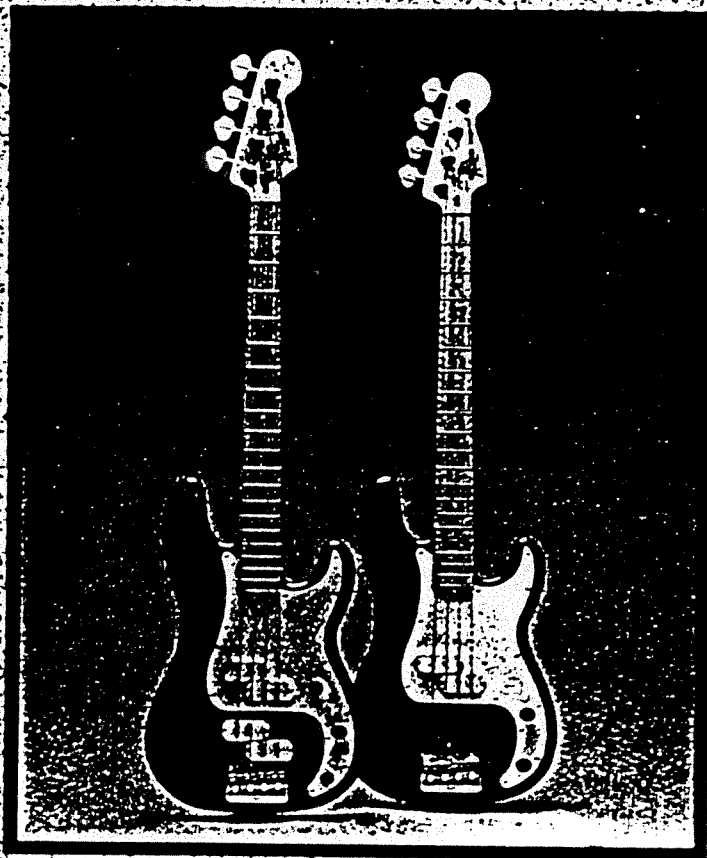


*Elite*

S E R I E S




THE SOUND THAT CREATES LEGENDS

## Thank You...

We are pleased that you have selected one of our fine quality Fender Elite Series basses. This instrument incorporates the highest quality components with the finest workmanship and is warranted to give you complete satisfaction.

