

Guitar NutBuster®

Tune Stabilizing System

With On-Board Micro-Tuners



***For Standard (6) String Electric and Acoustic Guitars
having a fretboard that ends at the nut.***

These are guitars that typically have a headstock with (3) tuners on-each-side, but not always.

***IMPORTANT NOTE: Use (Setup Guide A) for Standard (6) String Electric and Acoustic Guitars
having a fretboard that extends past the nut.***

Patents:
US 9,208,757
US 9,972,289

MADE IN USA

Setup Guide (B)

Guitar NutBuster®

Tune Stabilizing System

With On-Board Micro-Tuners

Take Control...



of Tuning Problems!

The Guitar NutBuster® is an attachable and non-invasive Locking Tune Stabilizing System that's easy to use and offers significant control over the most common tuning problems.



Designed to be used on Standard 6-String Electric and Acoustic Guitars having a common 1-3/8" (34.93mm), 1-13/32" (35.72mm) or 1-7/16" (36.51mm) Low E String to High E String Spread at the Nut. These are guitar models having a Total Nut Width of 1-11/16" (+/- 1/32") or (42.07mm to 43.66mm).

See ([Compatibility](#)) for more Guitar Compatibility Details

Congratulations and Thank You for purchasing the **Guitar NutBuster® Tune Stabilizing System!**

Proper setup and procedure by closely following this Setup Guide is key to gaining the most benefit and having the very best experience possible while using the Guitar NutBuster®.

The Guitar NutBuster® offers significant control over the most common tuning problems that are associated with a guitar's nut however, your overall tune stabilizing success will also depend upon the quality and functionality of your guitars bridge hardware.

It is recommended to use a new set of guitar strings and the aid of a digital tuner during the installation.

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Intro

Preparing For Installation (Raising the Micro-Tuners)

Loosen and raise all (6) Micro-Tuners (do not remove) in order to open-up the string paths and allow adequate clearance for the new strings to easily pass-through during installation.

- 1 Blocked Micro-Tuner string paths.



(Blocked string paths)

(Fig.1)

- 2 Slightly raise Micro-Tuners by loosening. (Do Not Remove)



(Opened string path)

(Fig.2)

- 3 Allow adequate clearance for the new strings to easily pass-through during installation.



(Opened string paths)

(Fig.3)

Preparing For Installation (Raising the Clamp Blocks)

Using the (2.5mm) Allen key provided, loosen and raise all (3) Clamp Blocks (do not remove) in order to open-up the string paths and allow adequate clearance for the new strings to easily pass-through during installation. By patented design, the Clamp Blocks will automatically lift upward when loosened alleviating the need for them to ever be removed. Reset the Allen Key back onto its magnet holder when finished.

①

Blocked Clamp Block string paths.



(Blocked string paths)

(Fig.4)

②

Use the Allen Key provided to slightly raise the Clamp Blocks by loosening. (Do Not Remove)



(Opened string path)

(Fig.5)

③

Allow adequate clearance for the new strings to easily pass-through during installation. Reset the Allen key onto its magnet holder when finished.



(Opened string paths)

(Fig.6)

