

# Instruction Manual for all Framus Guitars



**ENGLISH**

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Dear Customer,

“Made in Germany” stands for quality, and that, along with more than 60 years of tradition and experience in guitar manufacturing, is what the Framus brand stands for.

As a pioneer, and one of the oldest electric guitar manufacturers in Europe, Framus is committed to the tradition of guitar manufacture. Here in Markneukirchen we continue to develop our own ideas and designs with this awareness in mind. Technical innovation, the best selected woods and one of the most modern instrument manufacturing processes in the world are the foundations of our success. But there is still plenty of manual work necessary for building our instruments and so we also provide our workers with cutting-edge, in-house training. This symbiosis of tradition, state-of-the-art technology and attention to detail helps us create instruments daily that then find their way to aficionados all over the world.

Our claim is to make the individual wishes of musicians a reality. Unusual wood, pickup and color combinations - as well as different type of finishes - have the power to make each guitar lover's heart beat that much stronger. Each satisfied customer, and our continuous success worldwide, shows us that Framus is on the right path into the future.

Framus, a family-owned company, is very proud of its history. In this regard we founded the Framus Museum, something that is unrivaled worldwide. Please come visit us here in Markneukirchen.

We wish you lots of fun and enjoyment with your new Framus guitar.

Yours truly,

Hans Peter Wilfer

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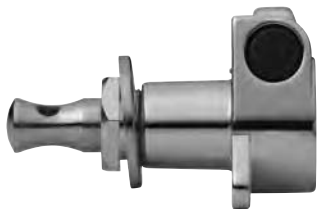
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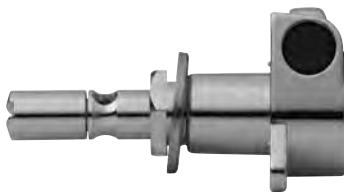
# 1) Tuners - Stringing / Tuning

## Tuners

All Framus guitars come with high-quality Framus precision tuners (15:1 ratio). Framus tuners feature a sealed, self-lubricating gear that warrants high tuning stability and needs no maintenance.



Framus Standard Machine Head



Framus Locking Machine Head



Framus Vintage Machine Head

## Locking Tuners

Depending on the model, Framus guitars come with locking tuners that provide additional tuning stability.

Unlock the locking system on the front face of the headstock with a fitted flat screwdriver or coin by turning the locking nut counterclockwise.

Keep in mind that when feeding the strings through the holes, these should be parallel to the fingerboard.

Feed the new string through the hole of the tuner and pull it tight with one hand. Then tighten the locking system with the same tool you used to unlock it by turning the locking nut clockwise. Now you can cut off the excess string. Tune your instrument as usual.

# 2) Frets and the Plek Machine

## Plek® Technology

Plek technology guarantees 100% perfect fret dressings on all Framus guitars. An optimal guitar setup is provided thanks to this technology.

The neck measuring procedure, accurate down to 1/100th of a millimeter, scans the fingerboard on all relevant points (basically every possible playing position on the guitar). Measuring is done with the machine concurrently simulating string tension. Fret dressing is not done with the usual manual sanding and fret crowning procedures, because the Plek® machine dresses every fret individually according to the previous measurements with a custom-shaped wheel cutter. This preserves the radius and shape of the fret even after the dressing is done. Tolerances that would normally occur with manual fret dressing are thus eliminated.

The end result is a perfectly seated, defined string action along the fingerboard and optimal playability.

Plek® Technology means:

- Computer-driven fret dressing
- Dressing is done while simulating string tension
- Cutting procedure with an accuracy down to 1/100th of a mm
- Exact fret crowning
- Defined string action
- Optimal playability

For further information please visit: <http://www.plek.de>

## 3) String Action Setup and Truss Rod Adjustment

### String Action Setup

Thanks to our collaboration with Plek®, optimal string action setup is predetermined, which in turn should be perceived as comfortable by the majority of players.