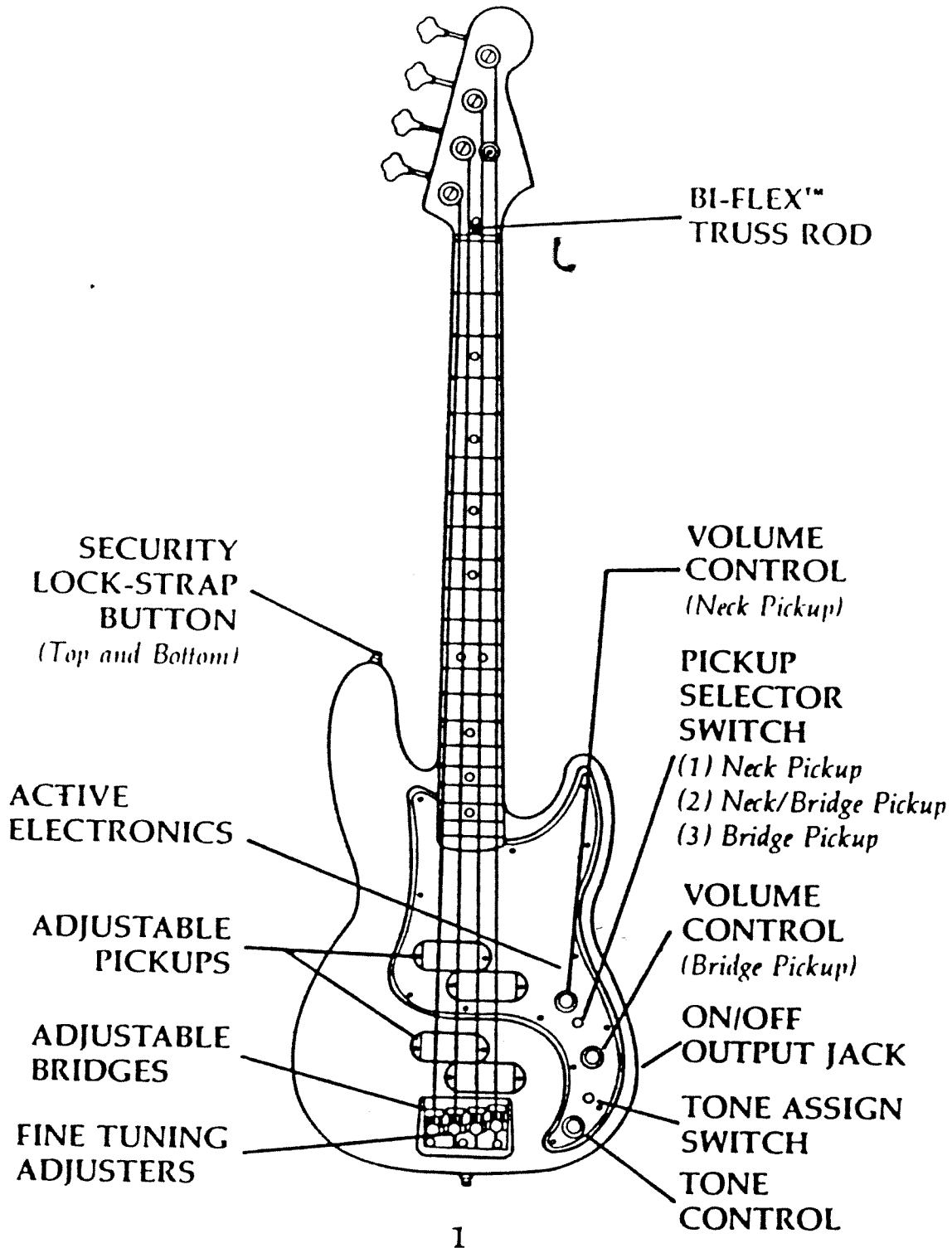
The Elite Series basses contain many standard features and new improvements developed by Fender engineers. As a result, you are assured of receiving an instrument of superior quality, lasting beauty and exceptional playability.

Your playing pleasure will be enhanced if you become thoroughly acquainted with all of the features of your instrument. We urge you to take the necessary time to familiarize yourself with the many new features and electronics described in this manual, and then begin to enjoy the ultimate in playing comfort and satisfaction.

