

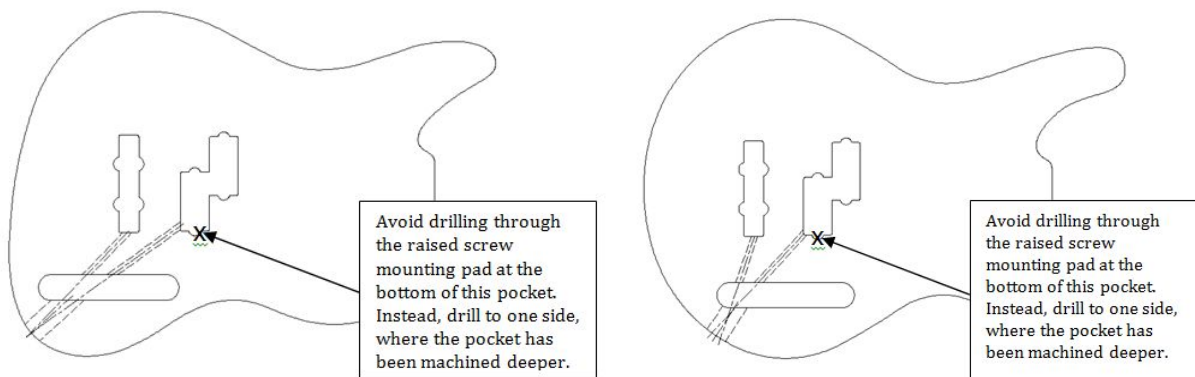
# Drilling Guide for Electric Bass Guitar Bodies

There is a tab on the edge of the body indicating where the jack hole should be drilled. Mark this location with a center punch prior to sanding off the tab.

Drill the jack hole using a  $\frac{7}{8}$ " flat spade bit or Foerstner bit. Be sure to drill PERPENDICULAR to the tangent at this location. Failure to do so will make it very difficult or impossible to plug the guitar cord in when the guitar is finished. Remedying this will take a lot of time with a Dremel-type tool and  $\frac{1}{2}$ " sanding drum.

Drill into each of the pickup pockets using a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " lamp or aircraft bit. Aim low. The idea is to enter the bottom portion of each cavity where the pocket has been machined deeper to accommodate the pickup wire. If the hole is too high in the pickup pocket, the pickup may interfere with its wire and not seat correctly in the pocket.

Drill the ground wire from the bridge area through to the electronics cavity. Place the bridge on the body and trace with a pencil to get an idea of where the hole should be drilled.



## About the Bass Neck and Wood Tabs

Beginning in February, 2015, all bass necks shipped have tab material on the treble side of the neck heel, and the angled side of the headstock. This change has been made to facilitate increased production to meet demand. The tabs will need to be removed from the angled side of the headstock and from the treble side of the neck heel. Previous production had the tabs on the end of the headstock and end of the heel. While you might use power tools to remove most of the tabs, it is recommended to use a flat sanding block wrapped with sandpaper to finish, preserving the straight edges intended for the part. Sanding with fingers only should be avoided. As the neck and fretboard are machined as a single unit, the fretboard will require attention as well to match the tapered profile of the neck. As with any guitar kit, verify the neck fit in the pocket from an early stage in construction, and allow for the thickness of whatever finish is applied to the neck and body.

# Bass Wiring Notes

Turn the pre-wired control plate over so you are looking at the components, not the knobs, such that the switch slot is to your left, and the two potentiometers are to your right.

As you look at the switch, you will notice eight tabs. The center pair of tabs will be the signal out from the switch, to the jack.

The pair of tabs to your right is the connection point for the **neck** pickup signal wire.  
The pair of tabs to your left is the connection point for the **bridge** pickup signal wire.

