

HOW TO ADD TREBLE BLEED AND GREASE BUCKET

This document describes Treble Bleed and Grease Bucket terms. It also covers how you can add these functions to your electric guitar.

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What Is Treble Bleed?

As you turn your electric guitar's volume pot down the sound loses treble and becomes progressively bassier. This is true with single coil pickups and humbuckers. This may not be a problem for you if you prefer to roll off the volume slightly to get a slightly darker and less overdriven sound for rhythm playing. With the volume up, your lead playing boosts drive and brightens the sound, to project your playing. If the treble loss too large, you can add treble bleed to your guitar. If it sounds OK to you - do nothing.

Why it occurs: The combination of your pickups, pot and the guitar cable's capacitance work as a lowpass filter circuit much like a tone control. Lowpass filter circuits have a cutoff frequency, above which they cut all frequencies. With the volume control up full the frequencies being blocked by the filter circuit are very high and do not have much audible effect on the tone. But the change the resistance by lowering the pot causes the filter cutoff frequency to move down cutting higher frequencies from the sound, making it less trebly.

How to fix it: You can solder our Pro Treble Bleed PCB to your instrument volume control. There are two versions: one for single-coil pickups, the other for humbucker pickups. If you have both single-coil and humbucker pickups, use the version for humbucker pickups.

What Is Grease Bucket?

This is a type of band-pass filter that only allows certain frequencies to pass through, while others are blocked. The standard tone circuit in the Stratocaster is called a "treble-cut filter", and lets only low frequencies pass through while high frequencies are sent to ground through the tone capacitor.

The Grease Bucket is a combination of a high-pass and a low-pass filter. This cuts high frequencies without "adding" bass. The Grease Bucket has its own special sound that you might like.

How to add it: You can solder our Grease Bucket PCB to your instrument tone control. You also need to remove a capacitor and connect two wires attached to the Grease Bucket PCB.

Details to install our products can be found on our website's Document Library page.