

# Ovation

## Use & Care Reference Guide

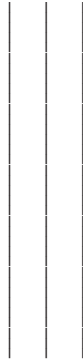
Ovation guitars are played  
by countless musicians  
around the world including:

*Melissa Etheridge*  
*Al DiMeola*  
*Kaki King*  
*Godsmack*  
*Nikki Sixx*  
*Hawthorn Heights*  
*Davey Johnstone*  
*Kittie*  
*Cyndi Lauper*  
*Steve Lukather*  
*Yngwie Malmsteen*  
*Ziggy Marley*  
*Dave Mustaine*  
*Vince Neil*  
*Preston Reed*  
*Daize Shayne*  
*Aaron Tippin*  
*Ub40*  
*Bernie Williams*

Ovation Instruments  
Division of Kaman Music Corporation  
37 Greenwoods Rd., New Hartford, CT 06057

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### **Ovation Instruments**

Division of Kaman Music Corporation  
P.O. Box 507  
Bloomfield, CT 06002-0507

## The Ovation Tradition

During its 40 years as a guitar manufacturer, Ovation has repeatedly proven that outstanding instruments result when tradition and experience meet with new ideas and state-of-the-art technology. Guitarists from all over the world have embraced the instruments produced by Ovation's guitar factory in New Hartford, Connecticut. The reason: Ovation's innovative round back design along with the unique mix of modern composites and carefully selected tone woods that result in superb performance characteristics and outstanding timbre!

Using the latest materials and technology are only part of the success of Ovation. A well-trained staff of guitar craftspeople with hundreds of years of combined experience built your guitar, largely by hand, supported by a modern manufacturing process and computer-assisted machinery. As a result of our use of the latest technology coupled with an old-world passion for guitar building, over one million guitarists worldwide, like you, have chosen Ovation to help them achieve their "signature sound."

## Basic Care



### **The Case for a Case**

We strongly recommend the purchase and use of an Ovation molded guitar case. Specially designed to accommodate the unique shape of Ovation guitars, it offers the best possible protection against damage. The inside of the case is plush-lined and form-fitted to hold the guitar snugly and securely. An inside case pocket allows storage of strings and small accessories. The guitar is held firmly in the case by a pad in the lid which presses lightly against the top of the guitar when the lid is closed. Please note that this pad can sometimes absorb polish from the guitar, leaving a dull area on it. This area can easily be restored with the application of a quality guitar polish. Any marks on the bowl where it has been in contact with the lining of the case can be removed in the same way.



### **Keep It Clean**

Like all fine instruments, Ovation Roundback™ guitars require periodic care and maintenance. Your instrument will perform best if it is kept clean. A routine cleaning of the instrument using a clean lint-free cloth and a light coat of a quality guitar polish will keep your Roundback looking and performing at its peak. Gold-plated parts in particular, should be wiped clean after each use to prevent discoloration from acids created on your skin.



### **The Right Environment**

Always store your instrument at room temperature, avoiding temperature and humidity extremes. The delicate tone woods used in your guitar are significantly affected by these parameters. A neck warp or top crack can render any fine guitar unplayable. You may wish to purchase a humidity control device that can be carried in your case to compensate for any changes in environmental conditions. Check with your Ovation dealer for availability.



### **A Tension Convention**

Keep your instrument tuned to concert pitch under normal playing and storage situations. If the instrument is to be stored for a long period of time, reduce the string tension slightly; one or two turns of each tuning machine will be adequate.



### **Gettin' to the Gig**

There are a few simple precautions that you can take while transporting your Ovation guitar that will minimize the chances of damage. When transporting in a car, always keep the case on the floor so that it will not move around inside the vehicle in case of a sudden stop. Also, avoid storing the guitar in the trunk of a car, where it will be exposed to extremes of heat and cold. Always avoid freezing temperatures, as this can result in the top finish cracking.

When travelling by air, always loosen the strings slightly before checking the guitar as baggage. The airlines will not be liable for instruments damaged as a result of their being tuned to full concert pitch.