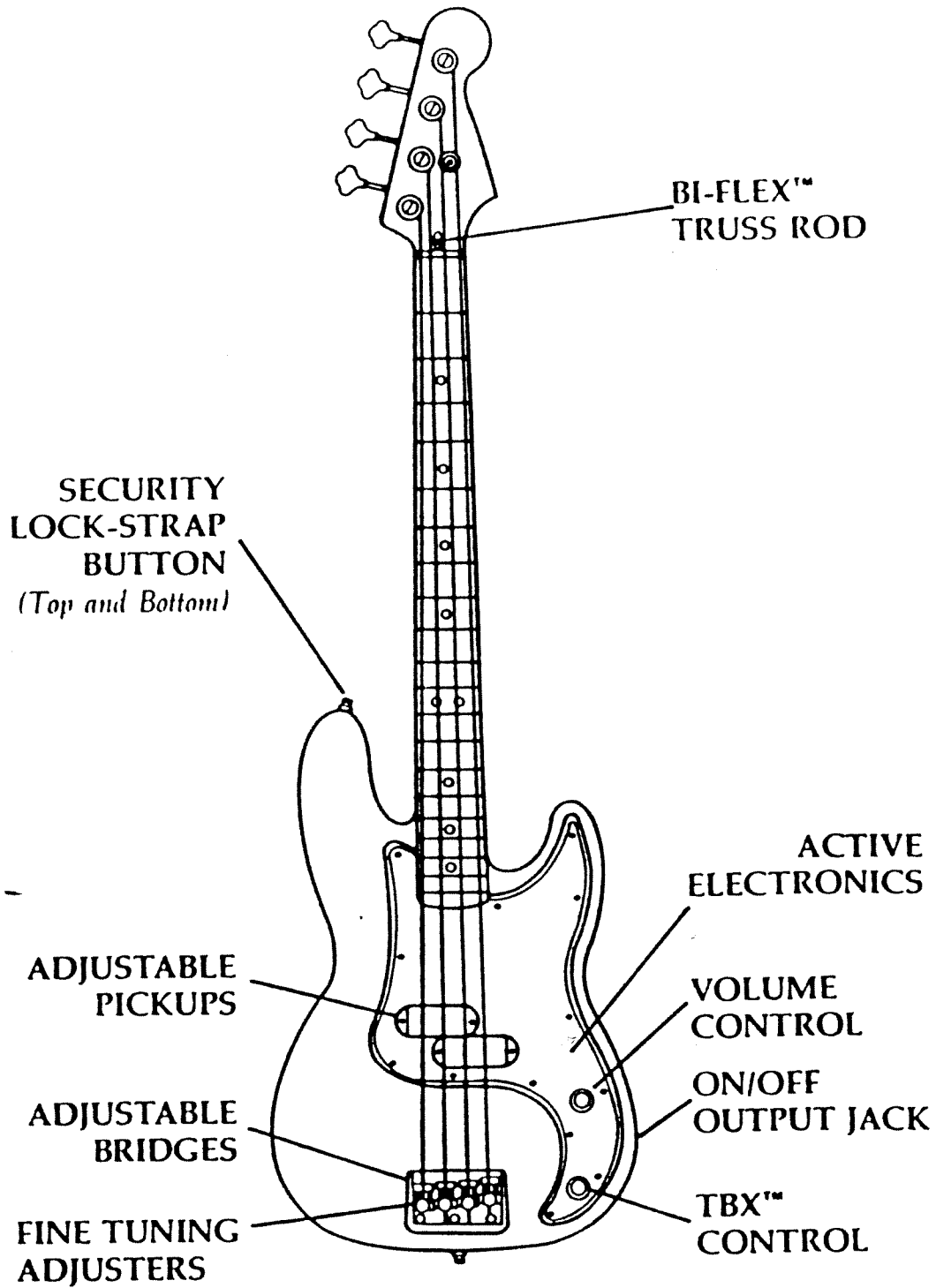


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# Elite Precision Bass II features:



## Elite Precision Bass I features:



## CONTROL OPERATIONS

The Fender Elite Series basses are equipped with specially designed active circuitry that offers extremely wide tonal flexibility, exceptional noise reduction and increased output — all without sacrificing the legendary Fender sound. Its efficient design makes for surprisingly low battery consumption. If properly used, the 9-volt battery should be good for about one year, although it is recommended that it be changed every six months, or as soon as you notice any deterioration in sound.

The special deep extension On/Off Output Jack acts as the on/off switch for the instrument's circuitry. When the instrument is unplugged, there is no drain on the battery. To prolong battery life, the instrument should be unplugged when it is not being played.

The battery pocket is located on the back of the instrument and the cover is easily removed with a Phillips head screw driver.

## -VOLUME CONTROL

The Volume Control allows you to regulate the overall output of the instrument. With active electronics, when the volume is turned down there is no noticeable change in the tonality of the instrument. This allows you to adjust the amplifier to deliver the bass sound you desire at a volume level that leaves room to turn the bass up for soloing. The Precision Bass I is equipped with one Volume Control, while the Precision Bass II has a

separate Volume Control for each pickup allowing you to mix the sound from the individual pickups when they are used together.

## TONE CONTROL

The Precision Bass I has a unique tone circuit that features Fender's new TBX™ Tone Control (Pat. pending).

The TBX™ Control has a center detent position that provides the standard Fender sound. By rotating the knob clockwise, you will notice increased presence and brightness. Rotating the control from the detent position, counterclockwise, it works like a normal tone control.

The Precision Bass II Tone Control, with its dual potentiometer, is assignable to either or both of the two pickups by means of the Tone Assign Switch.

## ADJUSTABLE PICKUPS

The pickups on your Fender Elite Series bass are fully adjustable for height and matched string volume. Adjustments are made by turning the Pickup Adjustment Screws located at either end of the pickups.

