

Woodstock Regular set testimonials from accomplished guitar players

The following are emails that customer have sent to me of their own accord.

There are many more testimonials on Harmony Central.

Okay, I'm a Kinman convert. I recently purchased a 2004 Am. Deluxe Ash Strat. Loved the playability, but as you are quite aware the SCN pickups really don't have much character. I have used many aftermarket pickups in the past and even have a set of Fralins I could have used.

I'm a risk taker and based on reviews, your sound files and a local players comments I took the plunge. A set of Woodstocks with your solderless kit were ordered, delivered and installed. It's not often a product lives up to it's hype, but in this case it exceeded all expectations.

You make some very bold statements on your site, but I'm happy to report you live up to all of them. Delivery was prompt, installation simple and the tone is incredible. I have two other Strats, a 62 which is mostly original and an early 90's AM Std with CS Fat 50's. The new strat was the better player when I got it and now is more toneful. The woodstocks are the most dynamic and responsive I've ever played. Pickup height adjustment does take a little time, but your efforts are well rewarded.

I can't recall a product that provided more value for the money, nor one that provided such an instant dramatic improvement in my music. I should mention that every detail from construction, soldering and packaging is top shelf quality through out.

Now my only complaint is my other two strats are a bit lifeless. Maybe traditionals in the 62 and blues in the Am Std. Thanks for making the best pickups money can buy.

Tom Hall

Melbourne, Florida, USA

Suddenly I felt like Alice after she had taken the pills that made her larger. I closed my eyes, lazily raked my pick across the red-hot coals of my Kinman's, and pure guitar fire consumed the closest 1000 people.

Fortunately the sound was so thick it eventually turned the air into water, which saved the rest of my imaginary audience.

Thank God Jimi never got his hands on Kinman pickups or none of us would have survived the 60s. If mortals can sound like this, the guitar gods could unwittingly kick off the second Big Bang! Thanks for such excellent pickups.

Charles Thurston

Chris - I have been playing my Woodstocks for a month now and I haven't been able to stop playing long enough to write this thank you. My music, which is based on my tone has improved 1000% since Eric installed them in my American Strat and I now have the finest sounding Strat and True Tele sound all in one Strat with the push/pull option Eric wired in which gives me the Neck and Bridge together. He did the full upgrade and I'm truly in Heaven after years of searching for the most pristine Strat tone I could find. **I do not know how Fender could sell me such a**

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beautiful guitar with such tone-less dead pickups from the factory. This upgrade was worth every penny. I'm playing through my Hughes and Kettner Zen-Tera and my Johnson Millennium 150 both with Celestion Greenbacks. Both my amps sound unbelievable now and I am totally blown away with my new tone and the eternal sustain these Woodstocks deliver. Thank you so much for all you have given us with the creation of these pickups. I'm saying goodbye to my Les Paul forever now...

Bob Niccolai Washington, USA

Dear Chris,

Just finished installing my new Woodstock AVn pickups in my Highway 1 Strat a few days ago. I was speechless when I first plugged and started playing! That nasty hum is now waaaaaay down in the noise floor, and your pickups are far more expressive than the active pickups I had previously tried. I couldn't believe how much output and expression I can get out now that hum and Strat-itis are so greatly reduced--without sacrificing tone!

Hats off to you and your fabulous invention. I will highly recommend your products to everyone I know.

Paul Murray Austin, TX

Hi Chris (and everyone at Kinman Pickups),

I realize you are very busy - but I hope you have a minute for me to tell you how much I LOVE YOUR PICKUPS! I got a set of your Broadcaster pickups for my '52 RI Tele about a year ago, and without a fundamental change in tone, they completely transformed the guitar. It went from a guitar that I always loved but struggled with, to a guitar that plays effortlessly and always musically.

So recently I took the plunge with a set of Woodstocks for my favorite Strat - a Clapton neck on a '60s RI body that I've tried tons of different pickups in over the years. It's a guitar that I'd play unplugged around the house, and absolutely love it, only to have it fail to meet my expectations on a gig. Now, with the Woodstocks, I know I wasn't crazy all those years. At last, my guitar has realized its full potential. And after all those pickup changes it finally sounds like a Strat again, only it's the best Strat I've ever heard, AND it plays better than it ever has. Which leaves me free to make music (instead of worrying about my tone) and isn't that the whole point?

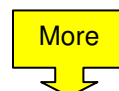
Oh, yeah...and no noise :-)

So...thank you, thank you, thank you!

Sincerely, Steve Lynnworth USA

I cannot believe the difference new pickups and bridge have made to my sound. Since fitting the Kinman Woodstocks and a Callaham bridge I finally no longer regret selling my '64 L Series Strat. The guitar I have now is simply the best guitar I have ever played.

David Dare Parker -Photographer



Hi there!

These are the pickups worth waiting for!!! Still tweaking for maximum tone of course, but from the first moment on, the guitar sounds amplified just as good, as it sounds 'acoustic'/unplugged, with all the nice advantages that Kinman pu's have. This was my biggest 'problem' with all the pu's I used/tried before (SDuncan, DiMarzio, VanZand, Oberg:local pu-maker, and so on). Non of them was able to offer me super-tone with respect to the guitar, no hum, and a bridge pu that is bigger than a normal singlecoil, without being harsh and too 'uppermid-dy'/screamy (strang word, it's a direct translation of a dutch word...). Most 'hot' bridge pu's are aiming for a full humbucker-sound but this is truly filling the gap between a normal singlecoil and a P90.