## The Anatomy of Ovation Guitars

Before we get into the use and care of your specific instrument, let's get acquainted with some basic terminology associated with Ovation guitars and their construction. Although your guitar may look different, the basic vocabulary and features still apply:

- ① Headstock
- ② Tuning Machine
- ③ Nut
- ④ Fret
- ⑤ Fret Marker Inlay
- ⑥ Binding
- ⑦ Neck/Fingerboard
- ⑧ Strap button
- ⑨ Epaulet
- ⑩ Sound hole
- ⑪ Preamp
- ⑫ Saddle/Pickup
- ⑬ Bridge
- ⑭ Bowl (Back and Sides)
- ⑮ Sound board (Top)
- ⑯ Purfling



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## The Ovation Family of Guitars

Ovation builds a wide range of products appropriate for virtually any application. Each model has a feature set and configuration that will allow a player to choose an instrument that compliments his or her playing style, in addition to making a positive statement about their *personal* style!

### Adamas



- Ultra-Lightweight Carbon fiber top
- Lightweight Lyrachord GS body
- Super stable ANS - Advanced Neck System
  - Hand shaped low-profile neck
  - OP Pro or VIP-5 preamp system
  - Ovation's Original Patented Pickup
  - Hand made in New Hartford, CT, USA

### Custom Legend & Custom Elite



- AAA Grade Sitka Spruce Sound board
- Hand-Inlaid Abalone Top Purfling
- Five-Piece Mahogany/Maple Neck
- Bound Ebony Fingerboard
- Abalone Fingerboard Inlays
  - 24K Gold Tuners w/Pearloid Buttons
  - Tusq® Nut and Compensating Saddle
  - 1-11/16" Nut Width (12-String -1 7/8")
  - Ovation Hi-Output Pickup



### Legend & Elite



- AA Grade Solid Sitka Spruce Top
- Five Piece Mahogany/Maple Neck
- 25 1/4" Scale Length
- Ebony Fingerboard
  - Engraved Gold Tuners
  - Ovation High Output pickup
  - Made in New Hartford, CT



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### Standard Balladeer & Standard Elite



- Solid Sitka Spruce Sound board
- Five Piece Mahogany/Maple Neck
- Rosewood Fingerboard
- Pinless bridge for easy string changes
- Chrome Hardware
- 25 1/4" Scale Length
- Made in New Hartford, CT, USA



### Balladeer Special & Elite Special



- Solid Sitka Spruce top
- Two-Piece Mahogany neck with wiping oil finish
- Rosewood fingerboard
- Chrome tuners
- OP-30 preamp
- Ovation Slimline pickup



### Elite T Series



- Solid Sitka Spruce top
- Single epaulet design
- Two-piece Maple neck
- Ebony fingerboard
  - Black chrome tuners
  - OP 30 or OP Pro preamp
- Ovation Slimline or High Output pickup

### Artist LX & Folklore LX



- OP Pro preamp
- Ovation Original Patented Pickup
- ANS Advanced Neck System
- Slotted Peghead
  - Lightweight Lyrachord GS body
  - Solid Sitka Spruce Top
  - Scalloped Bracing



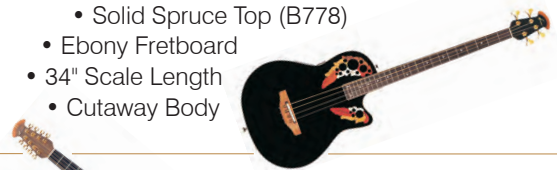
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### Classic LX



- OP Pro preamp
- Ovation Original Patented Pickup
- ANS Advanced Neck System
- Lightweight Lyrachord GS body
- Solid Sitka Cedar Top
- Scalloped Bracing
- 1 7/8" Nut Width

### Bass/Mandocello/Mandolin



- Solid Spruce Top (B778)
- Ebony Fretboard
- 34" Scale Length
- Cutaway Body



- Solid Spruce Top (MC868)
- Ebony Fretboard
- Ovation High-output Pickup
- OP-Pro preamp

- Solid Spruce Top (MM68)
  - Ebony Fretboard
  - OP-24+ Preamp
- Mando-Quintad Bracing



### 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Models



- Solid Sitka spruce sound board
- Hand-made fiberglass cloth Roundback body
- Ebony fingerboard
- Walnut pinless bridge
- Schaller tuners
- Ovation FET preamp
- Ovation's Original Patented Pickup

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## Collector's Models (2007 Shown)



- Solid Bear Claw Spruce top w/Vintage Natural Finish
- LX Scalloped Bracing
- Lyrachord GS Deep Contour Body
- Inlaid Spalted Maple Epaulet
- 5-Piece Mahogany/Maple Neck
  - Advanced Neck System with 2-Way Adjustment Rod
- Ebony fingerboard w/Flamed Maple Inlays
- Ovation Original Patented Pickup
- Ovation VIP-5 Virtual Imaging Preamp

## Built-in Electronics



### The Ovation Pickup System

Ovation is *the* pioneer in the development of the "acoustic-electric" guitar. Key to the development of amplified acoustic guitars was the patented Ovation piezo (pronounced *pE-A'-zO*) pickup. Six piezo-crystal elements located under the specially designed, intonation-corrected saddle, respond to the pressure changes caused by the vibrating strings *and* the top. These changes generate a robust electric signal that is amplified and enhanced by user-controlled preamp packages.