Initial Setup & Sliding into Position

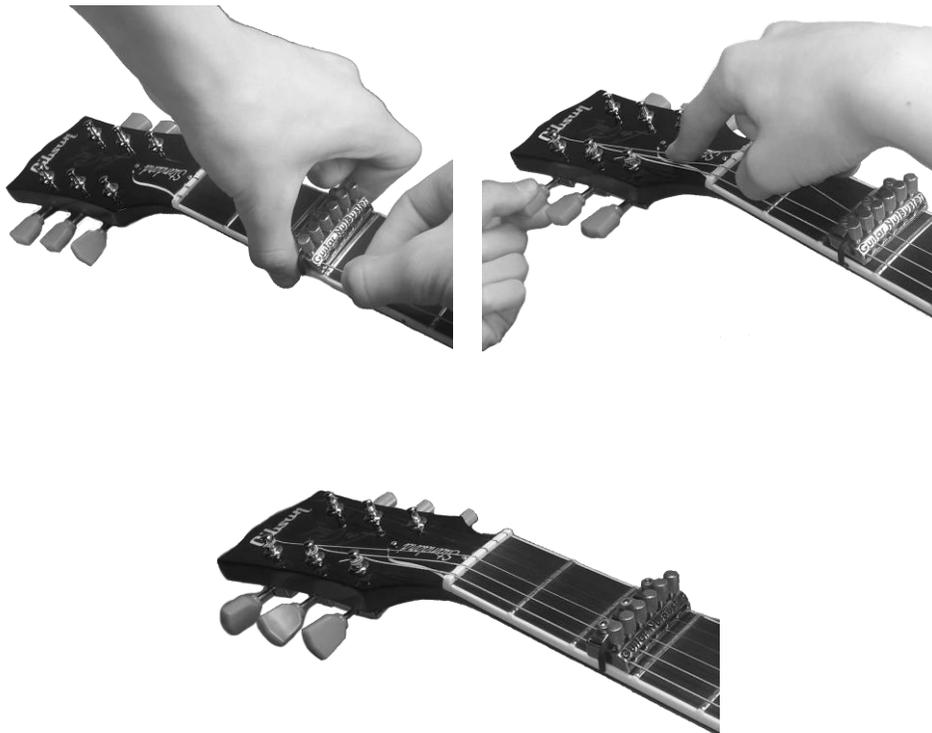
The Guitar NutBuster® is installed by simply fishing the strings through it and into the guitar tuners during a normal string change routine. Begin by removing all of the old strings. It is recommended to use a new set of guitar strings and the aid of a digital tuner during installation.

This setup guide is for standard (6) string electric and acoustic guitars having a fretboard that ends at the nut. These are guitars that typically have a headstock with (3) tuners on-each-side, but not always.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Use (Setup Guide A) for Standard (6) String Electric and Acoustic Guitars having a fretboard that extends past the nut.

①

Stringing Up: Temporarily placing the Guitar NutBuster® on the fretboard is very helpful during the initial installation. String up the guitar as normal while fishing them through the Guitar NutBuster® and into the guitar tuners. Keeping a slight tension on each string as they're installed will gently hold the Guitar NutBuster® in place until all (6) strings have been attached.

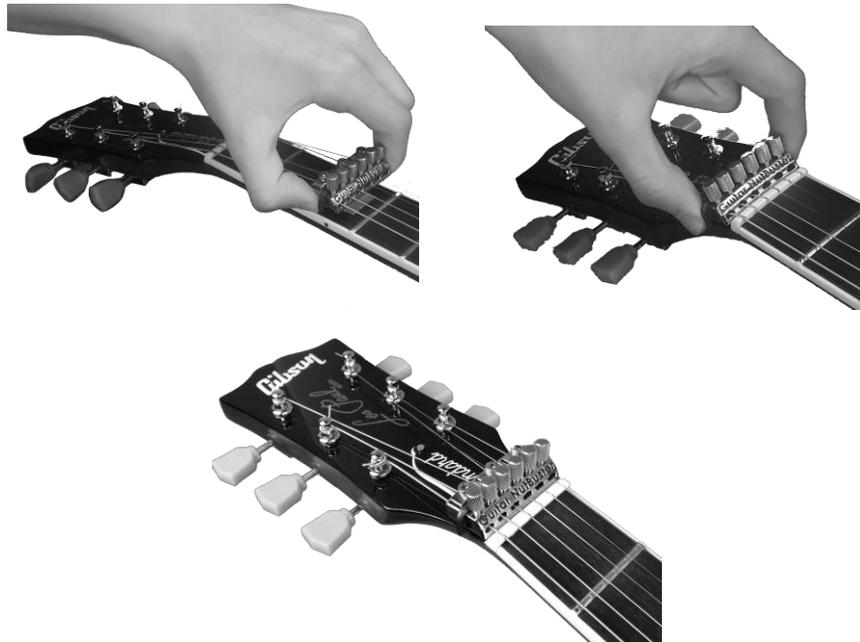


(Fishing the strings though the Guitar NutBuster® and into the guitar tuners)

(Fig.7)

2

Sliding Into Position: With all strings now attached, hold the Guitar NutBuster® with one hand and pull upward to maintain some tension on the strings. With your other hand, slightly loosen each string just enough to safely lift-up and slide the Guitar NutBuster® down the neck and then carefully up and over the nut into its proper working position over the headstock. (If available, a slight dip of the tremolo bar could also assist with this step). Slightly tighten each string back up to put some tension back on them.



