Bass

Attaching the Jack:

The enclosed looped plastic "tie down" will hold the jack securely, without buzzing, to the tailpiece. To install, first remove the G string from the instrument and thread it through the loop's two holes starting on the humped side -the side with the actual loop. Next, thread the G string through the tailpiece and continue with normal string installation. Before bringing the string up to pitch, slide the jack through the loop so that it locks into place. The jack's receptacle should point down, towards the endpin.



Jack and loop before strings are tightened



Element to jack

Setting the Element:

Although The Realist™ is designed to fit any acoustic bass bridge, the fit of the bridge feet to the bass top is essential for maximizing the performance qualities of the pick-up. It is important that the bridge foot come in full contact with the raised dots on the copper foil. Therefore, check the contact or fit of the bridge-foot to the curve of the instrument top. If there is an uneven space between the bottom of the foot and the instrument top, we recommend taking the time to have your bridge feet fit better. Your instrument and the pickup will sound better.

The Realist™ is placed under the E side or bass foot of the bridge with the cord attachment at the back inside. To do this you must first loosen the strings in order to slightly raise the foot. In case the bridge moves during installation, we suggest that you mark lightly with a #2 (or any soft-leaded) pencil around the feet so that the bridge can be reset to the same spot.

Loosen the bottom 2 strings (the E & A) and slide them off the bridge. Loosen the 1st (G) or top string 2 turns and the 2nd (D string) 3 full turns. Now the tension on the bridge is low enough to slightly raise the bridge foot with one hand to slide the element under with the other hand. (as in photo B). The element should be centered under the bass foot with the wire extending from the lower inside corner.



Element under bridge foot

Additional Installation Notes:

The pressure from the strings will hold the element snugly under the foot. However, if you are concerned that the bridge might slide on the upper element, a small amount of rosin should be rubbed onto the bottom of the E-side foot. We recommend that you use the same rosin that you use on your bow. Make 2 or 3 passes with the cake of rosin along the bottom of the E (or bass) foot and on the top instrument where the E foot rests. Then, install the copper element under the foot as per previous instructions.

For detailed answers to questions about this or any other David Gage Product, please visit us at www.davidgage.com



A pre-amplifier is not necessary; their use is a matter of player's taste.
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Package Contents:

One (1) Realist Transducer for String Bass
Two (2) Plastic loops
Rubberbands for securing slack (amounts vary)
One (1) plywood element protector



“The most natural sounding pickup I’ve ever heard. It’s easy, I love it. I can go from pizzicato to arco without any hesitation.”

-John Patitucci

“Whether playing pizzicato or arco, The Realist in my opinion is the best sounding pickup on the market.”

-Christian McBride

straight ahead strive for tone...

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