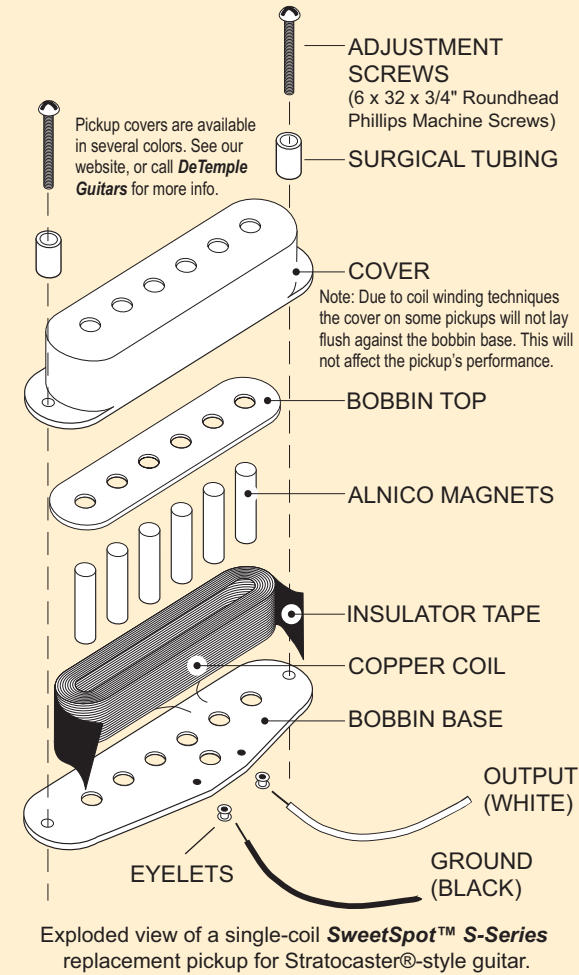
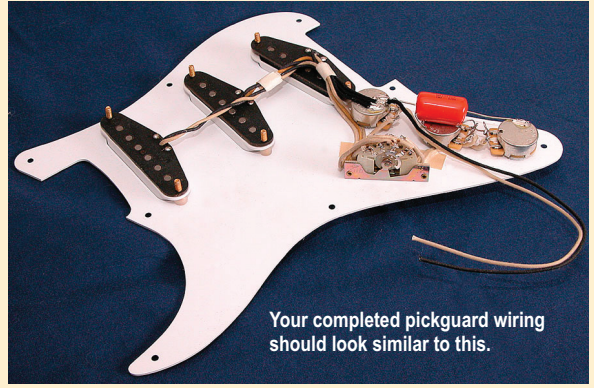


TRADITIONAL CALIFORNIA TONE  
**SWEETSPOT**  
 BALANCED OUTPUT ELECTRIC GUITAR PICKUPS™



Exploded view of a single-coil **SweetSpot™ S-Series** replacement pickup for Stratocaster®-style guitar.

... continued from the other side  
 increase (or lowering) in volume as you switch from pickup to pickup; and to set the pickup locations so that they do not affect intonation. It doesn't negatively affect intonation or tuning if the pickups are too far from the strings. However, if the pickups are moved too close to the strings, you will begin to hear a false note or "woofing" tones when you play up the neck—the result of the strings being magnetically affected.



You can test to see if the strings are too close to the pickup magnets by doing the following: With the action and intonation set, and the guitar in playing position (not lying down) use the pickup adjustment screws to set the pickups so that they are all a good distance from the strings. (The distance is typically 3/16" to 1/4" on the low E string, and 3/16" on the high E string. Generally that will be further away from the strings than the final adjustment.) Plug the guitar into a good quality tuning meter and play the 12th fret harmonic on the low E string. As long as the guitar is intonated correctly, the needle of the tuner should not wander or stray from perfect tuning on the meter.

Move the neck pickup closer to the strings, again play the harmonic at the 12th fret of the low E string and you should see the needle wander if the pickup is too close to the string. If it doesn't wander, raise the pickup until it does. You are now experiencing magnetic pull on the string, which causes intonation problems.

Now, back the pickup away from the strings until the meter no longer wanders. This point and lower is the "safe zone" for that pickup. Repeat this test for the middle pickup.