(Lift-up and slide the Guitar NutBuster® down the neck and then carefully up and over the nut into its proper working position. Only if applicable, it may be necessary to remove one of the truss rod cover screws if it becomes in contact with the Guitar NutBuster® when properly positioned.)

(Fig.8)

3

Proper Positioning:



(Suspended over the headstock, positioned straight and parallel with the nut, each string is centered within the Micro-Tuner arched openings and can be in direct contact with the nut.)

(Fig.9)

Lowering the Micro-Tuners and Clamp Blocks

The Guitar NutBuster® should be suspended on the strings and located in its proper setup position over the guitar neck headstock.

- 1 Slowly lower all (6) Micro-Tuners until they make contact with the string and then back off each one by $\frac{1}{4}$ turn.



(Lower all Micro-Tuners to within $\frac{1}{4}$ turn of contacting the strings)

(Fig. 10)

- 2 Using the Allen key provided, slowly lower the Clamp Blocks until they become snug and then back them off only by $\frac{1}{4}$ turn.



(Lower all Clamp Blocks to within $\frac{1}{4}$ turn of being snug)

(Fig. 11)

- 3 At this point, the Guitar NutBuster® should still slide on the strings and is located in its proper working position over the headstock with the Micro-Tuners and Clamp Blocks lowered to within $\frac{1}{4}$ turn of being engaged.



(Located in its proper working position over the headstock)

(Fig. 12)

Stretching-Out the Strings and Initial Tuning

①

Stretching -Out the Strings: To avoid unnecessary tuning adjustments after the Guitar NutBuster® is put into use; it is necessary to thoroughly stretch-out the strings and re-tune the guitar as needed before proceeding. (If applicable, don't use tremolo)



(Thoroughly stretch-out the strings and tune-up guitar as needed before proceeding)

(Fig.13)

At this point, the strings should be thoroughly stretched-out, the Guitar NutBuster® is loose and suspended on the strings, located in its proper working position and the guitar is in-tune.

②

Initial Tuning: Slightly De-Tune Each String Using the Headstock Tuners: Each string will need to be slightly "de-tuned" only by a few cents from its proper pitch using the headstock tuners. (This process is necessary for properly engaging and setting up the Micro-Tuners when tuning the guitar back up to proper pitch.

Note: Over de-tuning here can significantly reduce the Micro-Tuner's "Usable Range" once they're engaged and put into use. Try to only de-tune just enough necessary in order to leave an optimum "Usable Range" for future fine-tuning adjustments. A greater feel for this will develop over usage.



(Use the guitar's headstock tuners to slightly "De-Tune" each string from its proper pitch)

(Fig.14)

Clamping Down/Tune Locking

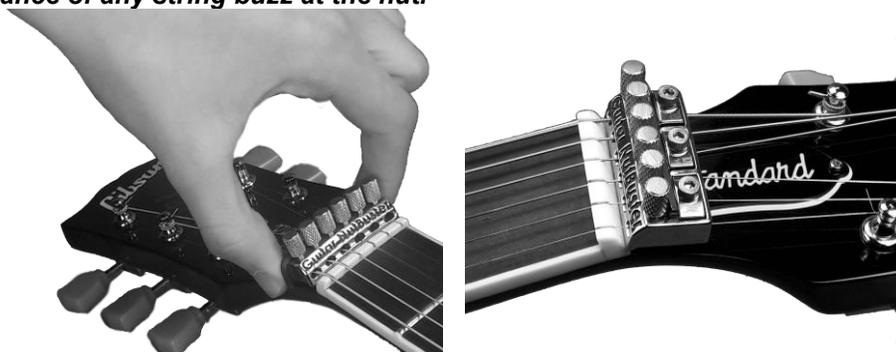
The Clamping Down/Tune Locking feature combines and bands together the individual tension of each string to create a collective and unified tension forcing the strings to move in unison and return back to their clamped down/tune locked “in tune” positions. At this point, each string should be slightly detuned from its proper pitch by a few cents.