Due to the physical characteristics of wood and strings in conjunction with the vibration process please keep in mind that with a very low string action setup, string buzzing is quite possible. The guitar has an optimal setup when your individual requirements are met. String gauge, playing techniques, pick gauge, string attack, are all variables that cannot be considered when performing a factory setup.

#### Standard String Gauges (Framus Strings)

##### 6-string 25,5“ scale

45210 CL 009/046"

Framus Nickel Plated Steel Strings (.009" - .046")

009", 011", 016", 026", 036", 046"

##### 6-string 24,75“ scale

45220 REG 010/046"

Framus Nickel Plated Steel Strings (.010" - .046")

010", 013", 017", 026", 036", 046"

##### 7-string 25,5“ scale

Framus Nickel Plated Steel Strings

009", 011", 016", 026", 036", 046", 056"

##### AZ10 /LP10/MM10 Jazz archtop 24,75“ scale

GHS PFT 1000 M

GHS Flatwound Medium 013"-054"

013", .017", .026", .034", .044", .054"

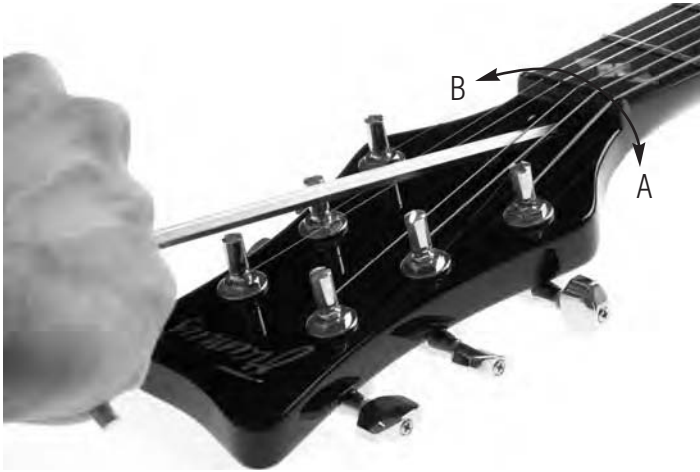
How often should one change strings?

Changing strings is a matter of individual preference. It also depends on many different factors. Hand sweat and inappropriate room conditions can attack the strings and negatively influence the sound of the guitar and its playability.

We recommend changing the strings once or twice a month to ensure brilliant tone and playability.

## Truss Rod Adjustment

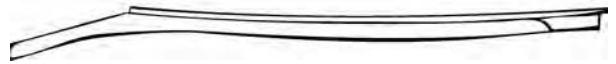
The neck is setup correctly if it has a slight forward bow. You can verify the neck's relief by pressing the lowest string at the first and last fret (simultaneously). The gap between fret and string should be approximately between 0.1 and 0.3 mm at the 9th fret. This value is independent from the actual string action setup of the instrument.



Direction A = Back bow



Direction B = Forward bow



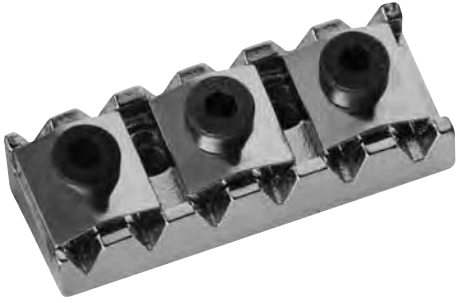
Turning the truss rod wrench clockwise (direction A) will tighten the truss rod and give the neck a back bow; turning the wrench counterclockwise (direction B) will loosen the truss rod and give the neck a forward bow. These adjustments should be done in small steps because the neck's reaction is not instantaneous. You should check the results after approximately one hour and probably check again the following day. Readjust the truss rod if needed. One should pay attention to the neck's setup and the corresponding truss rod adjustment particularly during the change of seasons or during strong weather fluctuations and resulting changes in humidity.