The original design of this pickup is still used in most Ovation guitars, resulting in that classic, rich Ovation sound. However, for those players who desire a more traditional look for their instruments, the Ovation Thin Line piezo saddle pickup, based on the original Ovation design, is available on certain models and provides similar performance with looks that will please.



### Ovation Built-in Preamps

Ovation is proud to offer one of the widest ranges of cutting-edge guitar electronics available from any manufacturer. All Ovation preamps offer killer specs and features that will take your playing to the next level. At Ovation, we keep the

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electronics interface simple and easy-to-use with features that continue to set the trends in guitar electronics.

All of our electronics packages feature preamps that allow the user control of key elements of the guitar's electrical output that provide the most useful and expressive amplified sound possible. Most of our preamps feature volume control, equalization, as well as a built-in tuner. Other features such as notch filters to prevent feedback, shaping filters for that classic Ovation sound, and built in effects like exciters and limiters are available on certain models. Our latest offerings include remarkably user-friendly digital preamps that deliver the most realistic acoustic sounds available.

Ovations feature professional output interface options like low-impedance, balanced XLR outputs that allow connections to extend hundreds of feet without signal degradation as well as the conventional 1/4" guitar connection. Some models are phantom powerable for optimum performance without ever changing batteries. See your Ovation dealer to learn more.

There are no user-seviceable parts in the pickup or preamp system. Though unlikely, if you do experience a problem, please contact Ovation Customer Service for help.

**All Ovation guitars come with a separate user guide for the preamp system installed in your model. Please refer to these guides for detailed information about preamp use and battery replacement. For an overview of Ovation's preamp offering see below.**



- Built-in Tuner
- Virtual Image Processor
- 3-Band EQ
- Pickup/Image Blend

- Built-in Tuner
- Compressor/Limiter
- Fundamental Frequency Exciter
- 3-Band EQ



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- Built-in Tuner
- 3-Band EQ
- EQ Pre-emphasis
- Phantom Powerable



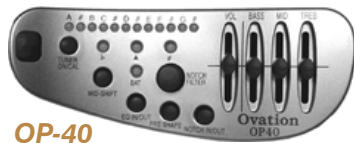
**OP-Pro**



**OP-50**

- Built-in LED Tuner
- 4-Band EQ
- EQ Pre-emphasis
- EQ Defeat Switch
- Tunable Notch Filter to tame feedback

- Built-in LED Tuner
- 3-Band EQ w/mid shift
- EQ Defeat
- EQ Pre-emphasis
- Tunable Notch Filter to tame feedback



**OP-40**

- Built-in LED Tuner
- 3-Band EQ w/mid shift
- EQ Pre-emphasis
- EQ Defeat switch



**OP-30**

## Maintaining Your Ovation

Your Ovation instrument ships from the factory with all setup parameters adjusted to exacting tolerances and ready to play. As with any fine instrument made from wood, environmental conditions like heat, cold, and humidity will cause dimensional changes that can affect setup and playability. Ovation's are built to allow easy readjustment of key parameters that allow you to keep your instrument easy to play and sounding great.



## Strings

One of the easiest things you can do to keep your Ovation sounding terrific is to replace your strings often. If you feel that your instrument sounds muted, does not sustain well, or is difficult to tune, it may be time to change your strings. Your Ovation steel-string guitar comes equipped with Adamas Phosphor Bronze Light Gauge acoustic strings. We recommend your continued use of these strings because of their high quality, consistency, and tone. For the same reasons, nylon string players should use Adamas Century Classic 4444 strings for optimal performance. Bass, mandolin, and mandocello strings will be discussed later in this manual.

For those of you new to guitar ownership, what follows is a short pictorial primer on the correct way to string your Ovation. Remove the old strings by loosening the tension of each string until it's pretty slack. Then cut each string near the bridge with a string cutter or diagonal-cut pliers. Carefully remove the short, ball end pieces from the bridge avoiding scratching the finish. Unwind the remaining string segments from the machine pegs and discard.