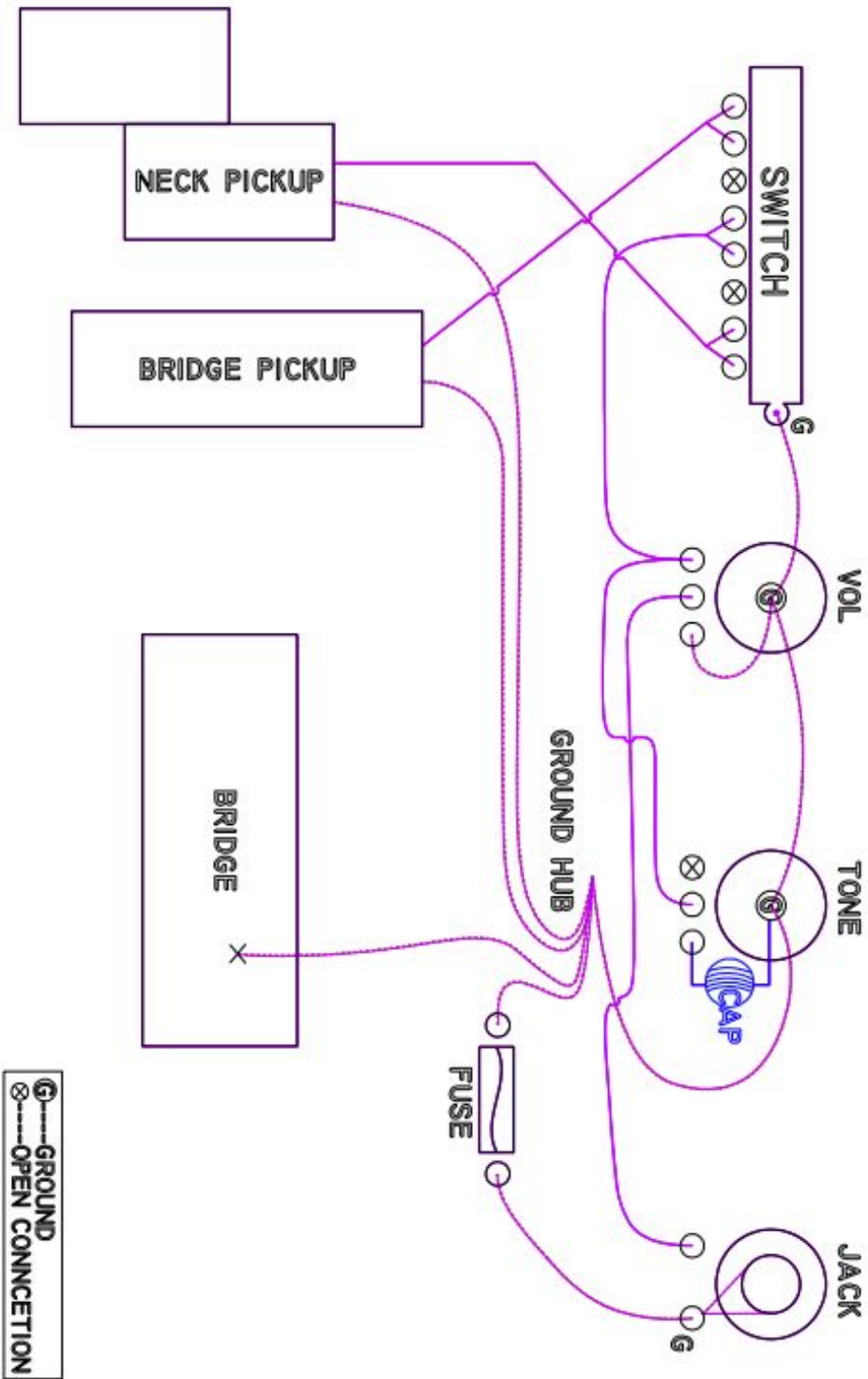
Solder a ground wire between the case of the switch and the back of the volume pot, and from there on to the tone pot. Solder the black wires of each pickup to the back of the volume pot.

Solder a ground wire from the back of the volume pot to run to the bridge to ground the strings. Solder a ground wire from the volume pot to the output jack. It will be soldered to the square tab on the jack.

The signal wire will be soldered to the center pair of tabs on the switch. This signal wire is soldered to the bottom volume pot tab in the illustration. Another signal wire is soldered between the volume and tone pot tabs as shown in the illustration. The signal output wire is soldered to the center lug of the volume potentiometer. (The volume potentiometer is the center component.) This wire will be soldered to the triangular tab on the jack

The tone capacitor is soldered to the center lug of the tone potentiometer, and to the grounded can of the potentiometer. Be sure the capacitor leg that is soldered to the center pot tab does not touch the potentiometer casing.