①

Proper Working Position Check List:

- ☑ The Guitar NutBuster® is suspended over the headstock, straight and parallel with the nut.
- ☑ The Guitar NutBuster® can be placed in direct contact with the nut for best results.
- ☑ Each string is centered within the Micro-Tuner arched openings.
- ☑ The Micro-Tuners are lowered to within $\frac{1}{4}$ turn of being in contact with the strings.
- ☑ The Clamp Blocks are lowered to within $\frac{1}{4}$ Allen Key turn of being snug.

Note: Having an even and balanced operating position is extremely important to eliminate the chance of any string buzz at the nut.



(Suspended over the headstock, positioned straight and parallel with the nut and can be in direct contact with the nut, each string is centered within the Micro-Tuner arched openings)

(Fig.15)

2

Clamping Down/Tune Locking:

While holding the Guitar NutBuster® from moving with one hand.



(Hold the Guitar NutBuster® from moving with one hand)

(Fig. 16)

3

Use the Allen key provided to carefully tighten down each Clamp Block screw snug starting with the center Clamp Block. The Clamp Blocks are designed to achieve maximum clamping force against the string with very little tightening pressure required. **(Over tightening the Clamp Blocks could result in unnecessary string breakage)**



(Carefully tighten down each Clamp Block screw snug using the Allen Key provided)

(Fig. 17)

4

Reset the Allen Key back onto its magnet holder to always have conveniently on hand for future use.



(Reset the Allen Key back onto its magnet holder)

(Fig. 18)

Micro-Tuner Setup and “Usable Range”

①

With the strings slightly de-tuned and clamped/locked down, slowly turn the low “E” Micro-Tuner clockwise until the string is engaged and is brought back up to proper pitch. This should be accomplished with about a ½ turn.

Important Note: *In certain situations, a Clamp Block may need to be loosened up, the string tuned accordingly using the headstock tuner, and then the Clamp Block is tightened back down. This enables the Micro-Tuner’s “usable range” to be reset for maximum fine-tuning performance. See [\(Fig. 23\)](#) for more details. Once in-tune, always try to leave enough Micro-Tuner thread range available for future fine-tuning adjustments*



(Use the Micro-Tuners to slightly tune each string back up to its proper pitch)

(Fig.19)

②

Tuning Up: Repeat the process of bringing each string back up to pitch using the Micro-Tuners for the remaining strings until all Micro-Tuners are engaged and the entire guitar is back in-tune. Also see [\(Global Tuning Adjustments\)](#) for additional tuning options.



(Repeat the process of slightly de-tuning each string using the headstock tuners and then bringing them back up to pitch using the Micro-Tuners for the remaining strings)

(Fig.20)

Tuning Start Point For (Tremolo Equipped Guitars)

IMPORTANT NOTE: Skip to [\(Step 9\)](#) for Non-Tremolo Equipped Guitars.

The “Tremolo Reset Action” described below must be performed prior to any and all tuning adjustments being made on a tremolo equipped guitar. This action will instantly reset the bridge and strings back to their tune locked & natural resting position or “Tuning Start Point”.

①

Tuning Start Point: This is the natural “always in tune” resting position of the tremolo bridge and is the starting point of reference for all tuning adjustments made. It is extremely important that all tuning adjustments on tremolo equipped guitars only be made after the “Tremolo Reset Action” is performed. This will ensure that all tuning adjustments are justified and are only made when the bridge and strings are in their tune-locked and natural resting position to avoid unnecessary adjustments that will cause further tuning issues. The “Tuning Start Point” can be instantly recalled by performing the “Tremolo Reset Action”.

②

Tremolo Reset Action: A simple dive or downward tap on the tremolo bar creates a gentle “jolt” to the bridge and strings, returning them back to their tune-locked and “always in tune” natural resting position. In most cases, a guitar could spontaneously “sound” out of tune due to a stuck string or other common tuning problems along the string path. The “Tremolo Reset Action” is then performed to reset the entire guitar by instantly returning the bridge and strings back to their tune-locked and “always in-tune” natural resting position. The “Tremolo Reset Action” must be performed prior to making any and all tuning adjustments in order to ensure that every potential tuning adjustment is actually needed and is justified before it is made.