## 4) GraphTech BLACK TUSQ™ XL Nut



From June 2010 all Framus electric guitars are equipped with GraphTech BLACK TUSQ XL™ nuts. GraphTech BLACK TUSQ XL nuts have a Teflon lubrication impregnated all the way through the material, which improves the tuning performance of the guitar significantly, especially when using a vibrato or bendings. The highly resonant BLACK TUSQ XL material also brings out hidden harmonics in the guitar.

## Locking Nut. .



Guitars that come with a Floyd Rose Vibrato System feature our specially designed locking nut. This nut locks the strings and guarantees tuning stability even during extreme use of the Floyd Rose Vibrato System.

When stringing and / or tuning a guitar with a Floyd Rose Vibrato System keep the following steps in mind:

### **First Step:**

Cut off the string's ball end and insert the string between the saddle and the string holder block of the Floyd Rose Vibrato System and tighten the string stopper screw.

### **Second Step:**

Feed the strings through the nut and under the loosened pressure pads.

Tune the guitar with the nut still unlocked. Keep in mind that the overall tuning with an unlocked nut is actually below the correct pitch. When the pressure pad screws are tightened the strings will tune up slightly due to the additional pressure.

### **Third Step:**

Once the guitar is tuned, tighten the screws on the locking nut pressure pads with the supplied Allen wrench.

### **Fourth Step:**

Fine tuning is done with the fine tuning screws of the Floyd Rose Vibrato.

## 5) Pickup Setup

The factory setup for the pickups is such that pressing the lowest and highest string at the highest fret will create a distance of 2 mm between strings and pickup.

Use a screwdriver to adjust the pickup height.

The closer the pickup is to the strings, the higher the output and the sustain decreases. Normally the bridge pickup should be closer to the strings.



## 6) Bridges and Vibratos

### Fixed Bridges

#### Tune-O-Matic with Stop Tailpiece - only Custom Shop



**TonePros Tune-o-matic with Stop Tailpiece, Mayfield Pro, Mayfield Custom, Mayfield Legacy, AK 1974, Panthera, Panthera Supreme, Panthera Studio, Panthera Studio Supreme, Panthera 7-string, Diablo 7-string or Custom Shop, Earl Slick P90/Humbucker**

The Tune-o-matic bridge as well as the stop tailpiece are fully lockable with allen screws.



#### **Ebony Bridge & Framus AZ-10 Stringholder - AZ-10, LP-10, MM-10**



## **TonePros Wraparound Bridge - Diablo Progressive, Diablo Supreme or Custom Shop**

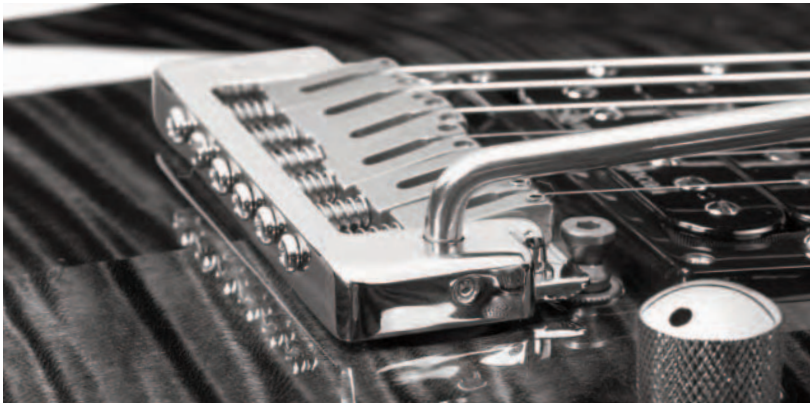
With the wraparound bridge the strings are threaded through the bridge from the pickup side.



## **Vibratos**

### **Framus by Wilkinson - Diablo / Diablo Supreme X or Custom Shop**

The strings are threaded from the back of the instrument through the vibrato block.



