

Pickup Height Reference Card

Factory Specs for Every Fender Model

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0.1 Pickup Height Reference Card

Fret the last fret, then measure from the top of the pole piece to the bottom of the string.

0.1.1 Stratocaster Pickup Heights

Pickup	Bass Side (Low E)	Treble Side (High E)
Neck	2.8mm (7/64")	2.4mm (6/64")
Middle	2.4mm (6/64")	2.0mm (5/64")
Bridge	2.0mm (5/64")	1.6mm (4/64")

Why staggered? The bridge pickup sits closest because strings vibrate less near the bridge. The neck pickup sits furthest because strings vibrate more at that position.

0.1.2 Telecaster Pickup Heights

Pickup	Bass Side (Low E)	Treble Side (High E)
Neck	2.8mm (7/64")	2.4mm (6/64")
Bridge	2.4mm (6/64")	2.0mm (5/64")

0.1.3 Precision Bass Pickup Heights

Side	Height	Metric
Bass Side (E-A)	8/64"	3.2mm
Treble Side (D-G)	6/64"	2.4mm

P-Bass Note: The split-coil pickup has two halves. Measure each half independently — the E/A half and the D/G half.

0.1.4 Jazz Bass Pickup Heights

Pickup	Bass Side (Low E)	Treble Side (High G)
Neck	3.2mm (8/64")	2.4mm (6/64")
Bridge	2.8mm (7/64")	2.0mm (5/64")

0.1.5 How to Measure

1. Press the string down at the **last fret** (highest fret on the neck)
2. Place your ruler vertically between the **top of the pole piece** and the **bottom of the string**
3. Read the measurement — that's your pickup height
4. Measure both the bass side (thickest string) and treble side (thinnest string) separately

0.1.6 Symptoms: Too Close vs. Too Far

Pickup Too Close	Pickup Too Far
“Warbling” or wobbly pitch	Weak, thin output
Notes sound out of tune on upper frets	Lack of presence and punch
Reduced sustain (magnetic pull)	Need excessive amp gain
Harsh, ice-picky treble	Poor string-to-string balance

0.1.7 Quick Tone Fixes

If your tone sounds...	Try this
Thin or weak	Raise pickups 0.5mm closer
Harsh or ice-picky	Lower treble side 0.5mm
Muddy or boomy	Lower bass side 0.5mm
Warbling on upper frets	Lower neck pickup 0.5–1.0mm
One string louder than others	Adjust that pickup side 0.2mm
No difference between pickups	Increase the height gap between neck and bridge

0.1.8 My Measurements

Use this space to record your personal settings:

Pickup	Bass Side	Treble Side	Date
Neck	_____	_____	_____
Middle	_____	_____	_____
Bridge	_____	_____	_____

Specs based on Fender factory recommendations. Adjust to taste — these are starting points, not rules.

Download the complete Fender Setup Cheat Sheet at owningafender.com/products/fender-setup-guide

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