**Fig. 1**

Insert the new strings into the holes in the rear of the bridge as illustrated in *fig. 1*. The string order from left to right is E6 (low E as shown), A5, D4, G3, B2, and finally, E1.

Pull the strings through the bridge until the ball end of

the string is snugly fit into the groove on the rear of the saddle as shown in *fig. 2*.

Once you have brought the strings through the bridge and over the saddle, they are routed over the nut and attached to the tuning pegs and brought to pitch.



**Fig. 2**

Fig. 3 displays the proper string attachment and peg rotation that will increase string tension (raise pitch). Be mindful of this scheme as you bring the strings through the holes in each tuning peg as you attach and begin to wind each string.



The preferred method of attachment of the string on the tuning peg is demonstrated in figs. 4-7. Using the D string as an example, first slide the string through the peg hole in the direction indicated in fig. 4.

Leave an inch or so of slack on the string to allow winding. Next, bring the end of the string around and under the segment of the string coming from the bridge forming a loop as shown in fig. 5.



Pull it under so that the loop wedges snugly under the string. Then turn the tuning machine to wind the string around the peg as depicted in fig. 6. When the string is brought to the correct pitch, cut off the excess string with a pair of diagonal cut pliers or a string cutter as depicted in fig. 7. Perform the same sequence of steps for each string.

When tuning a guitar with new strings, please note that fresh strings will stretch somewhat, causing them to slowly lower their pitch. This effect

can be minimized by tightly pinching and pulling firmly on each string to help stretch them to their final length before attempting to tune the guitar.



The preceding illustrated example of string attachment was shown with a solid headstock and standard machine pegs. For a guitar with a slotted headstock, the principle is the same although the string winding is rotated 90 degrees. Please refer to fig. 8 to see the resulting difference.



Nylon/gut string guitars require a different method of attachment at the saddle. Nylon strings attachment to the saddle is shown in fig 9. Essentially, the string is inserted from the fretboard side of the bridge and a looped around the string once or twice to form a knot that is held together by its own tension.



## Ovation Standard Tunings & Recommended String Sets

String# / Frequency:	6	5	4	3	2	1	String Set
<b>Model</b>							
<b>Standard 6 String</b>	E 82.41	A 110	D 146.83	G 196	B 246.94	E 329.64	1818-6
<b>12 String</b>	e 82.41	a 110	d 146.83	g 196	b 246.94	e 329.64	1616-12
<b>Long Neck</b>	D 73.42	G 98	C 120.82	F 174.61	A 220	D 293.66	1818-6
<b>Bass</b>	N/A	N/A	E 41.2	A 55	D 73.42	G 98	5300-4
<b>Mandolin</b>	N/A	N/A	E 164.82	A 240	D 293.66	G 392	8080 Ball-end
<b>Mandocello</b>	N/A	N/A	C 130.82	G 196	D 146.83	A 220	9090 Ball-end

To assure the longest possible life from your strings, be sure to wipe down each string with a clean cloth after each playing. This will help to remove organic oils and acids that are deposited on the strings during playing that react with the metals used in manufacturing.

Tuning your guitar is the first step to a satisfying playing experience. To make tuning easy, most Ovation electronic packages include a built-in tuner. Consult your electronics owner's manual to learn about using your tuner.

To help understand how to tune your guitar, please refer to the chart on page 15. Please note that the order of strings proceeds from numbers 6 to 1 as one would strum in a downward motion. For the double-stringed instruments like the 12-String and mandolins, the same order applies although there are two strings in each numbered position. The lower case letters indicate the smaller gauge string in the pair.

### Setup and Adjustment



#### Adjustments Overview

All Ovation instruments, undergo numerous inspections to ensure that every instrument will play to the highest standards possible. Due to environmental conditions that may affect the dimensional stability of the woods used in Ovation guitars, adjustments are sometimes necessary. The primary factor in maintaining your guitar's playability is keeping the neck and saddle specifications within factory tolerances. See below to acquaint yourself with the necessary procedures.




#### Checking and Adjusting the Saddle

The Ovation bridges found on our Roundback guitars are designed to take full advantage of the unique construction of our instruments. The contoured design transmits string vibrations more efficiently than most other designs.