(A full dive or a subtle downward tap on the Tremolo Bar creates a gentle “jolt” to the bridge and strings freeing them to return back to their tune locked and natural “in-tune” resting position)

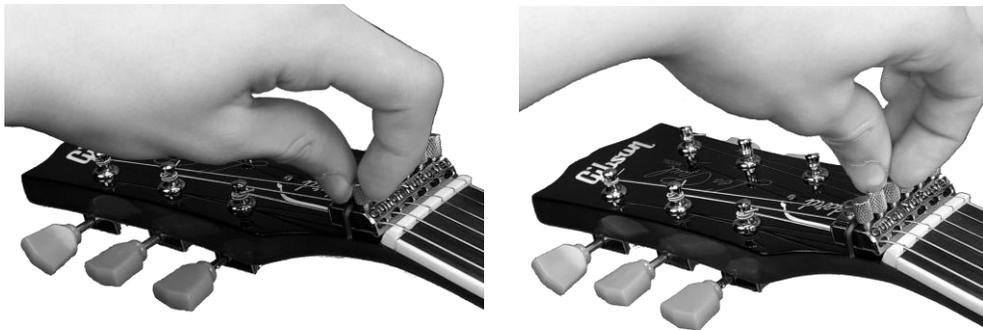
(Fig.21)

Final Tuning Adjustments

With the Guitar NutBuster® properly installed and clamped down into position, the guitar will need a final Micro-Tuner adjustment before it is ready for use.

①

Micro Tuning Adjustments: Use the On-Board Micro-Tuners for all fine-tuning adjustments. To help assist the Micro-Tuners it is recommended to also incorporate the headstock tuners for subtle [\(Global Tuning Adjustments\)](#). Using the Micro-Tuners in combination with the headstock tuners will dramatically simplify the entire tuning maintenance experience and significantly reduce the need to for unclamping the blocks.



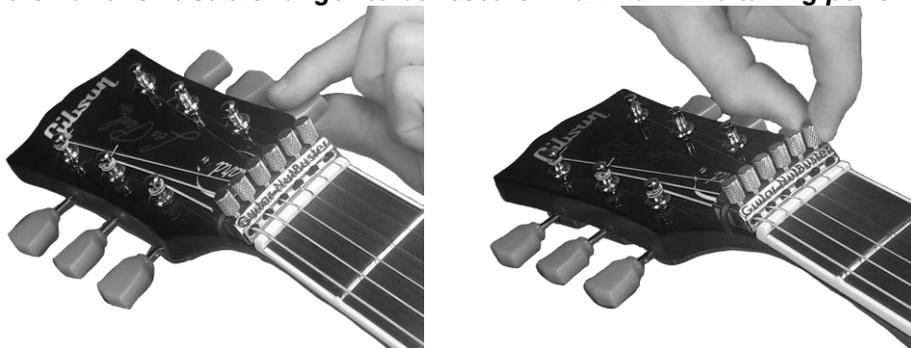
(Use the On-Board Micro-Tuners for all fine-tuning adjustments)

(Fig.22)

②

Micro-Tuner “Usable Range” Reset: If a Micro-Tuner becomes too hard to tighten or use, it will need it’s “usable range” to be reset”. This can easily be accomplished the majority of the time by carefully using the headstock tuners to slightly raise the tuning “Globally” enough to be able to readjust the Micro-Tuner and reset its “usable range”. See [\(Global Tuning Adjustments\)](#) for more tuning details.

Important Note: In certain situations, a Clamp Block may need to be loosened up, the string tuned accordingly using the headstock tuner, and then the Clamp Block tightened back down. This enables the Micro Tuner’s “usable range” to be reset for maximum fine-tuning performance.