The relative volume of any string may be adjusted by raising or lowering the end of the appropriate pickup section. To raise a pickup section, turn the adjustment screws counterclockwise; to lower, turn the screw clockwise.

The recommended string clearance ( $3/32$ " ) is measured between the pickup and the bottom of each string when fretted at the highest fret.

Note: Pickup set too close to the strings can cause false tones and loss of sustain.

## **ADJUSTABLE BRIDGES**

The bridge on the Fender Elite Series basses feature a top load stringing system. The strings are inserted into the holes behind the bridge plate. Pull each string into its own individual hole and string the bass as normal.

### **String Height Adjustment**

Each Bridge may be adjusted to the desired height by turning the two Height Adjustment Screws on each section (see Adjustment Procedure #3 on page 10).

### **Intonation Adjustment**

The Bridge also allows length adjustment of each string to assure perfect intonation. For greater accuracy, these adjustments should be made when strings are in new condition. To adjust each string see Adjustment Procedure #7 on page 11.

### **Fine Tuning Bridge Adjustment**

The Elite Precision Bass II and I feature Fine Tuning Adjusters (Pat. pending) that allow convenient, precise harmonic tuning at the bridge. Turn the Fine Tuning Adjusters so they are exerting some downward pressure on the strings, at about the halfway point (see Adjustment Procedure #8 on page 12). Tune the instrument to standard pitch. The Fine Tuning Adjusters can now be used to precisely tune the instrument—Clockwise to raise the pitch, counterclockwise to lower the pitch.

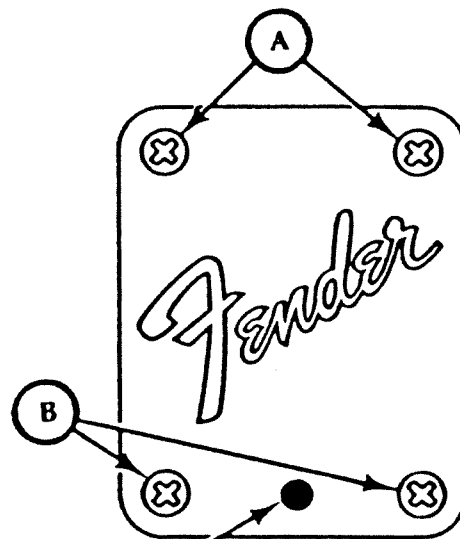
## NECK ANGLE ADJUSTMENT

The Fender Elite Series features a new 4-bolt neck mounting for adjusting the angle of the neck to the body. Fender instruments are designed using almost no neck angle. They are adjusted at the factory to maximize the adjustment features of the bridge section.

You can custom adjust the neck angle to change the height of the strings from the body surface. This will necessitate readjusting the bridge height to accommodate your playing style.

If you wish to increase or decrease the amount of neck angle, be sure to check the height of the bridge saddles to insure that they are not already at the extreme limits of adjustment. They will determine how much neck angle you can have. You cannot increase or decrease the neck angle beyond the adjustment range of the bridge saddles.

To adjust the neck angle, loosen the four neck plate mounting screws. The two screws (A) nearest the edge of the body should be loosened about 1/4-turn each. The two screws (B) located toward the center of the body should be loosened approximately 2 turns.



NECK ANGLE  
ADJUSTING SCREW



Insert the special 1/8" Allen wrench (supplied with the instrument) into the hole in the neck mounting plate. Rotate the wrench, gently, until you feel it engage in the hex socket. Turn the wrench clockwise if you wish to increase the amount of neck angle, counterclockwise if you wish to decrease the amount of neck angle.

After the adjustment is complete, re-tighten the four neck plate screws, being careful not to over-tighten. The screws should be tightened until they feel completely seated, but should not be forced. Overtightening can cause cracking of the fretboard. Re-check the allen screw to make sure it is not loose to vibrate.