### **Original Floyd Rose vibrato - Diablo Progressive X or Custom Shop**

The Floyd Rose vibrato is mounted together with a locking nut. For a detailed description please see page 8.



## Bigsby B5 vibrato with roller bridge - Panthera Legacy, Earl Slick P90/Humbucker or Custom Shop

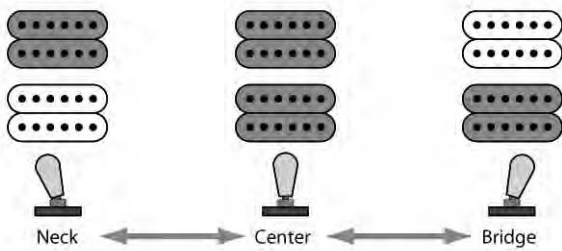


## 7) Electronics Layout for all models

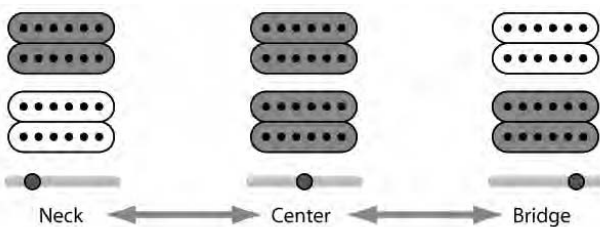
### AZ-10 1 PU / LP 10 / MM 10

Volume und Tone Control

### AZ-10 Custom 2 PU / Mayfield Pro / Mayfield Custom / Panthera 7-String

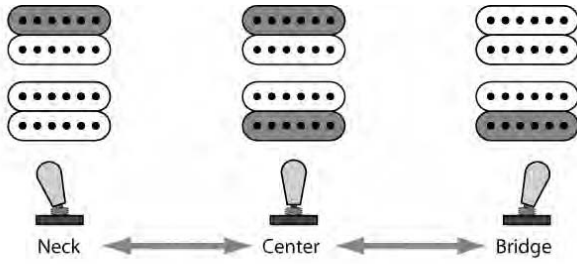


### Diablo Progressive / Diablo 7-string

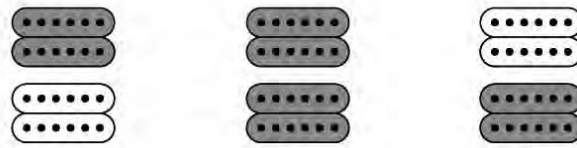


## Earl Slick Humbucker / Panthera / Panthera Legacy / Panthera Supreme

Tone Pot Pull  
(Split on)

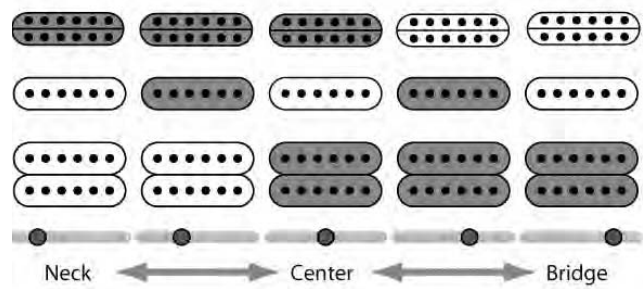


Tone Pot Push  
(Split off)