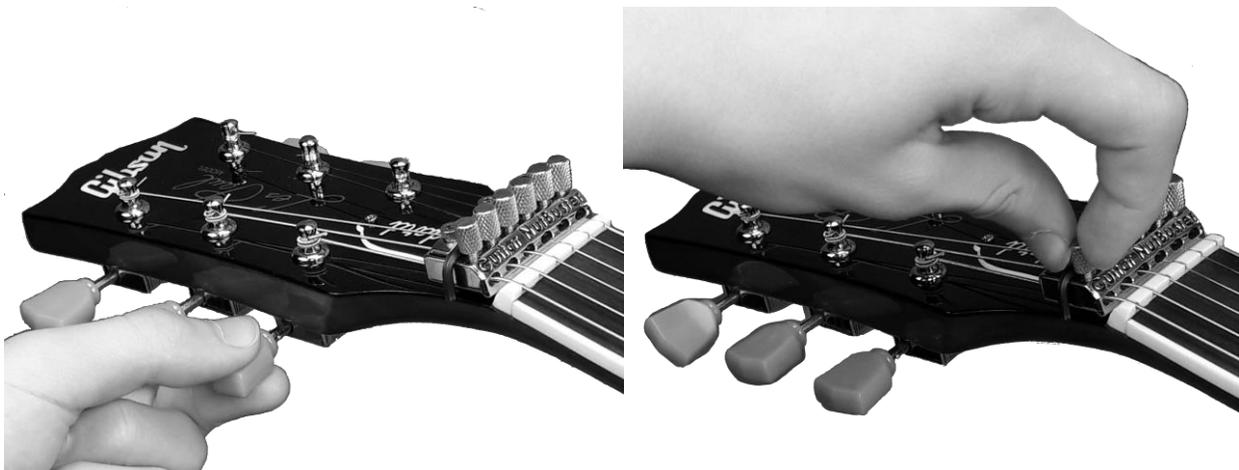


(In most cases, the headstock tuners can be used to make subtle global tuning adjustments for Micro-Tuner “usable range” adjustments without needing to loosen up the clamp block)

(Fig.23)

3

Global Tuning Adjustments: Unlike traditional locking systems rendering the guitar tuners unusable when they're locked down, the Guitar NutBuster® is a completely floating and suspended system that actually moves during use. In most cases, a guitar's tuning can be brought either sharp or flat "Globally" without the need to loosen and retighten the Clamp Blocks to reset Micro-Tuner "usable ranges". The headstock tuners have a limited usable range once the Guitar NutBuster® has been locked down and will need to be carefully used for only subtle "Global Tuning" adjustments to facilitate the Micro-Tuners. Gaining a feel for using the Micro-Tuners in conjunction with the guitar's headstock tuners will greatly assist in the overall tuning maintenance experience and will also help to alleviate the need to loosen up a Clamp Block in order to "reset" a Micro-Tuner's "usable range".



(Using the headstock tuners for subtle Global Tuning adjustments helps to quickly facilitate and reset a Micro-Tuner "usable range", as well as helping to quickly correct tuning instabilities/fluctuations caused by a guitar exposed to adverse environments and temperatures.

(Fig.24)

4

Periodic Tuning Adjustments: Keep in mind that guitar temperature and humidity exposures levels can play a significant role in potential tuning fluctuations. Depending on playing style, even thoroughly stretched-out strings will continue to give and stretch over time requiring periodic minor tuning adjustments to be made.

Trouble Shooting Guide

Proper setup and procedure by closely following this Setup Guide from beginning to end is key to gaining the most benefit and having the very best experience possible while using the Guitar NutBuster®. There are tips and suggestions throughout this Setup Guide that are critical for having the Guitar NutBuster® function properly on your guitar.

Most Common Setup Questions and Answers

Is your existing bridge hardware contributing to your tuning problems?

The Guitar NutBuster® offers significant control over the most common tuning problems that are associated with the guitar's nut however, your overall tune stabilizing success will also depend upon the quality and functionality of your guitars bridge hardware. It is highly recommended to first make sure that your bridge hardware is setup and functioning properly before proceeding.

Does the Guitar NutBuster® make contact underneath with the truss rod cover or screw?

Only if applicable and in rare instances it may be necessary to remove a truss rod cover and/or screw if it becomes into contact with the Guitar NutBuster® and is preventing proper positioning. See [\(Fig. 8\)](#) on Page 4 for more details.

Is the Guitar NutBuster® in its Proper Position?

With this setup, the Guitar NutBuster® is suspended over the headstock, positioned straight and parallel with the nut having each string centered within the Micro-Tuners arched openings. Can be placed in direct contact with the guitar's nut. See [\(Fig. 9\)](#) on Page 4 for more details.

Are you making a lot of tuning adjustments?

To avoid unnecessary tuning adjustments after the Guitar NutBuster® is put into use; it is necessary to thoroughly stretch-out the strings and re-tune the guitar as needed before proceeding. (Tremolo Guitars: Don't use the tremolo during this step) See [\(Fig. 13\)](#) on Page 6.