THANX THANX THANX and all the best from Groningen, the Netherlands.

Jeroen Bos

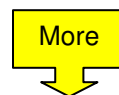
Hi again Mr Kinman,

I took delivery of my Woodstock set at Guitarman's here in Paris, France.

I did all the wiring and shielding of my 10 years old Strat, and eventually plugged it in my Fender Blues Deluxe. First as advertised, no noise could be heard at all, I turned on my TV set that was a few feet away from where I was standing, and ... still no noise! How cool was that! Not that I like watching TV when playing guitar, but if it passes the TV test, then it passes every other interference test!

The comes the tone. After a few minutes, my first thought was: well, they're not that exceptional after all, they're tonally close, if not identical, to the previous pickups I had, (which were American standard fender pickups from 1995). So it was cool to get the same sound without the noise. But after a few hours of practice and various tests with fuzzboxes, modulation FX and tube saturation, I discovered the subtle differences, the bottom end is tighter, the picking and slapping transients are also subjectively better now with distortion on (there is less in-harmonic feel to heavy picking, the "crunchy edge" is better) and they respond very well to finger playing. The neck pickup is "blue" as hell, the middle's got this open throat sound I like, and the bridge pickup is sharp, precise and incisive, and doesn't get too blurry with heavy fuzz. It's the sum of these subtle improvements that make the Woodstock's shine above my previous pickups. Yes they're un-aged, and that's what's cool, they have this modern sound, very versatile, controlled and balanced. It's not that cliché vintage sound. It's bright and modern; I like it a lot, so thank you Chris, you're the Man!

Cheers!



Chris,

I've had the Woodstocks in my '78 Strat for about a year now and just have to say that they're pure heaven. This guitar had been my "project" for 20 years and finally, the project is complete, thanks to your pickups. Not only do I enjoy them but everyone that hears this axe absolutely loves its tone. You probably get thousands of compliments and they're all well deserved. Thanks for doing this right.

Best Regards,

Paul Malta, Guitarist, NYC, NY

Bought a set of Woodstocks for my Clapton signature strat. These pickups combined with the electronics of the clapton strat is fantastic. Warm, fat and with a top end that sounds like velvet. A magical strat tone, and paired with the electronics in the clapton strat very flexible.

I usually don't send in rave letters about products I like but this time I couldn't stop myself:-) Very,very pleased with my sound and I'll be ordering a set for my backup strat also.

A big thank you for these. L-G Pekkari

Hi Chris,

I wrote some time ago to say how pleased I was with your AVn-Blues set. I have just had a set of Woodstocks fitted to another Strat and all I can say is that I am in Strat Tone Heaven!.

Thanks for these fantastic pick ups,

sincerely,

Mo (England)

I just got my guitar back from my guitar tech after having Kinman Woodstocks installed. Wow! I can't believe the tone I'm getting. The sound is absolutely incredible. Ballsy definition, warm cleans when I back off the tone. Beautiful. The way the Strat was meant to sound. Oh yeah, almost forgot -- there's no hum.

Buy these for the tone. The lack of hum is just an added bonus. Rich Snyder USA

Recently purchased your AVn-69 (Woodstock's) from Eric Miller----I've had numerous sets of Kinman's over the years----enjoyed them all, but the Woodstock's seem to be the pinnacle and the end result of your tireless labor to nail the "tone"--- I've been playing for 35 years and I'm not taken aback very easily----I was with these p/us---keep up the great work---more people appreciate you than you could ever know.

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Dave Nichols USA

Hi Chris

Your Woodstocks are amazing! And I've come to really like the Woodstock bridge pickup. It's the absolute best Strat bridge pickup I've heard!

I am delighted with both sets and couldn't want anything more for my Strats. I love 'em! I find the things I like the best are those that grow on me. Thanks for your incredible service - I seriously doubt that ANYBODY in this industry provides the level of service that you do.

Thanks Chris, I won't stop raving about Kinman pickups and service for a long time!

Cheers, Jim

Hi Chris

Just a little note to let you know that I think I like my Woodstocks even more now than when I first put them in! I recently got a newish Fender Deluxe Reverb RI and now my Strat sounds HUGE! Big barking twang from the bridge pickup - finally exactly the tone I've wanted out of a Strat. Every setting on the guitar sounds beautiful. The in-betweens are perfect and the neck pickup is clear but woody in just the right way. Sorry for sounding like ad copy...

So thanks mate.....James Rogers

Chris,

Just wanted to drop you a line to express my gratitude for all your hard work. In the last few months I've installed a mixed strat set (woodstock in the neck, anv in the mid, scn at the bridge) in my strat and a broadcaster set in my tele-ish homemade guitar.

The results have been nothing short of phenomenal.

I've tried quite a few noise free replacements, but none, I mean none came even close to this. I can't say how close to vintage they are as I have no access to the real deal for comparison, but to my ears they are the most transparent yet warm of anything I've ever owned.

And they just spank the bejesus out of my DR Z Maz 18 without any shrill nastiness. You've done it.

Thanks, Bob Bain (Seattle, Wa)