"Standard action" for all Ovation steel string guitars is 3/32" at the bass E string and 2/32" at the treble E string (measured as the distance between the bottom of the string and the top of the 12th fret). This action is normally achieved with 1-3 shims beneath the saddle. These settings were chosen to suit the



requirements of a broad range of players. If you need to adjust the action, use the following procedure:



1. Loosen or remove the strings.
2. Lift and rotate the saddle carefully out of the bridge slot. This is a delicate operation, particularly if you have an acoustic-electric model. Be certain not to pull or force the wiring beneath the saddle.
3. For lower than standard action, remove the shim beneath the saddle. Removing one shim will lower the action by 1/64" at the 12th fret.

Depending on your playing style, an extremely low action setting may contribute to fret buzz. When occurring because of low action, this is not considered to be a defect in the instrument. If you are in doubt about the action setting of your Roundback, consult your Ovation Dealer.

The saddle carries the string load to the top of your guitar. As the top and its supporting brace structure flexes with the environment, the saddle may settle into a position different than when set in the factory's controlled environment. Sometimes the movement of the saddle can change the action setup. In this case, adjust the saddle height with the shims as described above. **Please note however, that the factory-recommended maximum distance from the**

**bottom of the strings to the top of the bridge is 6/32" while the minimum distance is 2/32".** The standard factory actions, in 64ths of an inch measured from the top of the 12th fret to the bottom of the string:

*Measured at: Bass/Treb*

Acoustic & Acoustic/ Electric Models	Minimum	5	4
	Nominal	6	4
	Maximum	7	5
Classic	Minimum	8	7
	Nominal	9	8
	Maximum	10	9
Acoustic Bass	Minimum	6	5
	Nominal	7	6
	Maximum	8	7
Mandolin	Minimum	4	3
	Nominal	5	4
	Maximum	6	5
Mandocello	Minimum	6	5
	Nominal	7	6
	Maximum	8	7



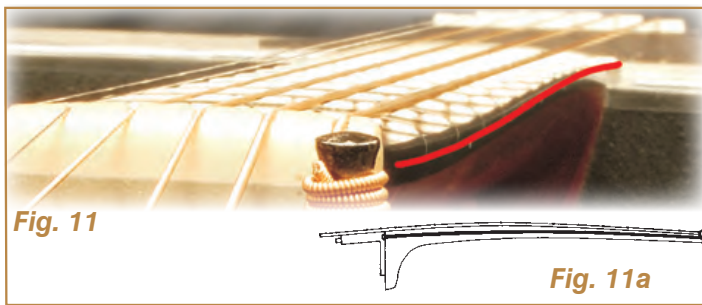
### Checking and Adjusting the Neck

The neck is certainly one of the most environmentally dynamic elements in a guitar. While every effort is taken to select only the best materials and finishes, shrinkage or expansion due to environmental conditions is inevitable. These dimensional variations, in addition the forces created by string tension, can cause the neck to bend.

Two common conditions can arise when dimensional changes occur within the neck assembly, or if string gauges are changed. These are called warp and bow. *Fig. 10*, a view sighting down the neck from the tuning machines, depicts a warped condition where the headstock is bending toward the strings. *Fig. 10a* is a side view of this condition.

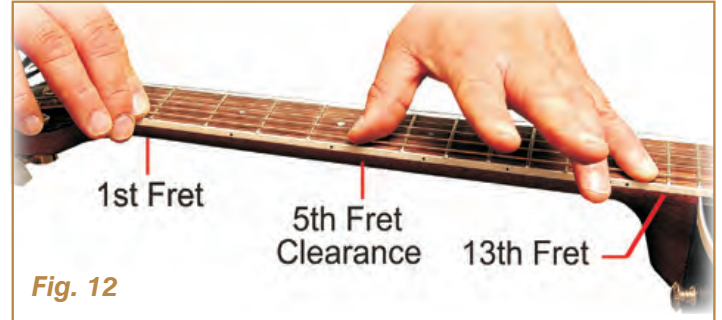


Figs. 11 and 11a show the complementary condition called bowing where the headstock bends away from the strings.



To check for warp or bow in the neck, perform the following procedure as described in the following text and illustrated in *fig. 12*:

1. Depress the 6th string, E, between the nut and first fret while holding the string against the fingerboard at the 13th fret.
2. Check the clearance between the bottom of the string and the top of the 5th fret.
3. The clearance should be a minimum of .005" to .015" depending on the string gauge. It should not be more than .032" ( $1/32$ " ), or the neck has a "warped" condition and must be adjusted at the tension rod.
4. Check the clearance of the first string, E, in the same manner.
5. If either E string touches the 5th fret, the neck has a "bowed" condition and must be adjusted at the tension rod.