Are the Micro-Tuners Setup and engaged properly?

The On-Board Micro-Tuners are used to conveniently make micro tuning adjustments after the strings have been clamped down and locked into position. To properly utilize the Micro-Tuners, they must always be engaged and in contact with the strings. A non-engaged or loose Micro-Tuner could potentially vibrate off the Guitar NutBuster® and become lost. Setting up the Micro-Tuners "usable range" during the initial installation requires that each string must first be slightly detuned using the (headstock tuners), the Clamp Blocks are tightened down and then the strings are tuned back up to pitch using the Micro-Tuners. See [\(Step 7\)](#) for more details.

(Tremolo Guitars) Are you tuning from the guitar's natural "Tuning Start Point"?

The "Tuning Start Point" is the natural "always in tune" resting position of the tremolo bridge and is the starting point of reference for all tuning adjustments made. It is extremely important that all tuning adjustments on tremolo equipped guitars only be made after the "Tremolo Reset Action" is performed. This will ensure that all tuning adjustments are justified and are only made when the bridge and strings are in their tune-locked, natural resting position to avoid unnecessary adjustments that will cause further tuning issues. See [\(Step 8\)](#) for more details.

Trouble Shooting Guide (cont.)

(Guitars with a Tremolo) Are you performing the “Tremolo Reset Action”?

Prior to any tuning adjustments being made on tremolo equipped guitars, the bridge and strings must first be assisted back to their natural “always in-tune” resting position or “Tuning Start Point” by first performing the “Tremolo Reset Action”. A simple dive or downward tap on the tremolo bar creates a gentle “jolt” to the bridge and strings returning them back to their tune-locked and “always in tune” natural resting position. In most cases, a guitar could spontaneously “sound” out of tune due to a stuck string or other common tuning problems along the string path. The “Tremolo Reset Action” is then performed to reset the entire guitar by instantly returning the bridge and strings back to their tune-locked and “always in-tune” natural resting position. The “Tremolo Reset Action” must be performed prior to making any and all tuning adjustments to ensure the adjustment is actually needed & justified before it’s made. See [\(Fig. 21\)](#) on Page 10.

(Guitars with a Tremolo) Consider swapping your fixed bridge out for a Roller Bridge

A standard fixed bridge can create string friction issues at the saddle edges, especially when aggressively used along with a tremolo bar. The Guitar NutBuster® offers significant control over the most common tuning problems associated with a guitar’s nut however, it cannot remedy tuning issues caused by the bridge saddles. To help minimize these tuning issues it is recommended to consider replacing it with a Roller Bridge when used along with a tremolo.

Do you have a Micro-Tuner that is out of “Usable Range” and needs to be reset?

If a Micro-Tuner becomes too hard to tighten or use it will need its “usable range” to be reset. This can easily be accomplished the majority of the time by carefully using the headstock tuners to slightly raise the tuning enough to be able to readjust the Micro-Tuner and reset its usable range. See [\(Fig. 23\)](#) on Page 11 for more details.

Are you using the “Global Tuning” procedure to simplify your tuning adjustments?

Unlike traditional locking systems rendering the guitar tuners unusable when they’re locked down, the Guitar NutBuster® is a completely floating and suspended system that actually moves during use. In most cases, a guitar’s tuning can be brought either sharp or flat “Globally” without the need to loosen and re-tighten the Clamp Blocks to reset Micro-Tuner “usable ranges”. The headstock tuners have a limited “usable range” once the Guitar NutBuster® has been clamped down and will need to be carefully used for subtle “Global Tuning” adjustments to facilitate the Micro-Tuners. Gaining a feel for using the Micro-Tuners in conjunction with the guitar’s headstock tuners will greatly assist in the overall tuning maintenance experience and will also help to alleviate the need to loosen up a Clamp Block in order to “reset” a Micro-Tuner’s “usable range”. See [\(Fig. 24\)](#) on Page 12 for more details.

Why do I have to make Periodic Tuning Adjustments?

Keep in mind that guitar temperature and humidity exposure levels can play a significant role in potential tuning fluctuations. Depending on playing style, even thoroughly stretched-out strings will continue to give and stretch over time requiring periodic minor tuning adjustments to be made.

