

**WESSEX WOODWIND**  
Limited



Incorporating Wessex Music Ltd

## **GENERAL CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF YOUR GUITAR**

Here are a few hints and tips on maintaining your instrument in a good playable condition.

- \* Always keep your guitar in its case when not in use or on a wall hook or a stand, never lay it on the floor or against a speaker as it will get damaged.
  - \* Avoid rapid temperature changes. If you bring your guitar from a cold area into a warm area leave it in its case, to allow the temperature to change slowly, doing this can prevent cracking of the finish or wood. So don't leave it in extreme hot or cold environments like a car.
  - \* Be sure your hands are clean before playing your guitar & keep your fingernails trimmed on your fret hand to minimize fingerboard wear.
  - \* Avoid things that can cause scratches, dings and other scars on your instrument. Don't wear a belt with a buckle or a steel watchstrap when you have your guitar strapped on.
  - \* After you are finished playing wipe the strings and the finish of the instrument with a soft lint free clean cloth to remove dirt and oils, which could damage it. Dust behind the strings with a soft half-inch paintbrush.
  - \* When you change your strings you should clean the fingerboard to remove any accumulated dirt and oils & treat the fingerboard to a few drops of linseed oil rubbed in with a lint free cloth. Also check your tuning gears for proper operation and loose parts. If you have open gear tuners a drop of light machine oil should be applied to all bearing surfaces about every 6 months.
  - \* Occasionally check all switches, controls, and the output jack to see if they are becoming loose. If they are loose tighten them. To avoid breaking any wire connections, you may want to remove the access panel and hold the control or jack from the back, when tightening, to keep the part from rotating.
  - \* Clean and polish the top, sides and back of your guitar regularly. You can use a top-of-the line furniture polish to apply to your guitar, or you can buy any number of polishes offered by guitar companies specifically for the guitar application. If you establish a regular clean and polish regimen, your guitar will always look good. The beauty of the woods will be enhanced, and if you should ever decide to part with your guitar, it will bring a premium price because of your efforts.
  - \* Make it a point to regularly clean all metal parts of your guitar with a good metal cleaning polish. Chrome and nickel can corrode and tarnish, particularly in certain environments, cleaning your pickup covers, bridge, and tuning buttons will help in maintaining the visual appeal & value of your instrument.
  - \* At least once a year, carry your instrument to your local guitar technician for a complete look-over. No matter how well you take care of your instrument, the truss rod will need adjusting regularly, and the intonation screws on the pickups will need to be adjusted, to ensure that you are getting the balanced sound that you want from your guitar. Your guitar may need bridge adjustments also, so it's always good to take it in annually to let the expert make the fine adjustments that will give you the maximum in playability.
  - \* Finally keep the Guitar tuned & play it regularly
- \*Any further problems, or if you are unsure on what to do please do not hesitate to contact us.

[www.wessexmusic.com](http://www.wessexmusic.com)

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