USER'S GUIDE

# PREFIX

ACOUSTIC GUITAR SYSTEM

**FISHMAN**®

## FISHMAN PREFIX™

This fine instrument is equipped with a FISHMAN PREFIX™ ACOUSTIC GUITAR SYSTEM.

Please read these instructions carefully. If you have any questions or problems, please call our **CUSTOMER SERVICE LINE** at **(978) 988-9665**.

The PREFIX™ is an instrument-mounted pickup / preamp system that offers total control of your amplified guitar sound.

#### THE PICKUP

The PREFIX™ ACOUSTIC GUITAR SYSTEM includes a FISHMAN ACOUSTIC MATRIX pickup; made with a unique co-polymer sensing material available exclusively from FISHMAN. This technology is not available from any other manufacturer. The sensing material exhibits a sensitivity and dynamic range that far surpasses all other known sensing materials.

The ACOUSTIC MATRIX transducer is a fully EMI shielded, multi-layer sandwich of co-polymer strips that run the length of the pickup. This design allows the pickup to sense the motion of the entire saddle length, providing superb string to string balance, as well as sensitivity to both the strings and top of the instrument.

#### THE PREAMP

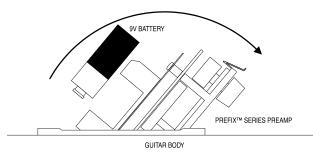
The PREFIX™ preamp module incorporates a unique "flip-top" battery compartment for easy access. Level is set by the VOLUME control. Shelving BASS & TREBLE and a semi-parametric CONTOUR control are included for precise tone shaping. A LOW BATTERY indicator lets you know when it's time to change the battery.

# **ONBOARD ACOUSTIC GUITAR SYSTEM**

## PREAMP FUNCTIONS

#### BATTERY COMPARTMENT

Pull the small tab at the top of the PREFIX™ preamp toward you. The body of the preamp will swing out, revealing the BATTERY COMPARTMENT. Insert a fresh 9V alkaline battery.



#### **ENDPIN JACK**

The PREFIX™ has no ON/OFF switch. It is turned on only when an instrument cable is plugged into the endpin jack. To conserve the battery, remove the instrument cable from the endpin jack when the unit is not being used.

NOTE: Plug an instrument cable into the endpin jack **before** you plug into the sound equipment. Doing so will prevent loudspeaker damage.

#### **BATTERY LOW LED**

When plugging into the endpin jack, the LOW BATTERY light will flash momentarily, indicating that the power is on. When the LOW BATTERY light stays on, it is time to change the battery.

## FISHMAN PREFIX™

#### CONTROLS

#### VOLUME CONTROL

The Volume control affects both microphone and pickup. Goes from very quiet to very loud.

#### BASS CONTROL

This is a boost/cut shelving tone control. The center detent yields a flat response.

**CONTOUR** This is a wide-range semi-parametric filter. It may be used to shape the instrument's tone or to control feedback (see pages 5 and 6).

The CONTOUR Level slider controls the amount of boost or cut applied to the selected Contour FREQUENCY. The center detent vields a flat response.

The Contour FREQUENCY slider determines the frequency band that is boosted or cut by the CONTOUR Level control. The frequency is variable between 250 Hz and 10 kHz.

#### TREBLE CONTROL

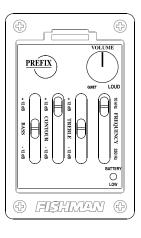
This is a boost/cut shelving tone control. The center detent yields a flat response.

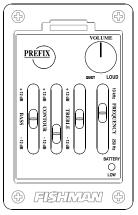
## ONBOARD ACOUSTIC GUITAR SYSTEM

# **SUGGESTED EQ SETTINGS**

#### **BRILLIANCE**

If you are playing through a guitar amplifier or have dead strings on the instrument, you can brighten up your sound by setting the Contour FREQUENCY slider to 10 kHz and raising the CONTOUR Level to taste.





## MID CUT

Boost the CONTOUR Level.

Adjust the Contour FREQUENCY slider until you find the offensive frequency.

Cut the CONTOUR Level to suit your taste.

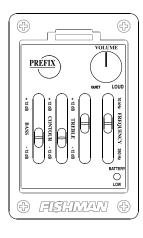
You can also cut midrange by boosting the BASS and TREBLE sliders to realize an implied mid-cut at 800 Hz.

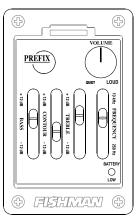
## FISHMAN PREFIX™

# SUGGESTED EQ SETTINGS, Continued

### **CUT THROUGH**

For cutting through a live band mix at high volumes.





#### **FINGERSTYLE**

This setting will add fullness to the bass and definition to the treble

# **ONBOARD ACOUSTIC GUITAR SYSTEM**

## **SPECIFICATIONS**

Nominal Input Level: -20 dBV

Input Overload: (20 Hz - 20 kHz)-2 dBV

Input Impedance: 20 M Ohms

Output Impedance: Less than 3.5 k Ohms

Nominal Output Level: -12 dBV

THD: Less than .04 %, -20 dBV input

Signal to Noise Ratio: 77 dB

(A weighted referred to nominal -20 dBV input)

Current Drain: Less than 1 mA

Power Supply: 9V Alkaline battery

(estimated 550 hours continuous use with low

battery indicator at 6.5V)

Bass Control Range: ± 12 dB at 60 Hz

± 3 dB at 350 Hz

Treble Control Range: ± 12 dB at 10 kHz

± 3 dB at 2.4 kHz

Contour Control Range: ± 12dB

(adjustable from 250 Hz to 10 kHz)

Q = 0.5

All specifications subject to change without notice.



# **LIMITED WARRANTY**

INSTALLATION BY A QUALIFIED PROFESSIONAL REPAIRMAN IS STRONGLY
RECOMMENDED. FISHMAN TRANSDUCERS WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY
DAMAGES THAT MAY RESULT FROM IMPROPER INSTALLATION

The FISHMAN PREFIX™ ACOUSTIC GUITAR SYSTEM is warranted to function for a period of One (1) Year from the date of purchase. If the unit fails to function properly within the warranty period, free repair and the option of replacement or refund in the event that FISHMAN is unable to make repair are FISHMAN's only obligations. This warranty does not cover any consequential damages or damage to the unit due to misuse, accident, or neglect. FISHMAN retains the right to make such determination on the basis of factory inspection. Products returned to FISHMAN for repair or replacement must be shipped in accordance with the Return Policy, as follows. This warranty remains valid only if repairs are performed by FISHMAN. This warranty gives you specific legal rights and you may also have other rights which may vary from state to state.

#### RETURN POLICY

To return products to FISHMAN TRANSDUCERS, you must follow these steps...

- Call FISHMAN TRANSDUCERS at 978-988-9199 for a Return Authorization Number ("RAN").
- Enclose a copy of the original Bill of Sale as evidence of the date of purchase, with the product in its original packaging and a protective carton or mailer.
- FISHMAN TRANSDUCERS' technicians will determine whether the item is covered by warranty or if it instead has been damaged by improper customer installation or other causes not related to defects in material or workmanship.
- 4. Warranty repairs or replacements will be sent automatically free of charge.
- If FISHMAN TRANSDUCERS determines the item is not covered by warranty, we will notify you of the repair or replacement cost and wait for your authorization to proceed.



## FISHMAN TRANSDUCERS®

340-D Fordham Road Wilmington MA 01887 USA
Phone 978-988-9199 Fax 978-988-0770 www fishman com