

**Performance Series**

Radiator  
SD  
SDxt  
Exit 22  
LG  
LG HMB

*Godin*





A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "John D'Amico". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Congratulations and thank you for choosing a Godin guitar. Each Godin guitar is meticulously crafted from the finest materials to provide you with an instrument worthy of a lifetime of music making.

Our goal with each Godin guitar is to find the perfect balance between the finest traditions of guitar crafting, the new design concepts that we are developing and the integration of the latest developments in related electronics. From the selection of the wood to the final adjustments to the finished instrument, each Godin guitar is designed and built by people who love guitars.

Enjoy your new guitar.

# General Guitar Stuff

## Acoustics

Electric guitars are actually acoustic instruments. Perhaps not particularly loud, but the point here is that if a solid body guitar does not sound good un-plugged then it won't be saved by a great set of pickups and a nice amp. There are many factors that contribute to the un-plugged sound of a solid body guitar but most of the response of the instrument comes as a result of the wood used along with fit and finish.

Godin guitars are made using only solid wood, guitars made from plywood or particle-board tend to lack sustain and can be somewhat muffled sounding. Here is a brief list of some of the tone woods used in key parts of Godin guitars.

## Bodies

The bodies of the SD, SDxt and Radiators are made from a blend of two tone-woods. A center of silver leaf maple serves as an anchor for the neck and is flanked by poplar sidepieces.

Exit 22 and LG bodies are made of mahogany.

## Neck Fit/Pitch

The angle of the neck attachment—called pitch—has a huge impact on sound, a slight tilt forward will cause the guitar to sound boomy, a slight tilt backwards can make the guitar sound tinny. Equally important is the fit of the

neck into the body. Godin guitars are renowned for tight-fitting neck attachments that support excellent neck/body energy transfer and precise neck pitch.

## Rock Maple Necks

There are many grades of maple available, rock maple is the term often used to describe the particularly hard variety of the wood that grows in colder climates. Rock maple necks produce excellent sustain, stability and feel. Rock maple necks also work well with either Rosewood or Maple fingerboards.

Note: A rosewood fingerboard will emphasize a little more mid-range and produce a more aggressive sound. A maple fingerboard will have the opposite effect and sound a little more 'acoustic'. These are generalizations however, not rules. Always choose your guitar based on feel, sound and looks. Not what it's made from.

Rock maple necks are used exclusively on the following Godin models; SD, SDxt, Exit 22 and Radiator.

## Mahogany Necks

Honduras Mahogany has a long history as the tone-wood of choice for acoustic guitar necks. The same properties that give mahogany its appeal in an acoustic guitar namely a warm harmonically rich sound have a similar effect in a solid body electric guitar.

Mahogany necks are used on the LG-SP90 and LG HMB models.

## **Ergocut**

Every Godin neck features an Ergocut shaping technique which bevels the edges of the fingerboard and frets back in towards the center of the fingerboard providing an extremely comfortable worn-in feel.

## **Pickups**

Godin pickups are designed to be dynamic, responsive and transparent. Whether you play lightning fast country licks or big fat power chords you'll appreciate the versatility of these pickups as they were carefully chosen for their ability to compliment the natural tones of the guitar.

\* Throughout this manual we refer to humbucker and/or single coil pickups as magnetics.

As mentioned earlier, great pickups won't save a bad sounding guitar, but they are an essential component nonetheless. On the following pages you will find descriptions of the various pickups used in the Godin Performance Series by model, as well as the pickup selector settings.

## **Tone tips**

Getting the ideal sound is very subjective and there are many factors that affect the overall tone. Your amplifier, playing style, and of course the guitar itself including the wood selection, pickups and set-up are just some of these factors that affect the tone of your guitar. Taking this into consideration, we decided it would still be fun to give you a couple of suggestions that can help you on your way to

finding your favorite sounds on the guitar. In general lowering the guitar's volume slightly will clean up your tone when the amp is in overdrive. You may also want to experiment with the tone control, which can accentuate different frequencies depending on the pick-up switch position and give the guitar a different tonal character. Unless otherwise noted the volume and tone control for the examples were set to 10. See individual models for some suggestions to get you started.

## **Care and Maintenance**

The easiest way to keep your guitar clean is by simply using a polishing cloth without using any polishes at all. However if you are going to use a polish please use a non-abrasive non-wax based polish. Apply the polish on a cloth first. Do not spray it directly on to the guitar. After you have polished the area you are working on turn the cloth over to a 'dry' side and remove any excess residue.

## **Fingerboards**

For Rosewood fingerboards we suggest removing the strings and applying lemon oil to a cloth, then working the oil into your fingerboard. Let the oil soak in for a few minutes before wiping off the excess. This should be done at least once a year. Doing so not only cleans and avoids cracking it also keeps your fingerboard from losing its lustre.