All Ovation guitars feature an adjustable steel tension rod. The tension rod serves two purposes. It counterbalances string tension, giving the neck additional strength. The rod moves the neck 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 warp. 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.

If you wish to adjust the tension rod of your Ovation, please use the procedure which applies to your particular model from among the following. We do, however, recommend that you contact your Authorized Ovation Dealer if you are unsure about any part of the procedure.



#### **Tension Rod with Headstock Access**

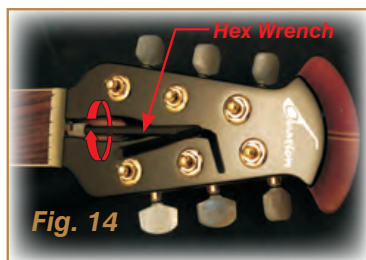
When adjusted correctly, there should be a slight forward bow in the neck. The proper amount of bow can be determined by holding the low E string down at the first and last frets at the same time, and viewing the gap between that string and the top of the 7th fret. There should be a gap of about .010" (.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.

To adjust the tension rods in models with access at the headstock, please refer to *figs. 13 & 14*.

First, using a small phillips head screwdriver, remove the cover screw and cover from the adjustment pocket as show in *fig. 13*. **Please note the strings in these photos have been removed for clarity.**



Next, securely insert the Ovation Adjustment Wrench (#950033-X, available from your Dealer) and turn the wrench in the direction shown in *fig. 14* to correct warp. Turn the wrench in the opposite direction to correct bow.



### **Kaman Bar™ Adjustment**

To adjust a Roundback with a Kaman Bar, find the Kaman Bar adjustment located at the heel of the neck on the inside of the bowl. Reaching inside the guitar, place the Ovation Adjustment Wrench (#950033-X, available from your Dealer)

on the tension rod adjustment nut as shown in *fig. 15*. The adjustment socket is located just beneath the guitar top. Be certain the adjustment wrench is securely in position. Clockwise rotation of the tension rod adjustment as shown



in *fig. 15*, will increase the tension to correct a warped condition. Use the previously outlined procedure to check your

adjustment. Make sure that you do not overtighten the tension rod and lose the clearance at the 5th fret. Counterclockwise rotation of the adjustment nut will loosen the tension rod until the proper clearance can be seen at the 5th fret.

**SPECIAL NOTE:** *The Kaman Bar adjustment is very sensitive. One half turn on the nut when the rod is under tension will produce a significant change at the first fret, so turn it conservatively and check the neck frequently as you adjust it.*

### **Tension Rod on Rear Access Models**

For Ovation models, like the Elite product line, access to the tension rod adjustment is via the access panel on the back of the bowl. The access panel has a screw in the center of the access door. Loosen the screw until the panel can first be slid to one side, then to the other, to remove it. Take care not to completely remove the screw. Reverse the procedure to replace the door.



In all other respects, proceed as for other Kaman Bar models. Note that these models require a longer handled adjustment wrench, (#950059-X).

## **Model Specific Issues and Info**

### **Models with Rubbed Urethane Oil Necks**

A rubbed urethane neck finish is available on some Ovation models. If your guitar has such a feature, you will notice a natural wood feel on the neck. It requires a slightly more rigorous maintenance regime than a gloss finished neck, but we're sure you'll be pleased with the results. If you play daily, apply a commercially available wax following the manufacturer's usage instructions approximately once a month. We recommend the following widely available brands that you should be able to find in most hardware stores:

- Trewax™
- Lundmark's™ Clear Paste Wax
- Butcher's™ Bowling Alley Paste Wax



### **The Roundback Mandolin & Mandocello**

The first acoustic electric Roundback Mandolin and Mandocello on the market, the Ovation model MM68 and MC868 afford the mandolinist a unique alternative for stage performance without the limitations of a microphone.