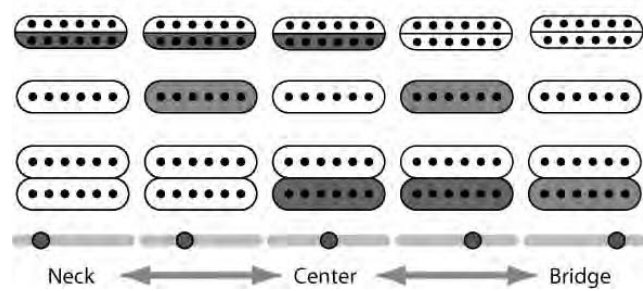


## Diablo / Diablo Supreme X

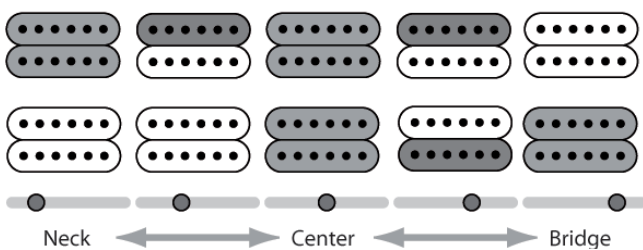
Tone Pot Push (Split off)



Tone Pot Pull (Split on)



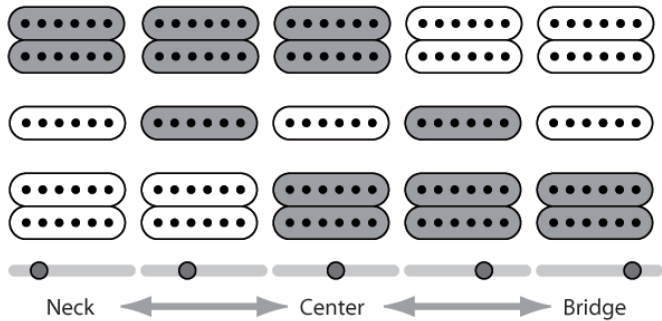
## Diablo Progressive X / Diablo Supreme



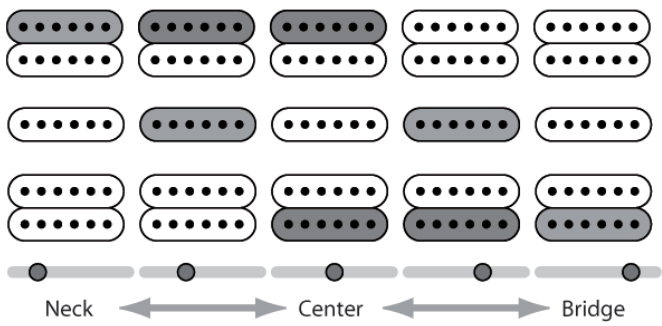
## Panthera Studio / Panthera Studio Supreme

Both models have a so called „Lead Free“ switch. If activated, the signal will be routed directly from the bridge pickup (humbucker mode) to the output jack. All settings of the pots and the 5-way switch are deactivated.

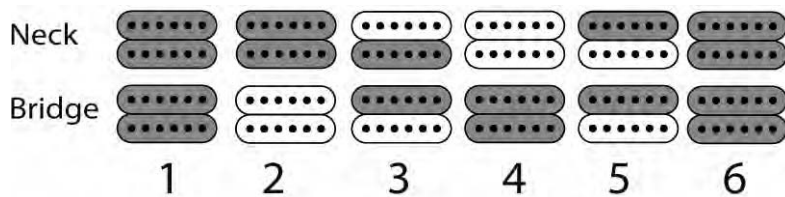
### Tone Pot Push (Split off)



### Tone Pot Pull (Split on)



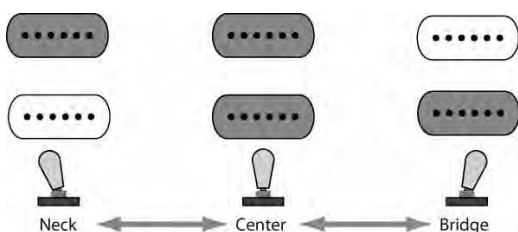
## AK 1974 Custom



In position 1 both humbuckers are switched in parallel.

In position 6 both humbuckers are also switched in parallel, but the bridge humbucker has a reverse polarity.

