Handmade Pickups For Acoustic Instruments



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## Mandolin, Mandola, Bouzouki Installation of the MVC output jack assembly

**Tools required:** Small philips screwdriver, wire stripper and cutter, soldering iron (18-35 watts), radio/tv solder.

**1)** Remove the strings and tailpiece from the instrument, including the screws that hold it in place as well as the strap button (if any).

2) The MVC comes with a thin rectangular metal stand-off plate. On one side of the plate at one end there is a strip of 3M VHB foam tape. It

is this end of the plate that will self adhere to the underside of the tailpiece. On the other side of the plate (at the other end) is a pad to protect the instrument from contacting the metal plate.

**3)** The black box containing the jack assembly also has a strip of VHB on its' underside to allow it to self adhere to the top of the stand- off plate. See **Fig 1.** 

4) With the tailpiece upside down, peel the backing from the VHB tape on the stand-off plate. Line up the right edge of the plate with the right side of the tailpiece. Position the plate as far to the front as possible without extending past the start of the up-turned lip (Fig 2).
5) Press the tailpiece and the stand-off plate firmly together.

**6)** Place the tailpiece on a table or workbench so that the vertical lip that normally is attached to the bottom on the instrument is allowed to overhang the table edge.

7) Note the alignment and positioning of the jack assembly as shown

in **Fig 1**. The right side of the black box should line up with the right edge of the stand-off plate. The bottom edge of the black box should line up with the bottom edge of the stand-off plate.

Remove the backing from the VHB on the underside of the black box and press it firmly into place on the stand-off plate.

8) Remove the two screws holding the cover on the jack assembly.

9) Reinstall the tailpiece and strap button on the instrument.

**10)** Insert the shielded cable from the pickup through the rubber grommet at the rear of the jack assembly.

**11)** Shielded cables are normally comprised of 2 conductors:

the first conductor just under the outer insulation is the ground (-) of the pickup. The ground wire is to be soldered to **'Lug B'** of the jack. The second conductor is contained within an inner insulated covering and is the positive (+) of the pickup. This wire is to be soldered to the upper lug of the volume control pot **'Lug A'**.

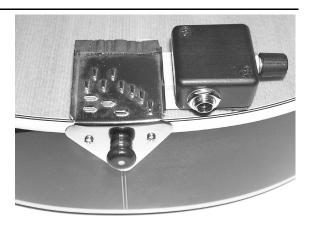


Fig 1



Fig 2