### BI-FLEX™ TRUSS ROD (Pat. pending)

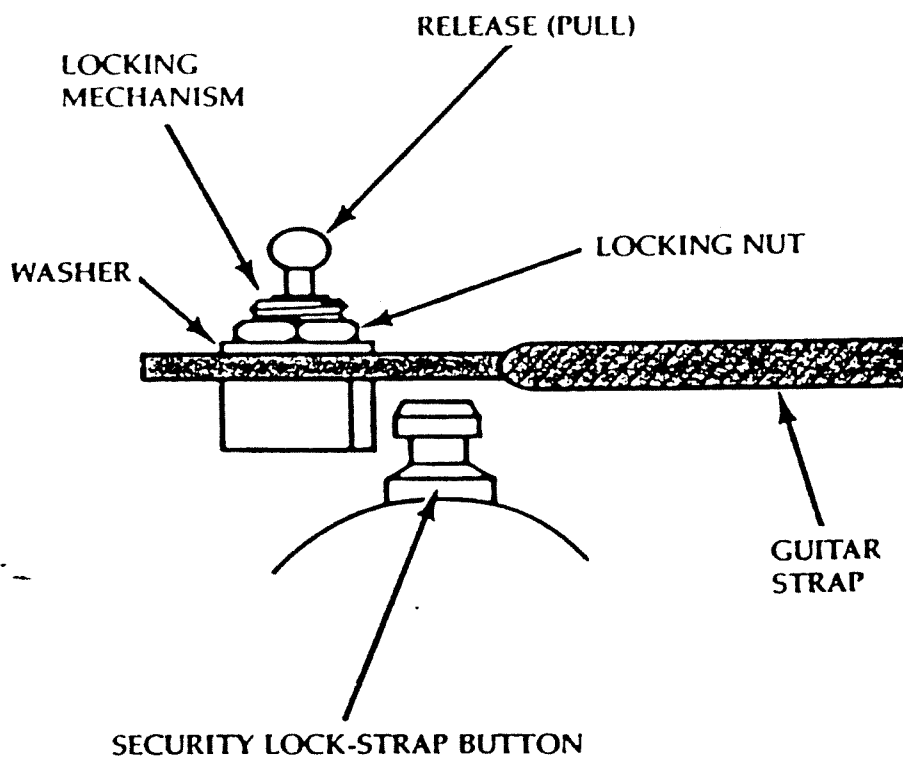
Each Fender bass is carefully adjusted at the factory. The truss rod and string height are set for optimum action and playability with regular gauge strings.

Under normal tension, the neck should have a slight concave curvature. By creating a counteracting force, the truss rod prevents the neck from bending excessively under the stress placed on it by the strings.

The unique Bi-Flex™ Truss Rod allows adjustment of the neck in two directions — convex and concave. If you need to adjust the neck, see Adjustment Procedure #2 on page 9.

## SECURITY LOCK-STRAP SYSTEM

Fender Elite Series basses are equipped with security lock-strap buttons. Attach the specially designed locks directly to your strap. Slip the locking mechanism over the strap button and pull it into position until it snap locks. Your strap is now secure on the instrument and cannot be removed until you pull the lock release button.



## ADJUSTMENT PROCEDURE

Because of travel, climatic conditions and differences in playing styles, you might have need to adjust your Fender Elite bass. If it becomes necessary, the following procedure is the standard set at the factory.

To make these adjustments, you will need the following:

- 1 — 2mm Allen Wrench (supplied)
- 1 — 1/8" Allen Wrench (supplied)
- 1 — Capo
- 1 — Feeler gauge
- 1 — 6" Mechanics ruler

### 1. Tuning

Tune the instrument to standard pitch.

### 2. Adjust Neck Curvature

Sight down the neck and check for irregularities.

Install a capo at the first fret, depress the 4th string at the last fret with your left hand. Using a feeler gauge, check the gap between the bottom of the 4th string and the top of the 8th fret. The recommended string clearance should be no more than .022" nor less than .012". No other fret should show a gap greater than that measured at the 8th fret. No intermediate frets should be higher than the line running from the first to the last fret.

If an adjustment is necessary, insert the 1/8" Allen wrench (supplied) into the truss rod adjustment hole. Rotate it gently until you feel it engage in the hex socket.

