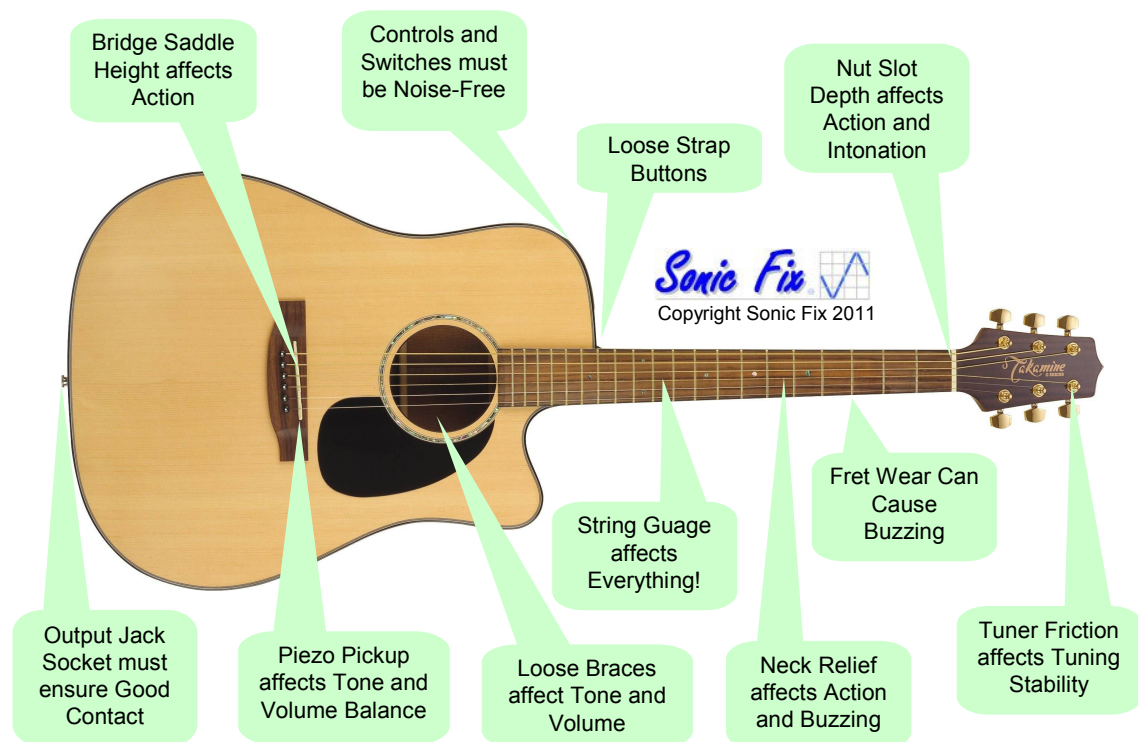


Electro-Acoustic Guitar Setup Guide



Sonic Fix checks all of these points as part of a standard acoustic guitar setup

Acoustic Guitar Setup, Strings and Tuning

When an acoustic guitar is new, the manufacturer will have set it up on the assumption of a particular string type and playing style. If you are new to guitar, you may find an acoustic hard to play because of the string tension and often, high action. At some point, you may feel that something needs to be done to achieve an improvement. If the guitar is an electro-acoustic, please be aware that the bridge usually houses the (Piezo) pickup. Disturbing the bridge could well cause irreparable damage, so it would be better to consult a guitar setup specialist who can advise on suitable strings and perform the necessary adjustments. With Sonic Fix, you can explain what you would like to achieve (or simply describe the problem that you have) and we can translate this into the optimal combination of strings and settings required for your particular guitar and style of playing. A Takamine Electro-Acoustic is given as an example because there is so much that can be adjusted – and so much that can go wrong if setup and strung incorrectly! We also setup Electric and Bass Guitars – see alternative guides for info.

String gauge and type is the first choice to make. As standard, most non-classical acoustic guitars will be strung with 11-52 gauge strings – meaning that the thinnest (plain) string is 0.011" in diameter and the thickest (wound) string is 0.052" in diameter. Strings are available from 0.008" to 0.054". The string gauges and tension have a huge effect on the action, volume and playability. The string core is always the same high-tensile steel material but the plating and over-winding can vary considerably with each type affecting the feel and sound of the string. 12 string guitars have even more string tension.

Changing the string type and gauge can have a very great affect on the setup and playability and usually requires adjustments to the Tuner Friction, Nut, Neck Relief and Bridge Saddle. When we make these adjustments, we use special tools to make measurements such that precise adjustment can be made without causing any problems. We keep a record of these adjustments and also inform you what has been done. This is just one of the reasons why our setups are considered to be very good value and why we have such good customer loyalty. For more information, contact Pete on 01692 630102 or email pete@sonicfix.co.uk