Generally the bridge pickup will not give you intonation problems. And the bridge pickup is not as inherently loud as the neck pickup because the strings have less movement near the bridge than they do mid-way up the neck.

Generally the treble side of the pickup will be adjusted slightly higher than the bass side.

Intonation wandering is caused by too much magnetic pull from the pickups on the strings. It could be only one of the pickups, or all of the pickups. Usually it will be the neck and/or middle pickup on the bass side. And the pickups can be a little closer to the strings on the treble side.

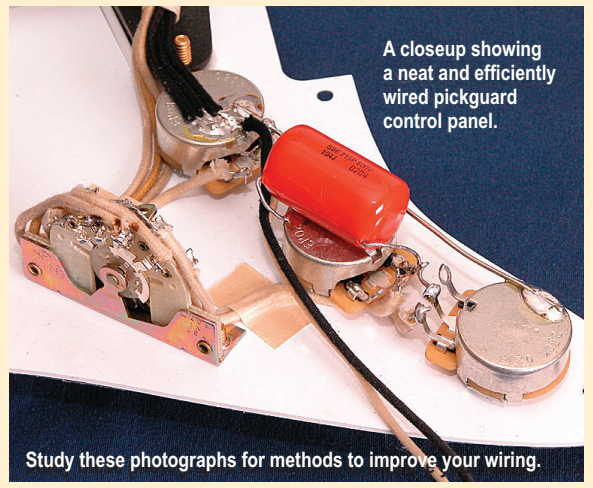
If you hear the "woofing" sound (when fretting at the 12th fret or above), or the meter's indicator wanders—back the pickups away from the strings and continue testing to see which pickup is causing the inconsistency in the tuning. Remember to use your ears when adjusting pickups; they are your best tool.

As you are adjusting the pickup heights, keep in mind that the bass side of the pickups may be farther from the strings than the treble side. Now adjust your other pickups into a balanced output with the neck pickup. The neck pickup is under the string position that has the most string movement causing the neck position to have greater volume.

And finally, while adjusting a pickup be sure that you are only checking the sound of the individual pickup not the combined sound of either the neck and middle or the middle and bridge. Also have your guitar's onboard volume and tone opened all the way, and your amp on a clean, low volume setting.

After making the initial adjustments you should play the guitar for a period of time to become accustomed to where the pickups are set before considering an adjustment. Remember, when you use the 5-way switch to change the pickup settings, there should only be a change in tone—not in volume.

Also note that over a period of time string vibrations can cause the pickups to change height position. Periodic adjustments are normal and should be expected.