## Earl Slick P 90 / Mayfield Legacy





## 8) Tips for Body, Neck and Fingerboard Care

### Tips for Body Care

#### **Natural Oil Finish (custom shop option only):**

Use the included beeswax. Apply the beeswax with a polishing cloth using circular movements. After applying wait 2 to 3 minutes and then remove the excess with a dry polishing cloth. The beeswax should be applied a minimum of two times per year, more depending on how frequently the instrument is played. A more frequent application of beeswax will keep your instrument looking great, as it ages over time.

#### **Colored Oil Finish / Satin Finish (body & neck):**

A matte and transparent surface with visible wood structure and accentuated grain are the essential characteristic of the Colored Oil / Satin Finish. Here the surface is either color stained (Colored Oil Finish) or the wood stays natural and sealed with a thin layer of clear satin matte lacquer (Satin Finish). This sealed and non-colored finish does not need special care. If the surface gets dirty it should be wiped with a damp cloth or with one of the many non-abrasive spray cleaners available in select stores or specialty shops.

#### **High Polish Finish (body & neck):**

A High Polish Finish is produced with the use of a high polish lacquer. The wood is completely sealed under the finish, the surface is as smooth as glass and without noticeable wood grain structure. As with Colored Oil Finish, care is limited to the visual aspects. You can wipe the surface clean with a damp cloth or with the correspondingly suited spray cleaners, or you can use polish that reinstates the full shine of the finish and can also get rid of small scratches and typical traces of playing.

#### **Tips for Neck Care (natural oil finish, bolt-in models only)**

You can use our Warwick beeswax (SP W 50015) for all necks treated with a Natural Oil Finish. Apply the beeswax with a polishing cloth using circular movements. After applying wait 2 to 3 minutes and then remove the excess with a dry polishing cloth. For guitars with a set neck we use the same finish for the back of the neck as for the body. Cleaning and care are identical.

#### **Tips for Fingerboard Care**

All fingerboards that come standard on Framus guitars are not lacquered and require occasional maintenance to avoid getting rough or dull. To clean and protect the fingerboard use products that are available at selected stores or specialty shops and are specially made for this purpose. Please refer to that manufacturer's product information to achieve the desired result. You can also use our beeswax for your fingerboard maintenance.



Available at our Framus webshop:  
The Warwick Beeswax SP W 50015 for natural oil  
body and neck finishes

## 9) Easy Access Electronics Compartment

To open the compartment, press on both latches simultaneously with your fingernails.



Lift the upper part with both hands and remove the cover.



## 10) Security Locks

All Framus Guitars ship with Warwick Security Locks.

### Montage:



Put the piece with the outside thread in the strap hole.



Put the ring on the thread from the other side of the strap.



Screw the nut on the thread. Tighten with a wrench.



Press the button of the Security Locks to unlatch it so you can remove the strap or put it on.

## 11) User-Kit

Included with your guitar is the Framus User Kit, which contains the following useful accessories:



- Truss rod wrench
- Polishing cloth
- 1.5 mm Allen wrench
- 2.5 mm Allen wrench
- Warranty card



## 12) Warranty / Customer Service

Framus offers a 2-year limited warranty on all musical instruments. Please take the time to register as a Framus user. To do this, please visit our website <http://framus.de> where you can find Product Registration under the "Support" heading. In case of a defective product please refer to your musical instrument dealer. We wish you lots of fun with your new Framus guitar. If you have any questions about your instrument please feel free to contact us.

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Please direct your custom shop requests to: [custom-shop@framus.de](mailto:custom-shop@framus.de)

For spare and replacement parts visit our Webshop <http://shop.warwick.de>

United States customers may contact us at:

76-80 East, 7th Street

New York, NY 10003

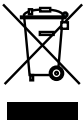
Tel 1 (0) 212.777.6990

Fax 1 (0) 212.777.6994

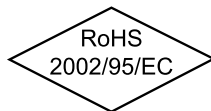
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Visit our Framus Vintage website at <http://www.framus-vintage.de>

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**For technical questions please contact [support@framus.de](mailto:support@framus.de)**

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