Maintenance and set up of the Mandolin and Mandocello are similar to that of Roundback guitars. It should be noted however, that the Ovation Mandolin and Mandocello are strung in a non-traditional way, which makes restringing quicker and easier. The bridge design requires the use of strings with ball-ends. Ovation ships these instruments with the following gauges of phosphor bronze strings:

<b>MANDOLIN</b>	<b>MANDOCELLO</b>
(2) .038-G	(2) .074-C
(2) .024-D	(2) .048-G
(2) .016-A	(2) .034-D
(2) .011-E	(2) .022-A

The stringing procedure is like that on our steel string guitar models. Besides simplifying stringing, the bridges on these special instruments allow us to offer our famous acoustic/ electric pickup systems which provides players with flexible amplification options for larger venues.



### **Mandolin & Mandocello Neck Adjustment**

The Ovation Mandolin features a five piece neck with graphite reinforcement which will not require adjustment. If you have a question about the Roundback Mandolin, please contact our Service Department.

The Mandocello has a traditional Kaman bar neck reinforcement and is adjusted in the same fashion as Ovation guitar models.



### **The Adamas Top**

The single feature that sets Adamas guitars apart from other Ovation Roundbacks and especially from the other acoustic guitars, is the top.

A guitar top should be strong, yet light and resonant. It's the flexibility of the top that largely determines the sound output. Even the best spruce tops have their limitations. Too thick, and the tone is weak and harmonically limited. Too thin, and the top can warp and crack. The Adamas top solves both of these divergent problems.

Called a Fibronic sound board, the Adamas top is built with two .005" carbon-graphite outer layers sandwiching a .030" layer of birch veneer in the center; all bonded together under high temperature and pressure. The resulting material offers the strength and flexibility ideal for use in fine instruments.

Fans and braces have been developed specifically for the Fibronic sound board because of the radically different acoustic response and structural characteristics of the materials. Contributing to the thin, resonant top are the unique and highly recognizable sound holes of the Adamas. By substituting the one large center hole of a traditionally designed guitar with the symmetrical series of holes in the upper bout, the strength of the top has been greatly increased and the sound dramatically improved. In addition to properly tuning the sound chamber, the distinctive pattern and size of the holes help to minimize feedback when playing in high sound level conditions.



### **Learn More About Ovation Guitars**

If you'd like to learn more about your Ovation guitar as well as other instruments in the Ovation model line, please visit your Ovation dealer.

On the web, you can visit us at [www.OvationGuitars.com](http://www.OvationGuitars.com) to get latest information about Ovation's history, technology, artist endorsers, and just about everything else Ovation!

**Personal Notes and Guitar Info:**

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**Service And Warranty**

If for any reason your Ovation Roundback™ should require repair, we have a Factory Service Department staffed with craftspeople who are familiar with every method of construction used in our instruments. We also have an established network of Authorized Ovation Dealers and Service Centers located throughout the world, a listing of which is supplied separately with your purchase. All are trained and equipped to handle any problem that might arise with your Ovation guitar. Because of the unique construction employed in Ovation Roundbacks we recommend that only an Authorized Ovation Dealer or Service Center service your instrument. Only in this way can we be certain that your problem is handled correctly and that lasting satisfaction is achieved. Our customers are very important to us at Ovation. That's why so many guitar players around the world turn to Ovation for product quality and after-sale service.

*Visit OVATION online at  
[www.OvationGuitars.com](http://www.OvationGuitars.com)*

## Congratulations...

...on your purchase of an Ovation Roundback™ Guitar. Since their introduction in 1966, Ovation guitars have defined the cutting edge in guitar engineering and manufacture. Innovations in design, materials, and electronics have kept Ovation players plugged into the best in contemporary guitar expression available.

This guide will acquaint you with the features and proper use of your new instrument, and provide you with the information you'll need to maintain your guitar. More detailed information concerning the design, manufacture, and materials used in the making of your Ovation Roundback™ can be found in Ovation literature available from your Authorized Ovation Dealer or visiting us at [OvationGuitars.com](http://OvationGuitars.com) on the Web.

### Kaman Music Corporation 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.*

Address service correspondence to:

Ovation Instruments  
37 Greenwood Road  
New Hartford, CT 06057  
800-552-4681

For your records, we suggest you note the details of your Ovation purchase:

Model#: \_\_\_\_\_

Serial#: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Purchase: \_\_\_\_\_