**WIRING TIPS**

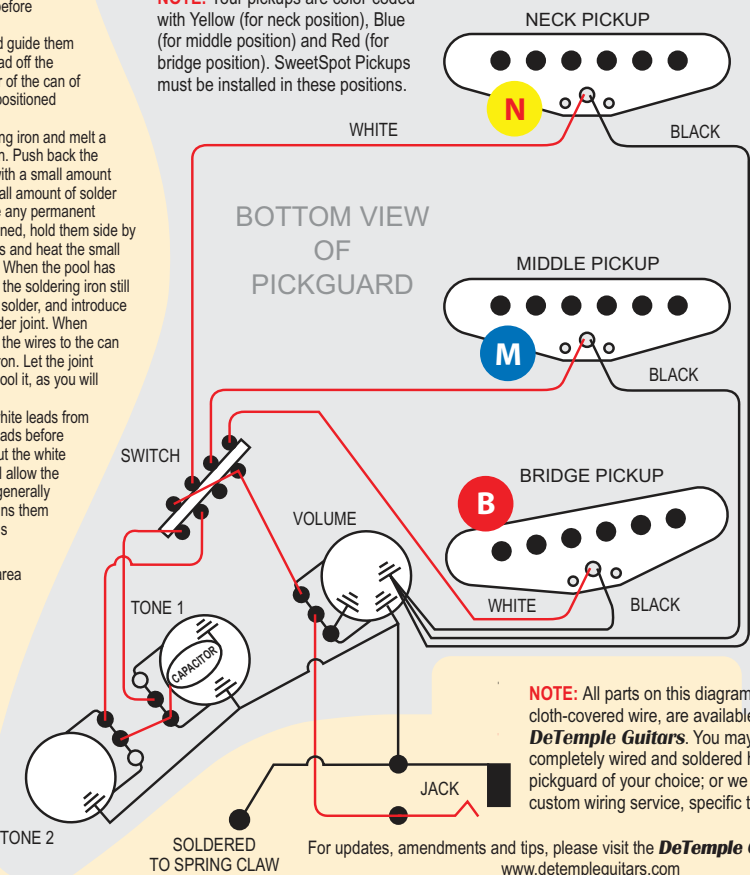
- Before cutting your pickup wires to length, we suggest that you do a mock layout of all the wires to determine the neatest and cleanest routing possible. Twist the neck pickup wires around themselves (approximately 1 twist per inch), add in the middle pickup's wires to the "braid" and finally the bridge pickup's wires to the "braid." *Wrapping these wires around each other helps to reduce unwanted noise.*
- At the bridge pickup the neck and middle pickup wires take a 90 degree turn and the braiding must be done minimally at this point. In order for the pickupguard to seat properly you must make sure the wiring braid isn't too thick lying against the bottom of the bridge pickup (see photo). Lay the wires somewhat flat the last inch or so before reaching the first pot (volume on most guitars).
- Next, lay your three black wires side-by-side and guide them to the can of the volume pot. These wires will lead off the bottom of the bridge pickup directly to the center of the can of the volume pot. When you are certain they are positioned correctly, cut them to length.
- Heat the can of the volume pot with your soldering iron and melt a small, neat pool of solder in the center of the can. Push back the ends of each black wire (ground) and tin them with a small amount of solder. Tinning is the process of melting a small amount of solder onto the stranded wire before you actually make any permanent connections. Once all three ground wires are tinned, hold them side by side with a pair of tweezers or needle nose pliers and heat the small pool of solder you previously placed on the can. When the pool has become liquid lay all three wires in the pool with the soldering iron still administering heat to the can, the wires and the solder, and introduce another small amount of solder to the whole solder joint. When everything has melted together continue to hold the wires to the can with the holding tool and remove the soldering iron. Let the joint cool until firmed up (do not blow on the joint to cool it, as you will introduce moisture to the joint).
- Once the solder is cool go on to laying out the white leads from the pickups to the switch. Remember to tin all leads before making your solder connections. When laying out the white leads make sure you lay them in a route that will allow the pickupguard to lie correctly on the guitar. Michael generally lays the wires on a pathway to the switch that runs them onto the pickupguard and then up to the switch lugs

**A note on soldering:** Always make sure that the area to which you are soldering has been adequately heated to melt the solder and that the wire leads have been heated to the same temperature. If all the areas to be connected are not heated to the same temperature you will get a bad solder joint known as a "cold solder joint." A cold solder joint may look as if there is a good connection but it's not. To hold properly all surfaces must get an even flow of solder to join them together as if they were "one." Only use as much solder as is needed to make a neat, clean and even flow between the joining surfaces. *Always use a drip shield to prevent hot solder from damaging your pickupguard or the guitar's finish*

**LEGEND**

PICKUPS:	VALUES VARY ON TYPE
VOLUME:	CTS 250KΩ
TONE 1 & 2:	CTS 250KΩ
CAPACITOR:	SPRAGUE .1 MFD "ORANGE DROP"
SWITCH:	CRL 5-WAY
JACK:	SWITCHCRAFT
RED CIRCUIT:	WHITE WIRES

**NOTE:** Your pickups are color-coded with Yellow (for neck position), Blue (for middle position) and Red (for bridge position). SweetSpot Pickups must be installed in these positions.



**NOTE:** All parts on this diagram, including cloth-covered wire, are available direct from **DeTemple Guitars**. You may also order a completely wired and soldered harness on the pickupguard of your choice; or we also offer a custom wiring service, specific to your requirements.

