

## PRODUCT DETAILS

Abyss necks. This is one of the fundamental places to start when seeking comfort, feel and playability. All of our necks are HAND shaped with rasps and various carving tools giving them the feel only achieved by hand crafting them. They are hand sanded. We use only the best quality lumber to produce our necks and offer several choices to accommodate a wide variety of looks, styles and strengths. Generally our standard neck thickness will be 11/16th from the nut area to where the neck joins the body. Feel, speed, and natural finesse are the standard traits to an Abyss guitar neck.

Humidity and moisture greatly affect wood. This is why we offer several ways to construct our necks, from **one-piece band sawn necks** to **figured woods laminated together**. Another option offered is **graphite reinforcement**. This method virtually enables us to use any figured wood we want due to the strength that graphite offers. Graphite is super dense and is constructed using extreme amounts of composites and pressure. Graphite can be a great tone enhancement and neck stabilizer.

The **truss rod** we use can adjust the neck in both directions. This comes in handy during various times of the year when humidity acts upon the wood. It's smooth action and strength help set up your action and keep it there!

We have two **headstock shapes**, one for six strings and one for seven strings. Custom shapes can be utilized upon customer requests. Our six string neck uses three per side tuners and our seven strings have three on top and four on the bottom. On our standard models we match the headstock overlay wood with the top wood (this is an option at most other companies).

The most common **fingerboards** we use are ebony in the RMX and SUP-7 models, rosewood in the MS-7 and figured maple in our SC-7 guitars. Other custom choices include Birdseye maple, flamed and quilted maple. Brazilian rosewood is STANDARD on our KLX models. We do have a huge selection of any material you might request, so if you don't see your choice here call us or e-mail and we will get it.

Optional on the RMX and SUP fingerboards is a **decorative abalone binding**. This binding is for aesthetic purposes only and is standard on the KLX. We will do wood or acetate binding as an option on request.

The standard **tuners** we use in conjunction with a fixed, non-locking trem or tune-o-matic bridge are Schaller style locking tuners. On Floyd Rose equipped guitars we use regular non-locking tuners. Ebony buttons are standard on the RMX SE model but can be ordered as an option on any guitar.

**Inlays** are used to mark out fret positions. The RMX inlays are American Indian petroglyph symbols that mark out the fret positions. On the Sup-6 & 7 string guitars they are birds. You can check out our custom inlay gallery and see what kind of unique designs we have done in the past and what we are capable of. Anything you can think up can be done by our craftsmanship.

The **finish** on the back of the neck is a wipe on formula that leaves the neck sealed yet very comfortable when sliding around to various positions on the neck. We use the same finish on the fingerboard to bring out the color of the inlays and the decorative binding around the fingerboard.

Our standard **scale length** is 25". Custom scale lengths are available as options. Other scale lengths are 25" scale and the common 24 3/4" scale, these are options.

We use 22 frets as our standard. 24 would be optional.

The **nut widths** are 1 7/8" on all seven-string guitars and 1 11/16" on six string guitars. Custom widths can be orders so check in if you have something else on your option sheet. We use jumbo **fret wire** as a standard choice but you can ultimately choose your preferred size for no extra charge. Our **fingerboard radius** is 16" on Floyd Rose guitars and 12" or 14" on fixed and tune-o-matic guitars. Custom choices are offered.

**THE BODIES.** Abyss Guitars has always been about experimentation. Over the last couple of years we have been kicking around some unique body designs and we feel we have come up with a design that is very classic and classy looking. This is our standard body shape on all of our models, for both six and seven string guitars. From looking at the website you can see there are other shapes and styles optionally available. Any custom body options are billed under the KLX models base price. Our body style is very well balanced. This is just another design feature that enhances the playability and generates more creativity in the player.

We will be releasing a new body style sometime this year and pictures will be posted online as soon as they are available.

The Superior 6 & 7 string guitars and the RMX SE 6 & 7 string guitars have **chambered** out hollow **bodies**. These bodies tend to portray a smoother tone with tons of resonance and projection. Great tones for blues, country and rock. Basically any style can benefit from having a unique sounding instrument within the band.

**NATURAL BINDING** is when we expose the natural colored maple edge of the guitar top to accent or set off the figure and color of the guitar. Usually this binding will be 3/16<sup>th</sup> to 1/4" in thickness. This leaves an astounding effect when used with a 5A quilt or flamed top. On our RMX guitars we have chosen to use **ebony for binding**. It is a little harder to put on but the visual effect is equally incredible. We use clear coat finish on all of our guitars to give them a glass like glossy finish. On ALL our models we leave the backs of them natural and use our clear coat to seal them from moisture etc. The beauty of the wood can be seen with this approach. For those of you who just like custom finishes or painted guitars we can and will do this option also. We have started using **natural wood for covers** on the guitars routed electronics and trem cavities. On the RMX guitar we are using Koa to cover the routed cavities.

Most of the tops you see on this site are master grade. Some are flat top guitars and some are carved top. The Superior 6 and 7 string guitars have AAA carved tops. Whatever your choice is, we can accommodate you. The visual impact of a master grade flat or carved top guitar

with [natural or ebony binding](#) is INCREDIBLE. The KLX model has master grade flamed maple as the standard with carved top being optional. The RMX starts with a flat Koa top and a carved top is optional. Flat top guitars with chambered bodies do have that special • acoustic • sound. One gets close to the acoustic theory using a 3/16<sup>th</sup> • top with chambered out • hollow • body. They project loud unplugged volumes and with a 5A quilt top look just as astounding as a \$4000 carve top.

[TOP WOODS](#). On the RMX guitars we use Koa, which is exclusively grown in Hawaii, making it extremely rare and expensive. Again, the visual effect of this wood is captivating. This top wood projects a smooth and warm tone. We also use flamed and quilted maple on other custom and standard models. Most of the tops on this website are 4A/5A and [master grade tops](#).

The [HEEL](#) area of the body, where the neck is attached, is sculpted away. This in conjunction with the well designed body, gives you screaming access to the upper frets. Our necks are glue in set necks, with neck through and bolt on being an option. Our most common **body wood** is mahogany. We have other optional choices available such as walnut, alder, maple, basswood or whatever you prefer.

[BRIDGES](#). We use three types of bridges. The fixed bridge strung through the body, the classic tune-o-matic, and the Floyd Rose. The tune-o-matic will require the neck to be [tilted back](#). This is similar to the way Gibson guitars are made. The fixed bridge and the Floyd Rose bridges let the neck come off • straight • or parallel to the body.

**The Electronics.** Optional onn the RMX guitars are EMG active pickups. EMG has several extras that they offer in conjunction with there pickups. These are active pre-amp SPC circuits and boost circuits. They are optional. The RMX SE 6 and 7 strings use DiMarzio passive pickups with an active/passive guitar module. This module allows the following: pickup selector, 2 dual/single coil switches and a phase switch. Passive mode includes pull-up master volume and passive tone control. Active mode includes master volume active cut /boost for bass and treble. With this module one has quite the versatility. This is an option on the Superior 6 and 7 string guitars also. Otherwise they are wired to be selected and coil tapped. The RMX, SC-7 and MS-7 are all wired with a three-way switch for pickup selection. Any other wiring choices are options and we can and will do them.

I hope this information will give you a clearer understanding of what ABYSS Guitars are like. If you have any more questions or need assistance placing an order please let us know with a phone call (515) 582-3718. I can answer any questions by the phone or email.

Thanks,

KP



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