

Basic Virtual Vintage® / Strat Wiring

Introduction:

This is the classic Strat 5-way setup. You have the neck, middle and bridge pickups in the 1, 3 and 5 positions, neck & middle in position 2 and middle & bridge in position 4. The diagram shows the Virtual Vintage® color code, but the same layout can also be applied to standard 2-conductor single coils, usually by substituting the white wire of most coils for the red wire from the Virtual Vintage®, and the single-coil black wire for the Virtual Vintage® green.

Notes:

Resistance values of the controls depends upon the specific pickups and individual taste. Standard single-coils, Area '58™, Area '61™, Virtual Vintage® '54 Pro and Virtual Vintage® Heavy 2 models will all perform well with 250K controls (EP1200). The rest of Virtual Vintage® line performs best with 500K controls (EP1201). If you want to make the sound brighter, try a 1 Megohm tone control (EP1202). We have shown vintage Strat wiring, which has the two tone controls sharing a single capacitor. We recommend a .022 or a .033mfd. capacitor. The higher value rolls off more treble as the control is turned down. The diagram also shows a resistor and capacitor across the volume control. These components restore the treble response that is sometimes lost when the volume control is turned down. They don't have any effect when the volume is all the way up. We recommend a 560 pf capacitor and a 300K resistor. Some players like the way the sound "warms up" as the control is turned down, so these components are optional. The values are also optional - using a bigger capacitor will increase the bass as the control is turned down.

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