For updates, amendments and tips, please visit the **DeTemple Guitars** website: [www.detempleguitars.com](http://www.detempleguitars.com)

Work on a clean, free from metallic debris (such as steel wool) surface. This wire will break with very little force. Beginning and end of the coil wire are secured in the area described. Be careful not to disturb the area where the wire leads leave the bobbin base. Pickup coil wire is thinner than a human hair; the touching the wiring or insulator tape. Extreme care must be taken when holding or otherwise handling your pickups. Do not touch the pickup in the area where the two wire leads leave the pickup bobbin. Instead, hold the pickup at each end of the bobbin base with the tips of your fingers, not touching the wiring or insulator tape.



**LIMITED WARRANTY:** Your pickups are guaranteed free from defects and are covered for 90 days (from ship date) by a limited warranty. This warranty specifically excludes damage caused by incorrect handling or neglect. This warranty applies to the original owner and is not transferable.

**RETURNS:** Returns are allowed within thirty (30) days of your order's ship date providing the pickups are in resalable condition (cable solder points excepted). The restocking fee does not apply if you were mistakenly shipped an incorrect order. Contact us for a *Return Authorization Number* (R.A.N.) and instructions before returning the goods.

**WORKING CONDITION** before shipping. Do not attempt an installation if you are not qualified. If you have experience in electronic soldering and know how to dismantle your guitar, it shouldn't be a problem to mount or change your pickups. However, if you have little or no experience we recommend that you have a professional luthier or guitar tech do the work for you. If you install the pickup(s) you accept full responsibility.

**CAUSE DAMAGE** or hinder performance. and will also attract tiny metal fragments (such as metal filings) which may

## YOUR PICKUPS SPECIFICATIONS

Keep this information for future reference. If a repair is needed or you would like to duplicate this specific design in another guitar, just send us a copy of this panel, along with your order or repair.

SWEETSPOT S-SERIES NECK PICKUP	
MODEL: <b>SN (Neck)</b> MFG. DATE: _____	
TYPE: <b>Single Coil</b> ALNICO: _____ RESISTANCE: _____ $\Omega$	
SWEETSPOT S-SERIES MIDDLE PICKUP	
MODEL: <b>SM (Middle)</b> MFG. DATE: _____	
TYPE: <b>Single Coil</b> ALNICO: _____ RESISTANCE: _____ $\Omega$	
SWEETSPOT S-SERIES BRIDGE PICKUP	
MODEL: <b>SB (Bridge)</b> MFG. DATE: _____	
TYPE: <b>Single Coil</b> ALNICO: _____ RESISTANCE: _____ $\Omega$	
INSTALLED ON: _____	



**SweetSpot™ Pickups** are designed to give their best tonal range when installed with other vintage-style components. Aside from the method of amplification (or recording) and the guitar's electronics, the composition and fit of the neck, body, bridge, strings, nut, tuners, as well as the finish (oil, nitro, polyurethane, etc.), all play significant roles in a guitar's tone. Since the 1950s guitar manufacturers have continued to experiment with, and make alterations to, the electronics of guitars. Most of these attempts have strayed from the sought-after vintage tone. And even so-called vintage-style guitars seldom follow the original manufacturing methods and materials.

To give your guitar the maximum possible tonal improvement, and to compliment your **SweetSpot™ Pickups**, we strongly advise that you rewrite your guitar as suggested in these instructions. **DeTemple** wiring schematics closely follow the original methods, using the same manufacturers and designs of the original components wherever possible. The installation schematics assume you are assembling a standard Stratocaster-style pickup design (3 single coil pickups, 1-volume control, 2-tone controls, and a 5-way switch). The specific manufacturer brands available but they may not be of the same composition and could negatively affect the tone.

## A WORD ABOUT TONE

### COMPONENTS LIST

Here's what you'll need to rewire your guitar. Be sure to have everything before you begin.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>SOLDER</b><br/>Brand: Kester<br/>Type: "44" 60/40 Rosen core</p> <p><b>WIRE</b><br/>Type: Unshielded vintage cloth-covered push-back wire<br/>Colors: Black and white<br/>Gauge: 22 gauge</p> <p><b>POTENTIOMETER</b><br/>Brand: CTS<br/>Resistance: 250K Ohms audio taper</p> | <p><b>CAPACITOR</b><br/>(included with pickups)<br/>Brand: Sprague<br/>Type: "Orange Drop"<br/>Resistance: .1 MFD</p> <p><b>SWITCH</b><br/>Brand: CRL<br/>Type: 5-way</p> <p><b>JACK PLUG</b><br/>Brand: Switchcraft<br/>Type: Mono or Stereo*</p> |
|--|--|

\*Michael recommends using the stereo jack plug even though your guitar will be wired for mono. The extra prong on the stereo plug helps to hold the cord in place a little more securely than the mono version.

