



## KLEIN ELECTRIC INFORMATION

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### KLEIN ELECTRIC ERGONOMICS

Much has been made of the design of the Klein Electric Guitar. It is important to consider what this means to you as a player.



When you play the Klein Electric sitting down, the body of the guitar sets the

neck at the optimum angle for your left hand to access the fingerboard easily and comfortably. Instead of moving your hand away from your body to play on the lower frets, and into your body to reach the upper frets, your hand and arm will move freely to travel the minimum amount to reach every fret on the fingerboard. And notice that the body gently curves away from the fingerboard, making all notes, even those on the highest fret, easy to reach. As David Torn states: "now my left hand can do what it is paid to do."

Right hand technique is also facilitated by the Klein Electric. The upper "bout" of the guitar offers a convenient place to rest the upper arm and hinge of the elbow, providing stability for the right hand's actions in picking or plucking the strings. This is similar to the support offered by the body of an acoustic guitar, and offers the opportunity to apply methods described by guitarists with superlative right hand technique.

Whether you are playing standing up or sitting down, the headless design and distribution of weight balances the guitar perfectly. Your hands are not burdened with the struggle to hold the guitar and to play it at the same time - they are free to move, to respond to the musical ideas you feel and

### JOE BARDEN PICKUPS

Klein guitars are available with Joe Barden Pick-ups. Barden Pick-ups are hand-made in Vienna, VA, and available in the following models:

**The Two Tone:** Humbucker-style double coil pick-ups, designed for players who are looking for an improvement in tone, sensitivity and output, without being saddled with an inherently muddy or distorted sound. Wound separately for neck and bridge positions, the incredible low-end clarity and overall sustain of the Two Tone makes it suitable for virtually any purpose, from blues to rock to jazz. The Two Tone has an alternate tone that is shockingly close to that of a single-coil pick-up, of course with no hum or noise!

**The Tele Deluxe:** Danny Gatton assisted with the design and testing of this pick-up. The tone of this pick-up has been described as absolutely vintage, with enhanced fidelity that most players never thought possible. The output of this pick-up greatly exceeds those of stock pick-ups, retains the authentic tone of the instrument, and hum and squeal are completely eliminated.

**The Strat Deluxe:** Similar to the Tele Deluxe, the tone of the Strat Deluxe is absolutely vintage, output is high, with hum and noise completely eliminated. This pickup is incredibly sensitive, giving you a wide range of tones and output levels simply by adjusting the height of the pickup. With this set-up the neck pickup is too "bluesy" for words, and the "in-between" settings are wonderfully hollow. The unique staggered blade design, common to all Joe Barden pickups, eliminates drop-outs on the outer strings.

hear in the moment.

Klein Electric guitars are built for the player, not for the builder. So... what does this mean to you as a guitarist? It means that you can discover a new level of ease in playing the guitar, and find greater musical enjoyment and enhanced creativity.

Comfort is only part of an inspired playing experience. As a player, you have most likely experienced the relationship between producing tones that you find stimulating and the way in which your musical ideas flow. When Miles Davis was asked why he took an extended sabbatical from music, he replied that he "stopped hearing his sound." When the sound coming from your instrument is a disappointment, making music is a struggle. When your sound is "right," making music can be effortless - music seems to appear as if out of the air.

Many musicians have remarked that they expected a difference in the physical sensation of playing a Klein Electric, but that they were pleasantly, even wildly, surprised at the exceptional quality of tone these instruments produce. This is understandable. The shape and contour of the Klein Electric clearly suggests that it will not feel the same in your hands as other guitars do. While the thought behind the physical concept of the guitar is visible, the ideas responsible for the sound of the guitar remain hidden.



Steve Klein brought the experience which has earned him international accolades in building acoustic guitars and applied it to create superior-sounding electric guitars. Although Klein took a radical step in creating a guitar that works with the guitarist's body, he did not neglect or sacrifice the ideal of creating a musical instrument. When you consider the players who swear by the Klein Electric, it is obvious they are not sacrificing tone

for playability.

It is easy to forget that the tone of the electric guitar is reproduced by the pickups, not created by them. The "hidden" ideas that create the raw musicality of the Klein Electric derive from attention given to the guitar's acoustic nature. If pickups were the sole source of tone in a guitar, we would likely be playing planks, strung up and equipped with very expensive pickups. But, this guitar ain't no plank!

The combinations of neck woods, body woods, tone chambers, and pickups used in Klein Electrics are the result of thoughtful experimentation, and create a quality of tone which complements the playability of the guitars. From the open, smoky resonance of a basswood body matched with a graphite neck, to the brilliant sonic accuracy created by combining a swamp ash body and a solid rosewood neck, Klein Electric guitars have the power to fascinate the senses - they are dramatically easier to play, and remarkable to listen to.