Dealer: \_\_\_\_\_

## Limited Lifetime Warranty

The manufacturer of this product limitedly warrants to the original retail purchaser that this product shall be free from defects in material and workmanship at the time of delivery. This limited warranty shall be valid for the lifetime of the product and shall not apply to the following components and properties of the product where present: strings, electronic components, amplifying devices, normal fret wear, other normal wear, and any parts not made by the manufacturer, which parts shall be subject to their individual warranties where applicable. Additionally, tone, because it is a subjective matter, is not warranted. The obligation of the manufacturer hereunder is limited to the repair of such product manufactured by it and claimed to be defective (through the use of standard materials and processes in effect at the time of repair) f.o.b. the manufacturer's place of business provided that: (1) **At purchase the buyer completes and returns the attached warranty card with the required information thereon (either in writing or via electronic means) as described on the warranty registration card;** (2) The Buyer (through the authorized dealer/distributor either in writing or by telephone explains to the Manager or Assistant Manager of the manufacturer's Customer Service Department the nature of such defect and obtains return authorization from the manufacturer prior to returning the product or component; (3) At the Buyer's expense, the Buyer returns the product claimed to be defective, through his authorized dealer/distributor, to the manufacturer at the Buyer's expense with shipping expenses prepaid both to and from the manufacturer; (4) The manufacturer shall be satisfied that such defect is not the result of misuse or abuse; and (5) The model number and serial number on both the registration card and the product shall not have been altered; and the manufacturer shall perform its warranty obligation as set forth herein free of charge for labor and materials for the first two (2) years after the original retail purchase. Thereafter, the manufacturer shall be responsible for all materials used in the performance of this warranty and the Buyer shall be responsible for all service and labor charges incurred in such performance at standard manufacturer's rates in effect at that time. This warranty shall not apply to products which shall have been subjected to misuse, negligence, alteration or accident, including exposure to extreme heat, cold, or high or low humidity. The manufacturer shall not be liable for any property damage or for any consequential damages (including loss of use or profits) nor shall the manufacturer's liability on any claim for damages arising out of or connected with the manufacture, sale, delivery or use of any goods delivered under this order exceed the purchase price paid therefor. In the event of unexpected loss by fire, theft, or damage of the Buyer's product while in the manufacturer's possession such loss shall not be a liability of the manufacturer in excess of the replacement with a new product of the same or most similar available style. Excess value (collector's value) insurance must be carried by the Buyer at Buyer's expense. The same is true with shipping insurance since many carriers place limits on their liability. The manufacturer assumes no liability in the event of loss or damage to the owner's product while it is in transit to or from the manufacturer's place of business and the owner shall be responsible for all risk of loss. Any action for breach of this warranty or any other action under this Agreement must be commenced within one (1) year after such cause of action arises; (6) Proof of original retail purchase satisfactory to the manufacturer.

This product is distributed through a network of authorized distributors and dealers who are identified by an "authorized dealer" decal plaque. Your authorized dealer/distributor will act as the agent of the manufacturer and will be responsible for handling all warranty claims under this warranty in accordance with the manufacturer's direction. Purchase of this product from other than an "authorized dealer" may lead to difficulty or delay in obtaining warranty service.

**THIS WARRANTY IS EXCLUSIVE AND IS MADE IN LIEU OF ANY AND ALL OTHER WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION ANY WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR OF FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, ALL SUCH WARRANTIES BEING SPECIFICALLY DISCLAIMED AND EXCLUDED. IN NO EVENT WILL THE MANUFACTURER OR DISTRIBUTOR BE LIABLE FOR SPECIAL, INCIDENTAL, OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES OR ANY NATURE WHATSOEVER, REGARDLESS OF HOW ARISING.**

## Registration Card

**Please complete and mail within ten (10) days or register on line right now at [www.Ovationguitars.com](http://www.Ovationguitars.com).**

Purchaser's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Purchaser's Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Dealer: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of purchase: \_\_\_\_\_

Age of purchaser: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ Yrs. played guitar \_\_\_\_\_

Do you play :  Professionally  As a hobby  
 Solo  with a group

What most influenced you to choose an Ovation?  
 A friend  A teacher  A professional  
 Tone or Projection  Ease of playing

Where did you see Ovation first?  
 Friend  Newspaper Ad  Magazine Ad  
 Concert  Dealer store  Television

What type of music do you play?  
 Folk  Rock  Jazz  Country  
 Jazz-Rock  Rhythm & Blues  
 Classical  Other \_\_\_\_\_

What music magazines do you read? \_\_\_\_\_

Reasons for buying an Ovation \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Ovation Instruments  
Division of Kaman Music Corporation  
37 Greenwood Road  
New Hartford, CT 06057  
A Kaman Company

Model

Serial No

Printed in U.S.A.