As you sight down the neck from the headstock, if it is too concave, turn the wrench clockwise. If it is too straight or convex, turn the wrench counterclockwise while periodically checking the gap with the feeler gauge.

Repeat the same check using the first string.

**Periodically re-check tuning for standard pitch.**

If the nut feels loose and the neck is still not correctly adjusted, continue turning the wrench counterclockwise until you begin to feel some resistance.

If extreme resistance is felt while adjusting in either direction, **do not** continue adjusting. Take the instrument to the nearest authorized Fender dealer or service center for inspection.

### **3. Set Bridge Height**

The recommended string clearance at the twelfth fret should be:

Strings 1-4     $3/32'' \pm 1/64''$

### **4. Set Pickup Height**

Depress all strings at the last fret. Check the distance from the bottom of the first and fourth strings to the top of the pickup surface. The measurement should be as follows:

Strings 1-4     $3/32''$

### **5. Set Nut Height**

The string clearance at the first fret should be as follows:

All Strings  $.020''-.024''$

Strings should appear to be spaced equally from center to center. The outside two strings should appear to be equally spaced from the edge of the neck approximately  $\frac{3}{32}$ " from the outer edge.

#### **6. Check for fret rattle**

With the instrument plugged into your amplifier and the pickup selector switch in the neck position, pick in the area between the neck and bridge pickups. Play each fret position, holding the pick parallel to the plane of the body, to determine that the strings do not buzz or rattle against successively higher frets.

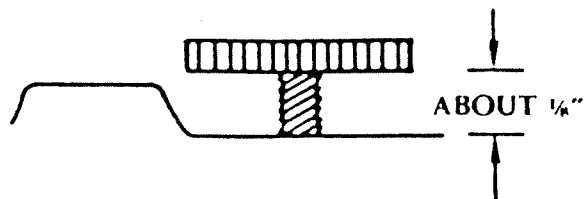
Due to differences in playing styles and picking techniques, action settings that produce no string rattle for one player may rattle when another player plays the instrument. If you have followed all the adjustment procedures listed and set the string action at the top end of the string height, but are still experiencing fret rattle take the instrument to an authorized Fender dealer or qualified service center.

#### **7. Adjust Intonation (Recheck tuning)**

With an electronic tuner, (the pickup selector switch Elite Precision Bass II in the neck pickup position) and the tone control rolled off to '0', check the intonation of each string by playing the 12th fret harmonic and comparing it to the actual fretted note. The pitch should be the same  $\pm$  1 cent.

## 8. Fine Tuning Adjustment

Set each Fine Tuning Adjuster at about the halfway point —



so they are exerting some downward pressure each string. Tune the instrument to standard pitch. By turning each Adjuster, up or down, precise harmonic tuning can be achieved.

## CARE OF YOUR FENDER BASS

Your new Fender Elite Series Bass is precision made to give you many years of satisfaction. A few simple maintenance procedures will help you keep your instrument playing like new.

After you have finished playing, thoroughly wipe the entire bass, including the strings, with a clean, soft cloth. A regular routine for cleaning your instrument with Fender Polish is recommended.

Avoid exposing the bass to any chemical or substance that might mar the finish, as well as, to direct sunlight or other sources of excessive heat, humidity or shock.

You must use extreme caution when a thoroughly chilled instrument is to be played. It is important to avoid sudden changes in temperature since this may cause checking to the finish. While this condition does not affect the tone, it does mar the finish.

Let the instrument warm up safely in its own case. Then, open the case gradually allowing warm air to enter slowly. After the instrument is removed, leave the case open so it, too, can warm up thoroughly. If exposure to temperature extremes is unavoidable, as during shipping, string tension should be reduced to avoid possible damage.

Change your strings often. Dirty, corroded or worn strings cause loss of sustain, loss of treble frequencies and faulty intonation.

If your bass needs repair, refer all such work to your Authorized Fender Dealer whose trained personnel and complete service facilities assure your satisfaction.

Note pertinent facts below as a record in case of theft, loss or resale.

Model \_\_\_\_\_ Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_

Date Purchased \_\_\_\_\_ Price \_\_\_\_\_

Dealer \_\_\_\_\_