

CH-3 Artist Harp Pickup Installation Instructions

Please read these instructions through completely prior to installing this pickup in your harp.

The CH-3 Artist comes supplied as follows:

One pickup sensor mounted to an articulated ABS frame, one 9 volt powered preamp, and a supply of mounting materials and wire clips.

Pickup Placement

The photo's to the right show that the pickup system is meant to span the string reinforcing strip.

Normal placement for pickup is one-third of the way up from the lowest bass string anchor point. For example: on a 29 string harp, the main element would be just below the 10th string anchor point.

On some harps the bass string area of the string strip is enlarged and it may not be possible to place the main element exactly at the one-third point. In these cases the main element should be placed as close to that one third distance as is possible. No part of the pickup should contact the string strip or string balls.

Pickup Attachment

The 'feet' of the pickup base are meant to as fully contact the soundboard of the harp as is possible. The feet of the pickup are articulated and can be rotated so that they will conform to the curve or belly of most harps. Dry fit the pickup by placing the pickup against the soundboard and rotating the feet to fit the soundboard.

For permanent installations: Install a strip of the supplied VHB on the bottom of each sensor foot. Remove the backing paper from one foot. Align the pickup where it is to be mounted. Put the pickup in place and press down only on the sensor foot with the exposed VHB. Rotate the second foot up, remove the backing paper and rotate the foot back down against the soundboard. Press on each foot to assure good adherence to the soundboard. *Do not push down on the brass sensor enclosure, press down only on the feet.* Note that the VHB may be used only once, after which it loses its adhesion.

For non-permanent installations: The putty supplied with the pickup can be used to adhere the pickup to the soundboard. Take a small quantity of the putty, pull it and knead it to soften it and spread that amount on the bottom of each foot of the pickup. When spread the putty should be approximately 1/8" (3mm) thick. Place the pickup in position on the soundboard and press each foot against the soundboard to adhere the pickup. The putty will require some force to get it to stick and it may be necessary to press the feet against the soundboard more than once to get the putty to take hold. Some excess putty may squeeze out from between the pickup and the soundboard - this excess putty should be left in place. *Do not push down on the brass sensor enclosure, press down only on the feet.* Note that the putty mounting has been tested to a temperature of 52 degrees C (125 degrees F). Beyond this temperature the putty may not hold properly.

Preamp Lead Wire

The lead wire from the pickup to the preamp is approximately 24" in length. Approximately 12" of that lead wire may be stored within the preamp box by simply pushing that wire into the box in small increments.

Preamp Mounting

1) The preamp unit may be mounted to the inside of a side wall or back wall of the sound box or to just about any inside surface (except the soundboard itself). It will mount to the instrument with a self adhesive velcro pad.

2) Choose a spot on the inside of your harp where you would like to place the unit. Make certain that the output jack of the preamp is accessible through a sound port. Make sure that the spot you chose is relatively flat and that it is clean and dry. It is recommended that you clean the area where the unit is to be placed by wiping that area down with some rubbing alcohol. This should remove any wax or sealers on the interior of the sound box and allow the self adhesive velcro pad to stick properly.

3) Once you have confirmed the location, peel the backing from the supplied velcro pad and press it into place.

Finishing Up

It is important that the lead wire from the pickup to the preamp does not come into contact with the soundboard or side walls of the box. Push any excess lead wire into the preamp box. If necessary use some of the supplied 'D' shaped self adhesive wire clips, open each wire clip so that the wire can be inserted within and peel and stick the clips to secure the wire to the inside of the harp.

Notes: The preamp is a single channel low draw Jfet preamp. Output impedance is less than 3.5k ohms. Battery life for a 9 volt alkaline battery is approximately 1500 hours of use. Do not use rechargeable batteries.

The preamp is turned on only when a plug is inserted into the output jack of the unit.