Specifications

- Model Numbers:** (GNB-001-6) and (GNB-001-6-Bullet)
- Size:** L 1 3/4" (44.45mm) x W 3/4" (19.05mm) x H 5/8" (15.88mm)
- Weight:** 2.2 oz (62.37g) Solid Tool Steel Construction.
- String Gauge Limit:** Accepts all string gauges up to (.075" / 1.9mm) in thickness.
- Users:** Works with both Right and Left-Handed Guitars.

Compatibility: The Guitar NutBuster® is extremely versatile and is designed to be used on Standard (6) String Electric & Acoustic Guitars having a common **1-3/8" (34.93mm), 1-13/32" (35.72mm) or 1-7/16" (36.51mm) Low "E" string to High "E" string spread at the nut.** This basically covers the vast majority of guitar models available having a **Total Nut Width of 1-11/16" (+/- 1/32") or (42.07mm to 43.66mm).**

(Please don't hesitate to contact us with any questions or concerns for using the Guitar NutBuster® on your particular guitar model.)

Manufacturing: The Guitar NutBuster® is proudly designed, manufactured and assembled to the highest quality and standards in the USA.

Important Notes: Proper setup and procedure by closely following this Setup Guide is key to gaining the most benefit and having the very best experience possible while using the Guitar NutBuster®.

Limited Warranty: The Guitar NutBuster® comes with a one-year limited warranty against manufacturer defects and will be repaired or replaced at our discretion.

Take Control...



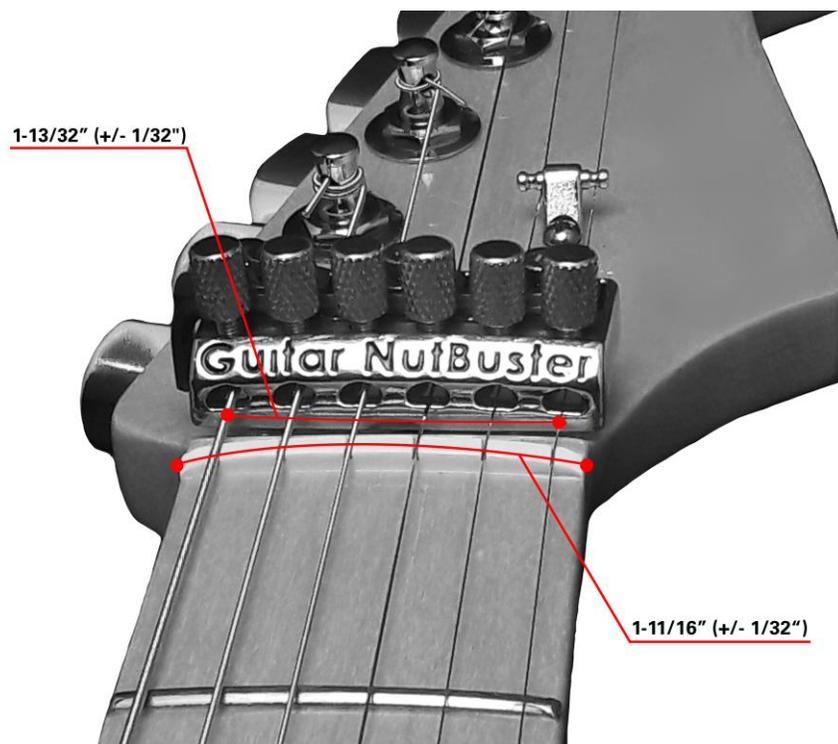
of Tuning Problems!

Compatibility

Compatibility: The Guitar NutBuster® is extremely versatile and is designed to be used on Standard 6-String Electric & Acoustic Guitars having a common 1-3/8" (34.93mm), 1-13/32" (35.72mm) or 1-7/16" (36.51mm) Low "E" string to High "E" string spread at the nut. This basically covers the vast majority of common guitar models available having a Total Nut Width of 1-11/16" (+/- 1/32") or (42.07mm to 43.66mm).

*** Works with Both Right and Left-Handed Guitars ***

(Please don't hesitate to contact us with any compatibility questions or concerns for using the Guitar NutBuster® on your particular guitar model.)



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