All components are available direct from **DeTemple Guitars**, separately or assembled on the pickguard of your choice.

Continued on the reverse side....

After the installation is completed and tested the next step is to adjust the output balance. The output balance of the pickups can be changed by elevating or lowering the two adjustment screws on each pickup. (Some variations do not have easily accessible adjustment screws, such as those with the pickups mounted directly to the guitar body instead of the pickguard.) By adjusting these screws the response of the treble or bass strings may be accentuated or lessened according to your playing needs. The intention of these adjustments is to balance the volume on all 3 pickups so that moving the 5-way switch will not create a radical

**NOTE: DeTemple Guitars™** maintains an inventory of all electronic components and sells them separately, as complete sets, or fully assembled harnesses mounted in the pickguard of your choice. Please call or visit our website for more information and pricing.

These components have been selected for their overall time-tested, synergistic (and sometimes mysterious) tonal compatibility. For the best possible tonal results we recommend that you use only the recommended parts list without alteration.

## ADJUSTING THE PICKUPS

### SweetSpot™ S-Series Pickups Wiring Components for Stratocaster®-style Guitars

To give your guitar the best possible vintage tone **DeTemple Guitars** offers all of the quality components listed in the instructions, including fully assembled and tested pickguards.

- Individual Parts & Components:**
- |  |                          |
|--|--------------------------|
| CTS 250K potentiometer.....  | \$4.50                   |
| CRL 5-way switch.....  | \$10.50                  |
| Switch tip: <input type="checkbox"/> Old White <input type="checkbox"/> White.....   | \$1.25                   |
| Sprague "Orange Drop" <input type="checkbox"/> .1 <input type="checkbox"/> .047 <input type="checkbox"/> .05 mfd capacitors.....   | \$2.00                   |
| Cloth-covered wire (3.5 ft. rolls): <input type="checkbox"/> Black <input type="checkbox"/> White (please specify).....  | \$2.50                   |
| Switchcraft stereo jack plug.....  | \$3.00                   |
| Pickup covers (set of 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Cream <input type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> Black <input type="checkbox"/> Mint.....                       | \$6.00                   |
| Control knobs (set of 3—1 volume, 2 tones)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Cream <input type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> Black <input type="checkbox"/> Mint ..... | \$7.00 (\$8.00 for mint) |
| Plain white or black plastic pickguard.....  | \$20.00                  |
| Stainless steel pickguard and control plate screws (25).....   | \$10.00                  |
| <b>Strat-style wiring kits</b> .....   | \$32.25                  |
- Includes:
- Detailed instructions
  - 3 CTS 250K pots
  - CRL 5-way switch & tip
  - Switchcraft stereo jack plug
  - 1 Sprague "Orange Drop" .1 mfd capacitor
  - White and black cloth-covered wire (3 ft. ea.)

**Assembled Pickguards:** Our assembled pickguards are professionally wired, tested and ready to mount in your guitar. Minimum soldering required. Does not include control knobs or pickup covers (sold separately). *These prices do not include pickups (sold separately).*

**DeTemple Guitars pre-wired Strat-style pickguard**.....\$126.00

**With pickguard of your choice**..... CALL TO DISCUSS

You will need to send in your existing or a new pickguard for retrofitting.

**DeTemple Guitars handmade Italian celluloid**

**OR black phenolic pickguards**..... CALL TO DISCUSS

You will need to send in your existing pickguard to be used as a template. Call to discuss available colors.

**Custom pickguard wiring**..... CALL TO DISCUSS



P.O. Box 56626  
Sherman Oaks, CA 91413 USA  
(818) 782-9933  
info@detempleguitars.com  
www.detempleguitars.com

Prices are subject to change without notice. Minimum order \$20.00 (plus shipping). Shipping, insurance and applicable sales tax (for California residents ONLY) will be added to your order.

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