

HOW TO CHANGE 4-WIRE HUMBUCKER PICKUPS INTO 2-WIRE OUTPUT

This information is for the *Do-It-Yourselfer* who wants to change their 4-wire humbucker pickups to connect the two coils in parallel or series to serve as a pickup with two wires.

Regretably, no standard was ever established for pickup wire color codes. Each manufacturer uses their own color codes. Two of the most prevalent manufacturers are Seymour Duncan and Dimarzio. For information specific to the type of humbucker pickups that you have, you will need to contact the manufacturer to get the information needed to rewire your pickups. The below graphic is included to give you a general idea of how to modify dual coil/ humbucker pickups that have 4-wire output leads into a 2-wire output lead configuration.

When the two coils of a humbucker pickup are correctly wired in *series*, the output is about 20-25% more with a *fat*, slightly overdriven sound. This may be more than you want. The brilliance of high tones is also reduced.

When the two coils of a humbucker pickup are correctly wired in *parallel*, the output is less than series wiring but will still provide “humbucking” results. However, your high tones will be more *ring-in-a-bell* brilliant.