# BASS GUITAR WIRING SCHEMATIC



Courtesy David Lake, Kiona-Benton High School, WA

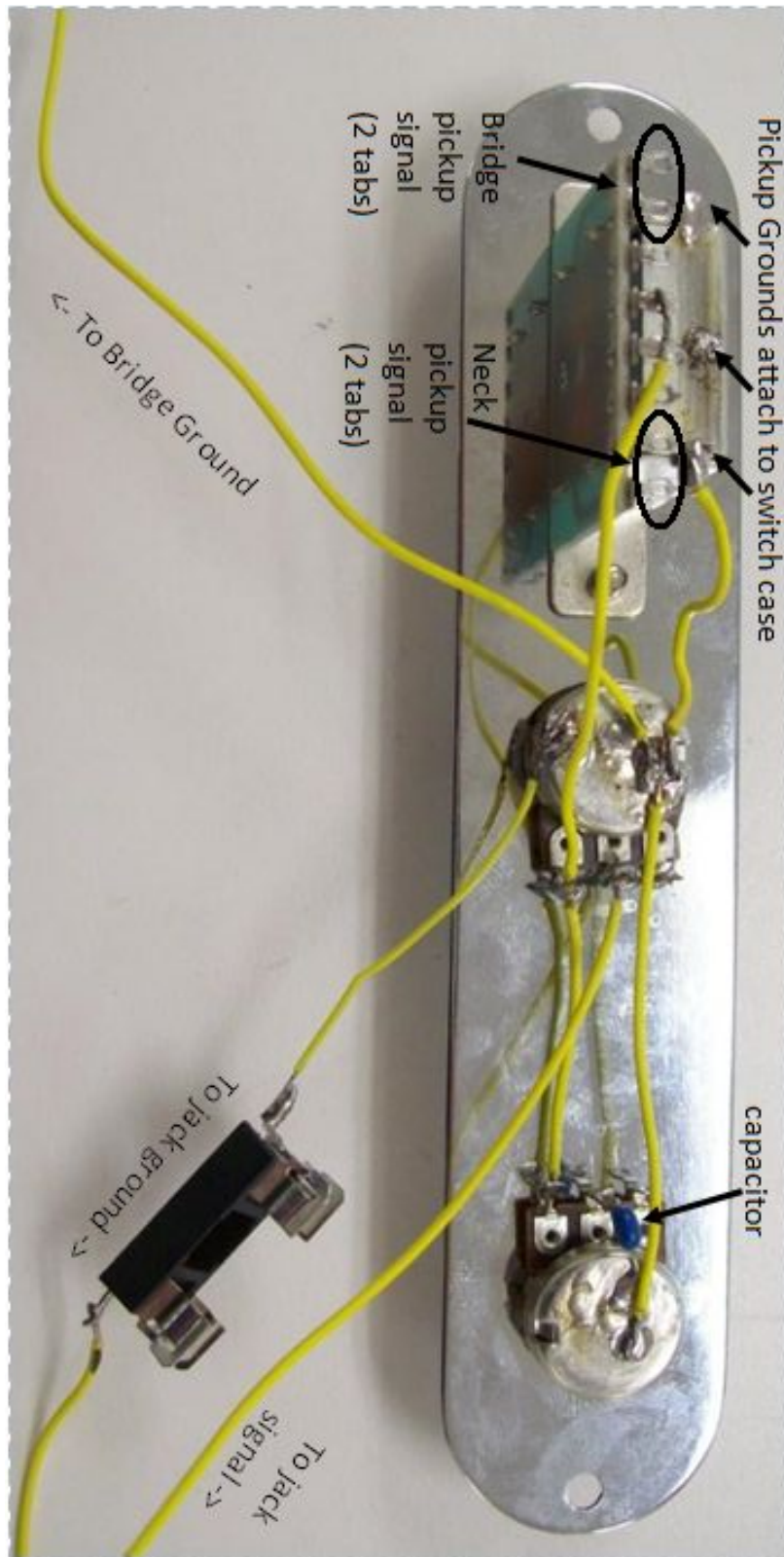


Diagram and photograph by Doug Hunt, Southern Wells Jr-Sr High School, IN

# Brief Bass Guitar Setup Information

Please refer to: <https://goo.gl/bPCQPC>

for an overall reference on installing strings and setting up your bass electric guitar.

## Scale Length and Intonation:

Scale length of this instrument is 34". Compensating for the wound diameter of the strings, the smallest string saddle should be  $34 - \frac{1}{8}$ " from the string nut for initial bridge saddle rough-in.

Stagger the other three saddles back from the first for initial bridge saddle rough-in.

<https://goo.gl/YCiYIO>

## String Installation:

String installation is different than on most electric guitars. (If you are familiar with the vintage Kluson type of tuners, then you will recognize these.) The strings must be pre-cut with additional length for the string to be inserted down the center of the post, and to wrap around the post. You need two to three wraps around the post for the large E string; three wraps for each A and D strings; three or four wraps for the G string. Insert the string into the post, Kink the string at almost a 90 degree angle to allow the string to wrap around the post. Remember to wind the string from the top of the post downward towards the bottom of the post. <https://goo.gl/9MbeYZ>

## Tuning:

Four string bass is typically tuned E,A,D,G, biggest to smallest strings.

## String Heights:

Recommended string height is  $\frac{3}{32}$  inch between the top of the 17th fret and underside of each string. <https://goo.gl/iN1zqP>

## Neck Relief:

Recommended neck relief should be approximately 0.012 inches at the 7th fret. Check by pressing down on the 1st fret and 17th fret. Alternately, you can check neck relief by placing a capo at the 1st fret and pressing at the 17th fret. Neck relief should be measured from the underside of the string to the top of the fret. <https://goo.gl/2nCZol>

## Pickup Height Adjustment:

Place foam material in the bottom of the pickup pocket. Alternately, you may stick adhesive weatherstripping to the back of the pickup. Then insert the screws in the pickups and then slide the springs (optional) over the screws. As you turn the screws clockwise, the foam or springs will compress lowering the pickup height. As you turn the screws counterclockwise, the foam or springs will expand, elevating the pickup height. Recommended height on the treble side is  $\frac{3}{32}$  inch; for the bass side of pickup,  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch. Measure from the underside of the string to the top of the pole piece. <https://goo.gl/qvclr2>