Generally, maple fingerboards are pretty much maintenance free. However if the neck starts feeling sticky you can use a slightly damp polishing cloth without any guitar cleaner on it followed by a dry cloth.

## Strap pins

Every Performance Series guitar—with the exception of the Radiator—comes standard with Schaller locking strap pins. Having locking strap pins prevents your guitar from accidentally falling off. If you do not have a strap with the corresponding "male" lockers you can purchase these at any music store.

\*Specs subject to change without prior notice.

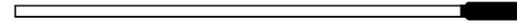
## Double-action truss rod

The neck on your Godin guitar is reinforced by a double-action truss rod system, the truss rod provides for easy adjustment when the neck reacts to changes in relative humidity. Truss rod adjustments should only be made by a qualified guitar technician.

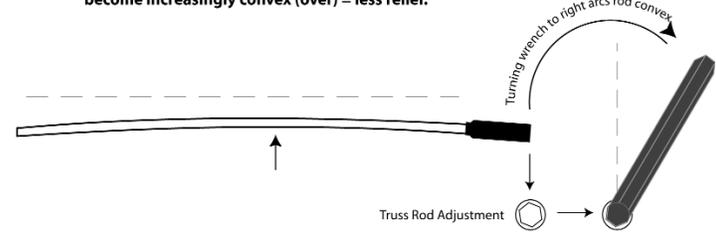
## Double Action Truss Rod - tightens both ways

The double action (dual-function) system permits accurate adjustments to the neck in both directions.

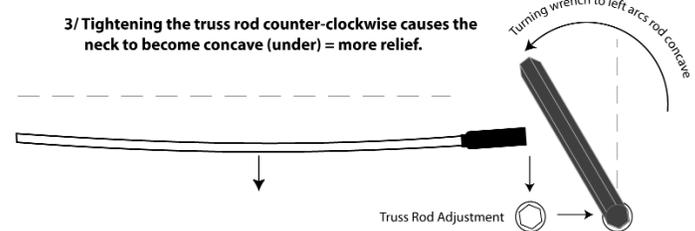
1/ Truss rod in 'flat' (no tension) position



2/ Tightening the truss rod clockwise causes the neck to become increasingly convex (over) = less relief.



3/ Tightening the truss rod counter-clockwise causes the neck to become concave (under) = more relief.



**WARNING: Over adjusting your truss rod can cause irreparable damage to your guitar and therefore should only be handled by a qualified guitar technician.**

**Model :**

**Radiator** ..... see page 5

**SD** ..... see page 6

**SDxt** ..... see page 7

**Exit 22**..... see page 8

**LG** ..... see page 9

**LG HMB** ..... see page 10

## Radiator

Top Nut: Tusq by Graphtech

Nut width: 1 11/16"

Scale: 24 3/4"

Radius: 12"

Tuners: Godin high ratio sealed tuners

String gauge: Godin Nickel electric strings 9-46

Frets: Medium nickel frets

Pickups: Godin Low-Noise single coil pickups

The Radiator's silver leaf maple chambered body adds a unique "hollow body" timbre to the overall sound. By removing the selector switch and wiring the pick-ups to individual volume controls the Radiator is capable of a wide variety of tones. By simply experimenting with different degrees of output from each pickup you'll be amazed at the different tonal qualities you'll be able to coax out of the Radiator. Here are a few suggestions:

### Surf tone

Neck Vol : 3

Bridge Vol : 10

### Jazzy

Neck Vol : 10

Bridge Vol : 3

Tone : 2-3

### Country

Neck Vol : 4-5

Bridge Vol : 10

### Blues/Rock tone

Neck Vol : 8

Bridge Vol : 10

### Blues Lead

Neck Vol : 10

Bridge Vol : 8-9

### Funky/R&B

Neck Vol : 0

Bridge Vol : 10

## Radiator

Godin low-noise Single Coil Pickups



## SD

Top nut: Tusq by Graphtech

Nut width: 1 11/16"

Scale: 24 3/4"

Radius: 12"

Tuners: Godin high ratio sealed tuners

String Gauge: Godin Nickel electric strings 9-46

Frets: Medium Nickel

Pickups: GS1 (Neck) GS1 (middle) GHB1 (Bridge)

The SD is loaded with one Godin GHB1 Humbucker and two Godin GS1 Single coil pickups and a five-way switch for maximum sonic power.

### **Bluesy/Full/dark tone**

Position: 1

Tone 8-9

### **Retro/Rich tone/Crunch Rhythm**

Position: 2

### **Funky/R&B/tight sound**

Position: 3

### **Country/Pop lead/snappy**

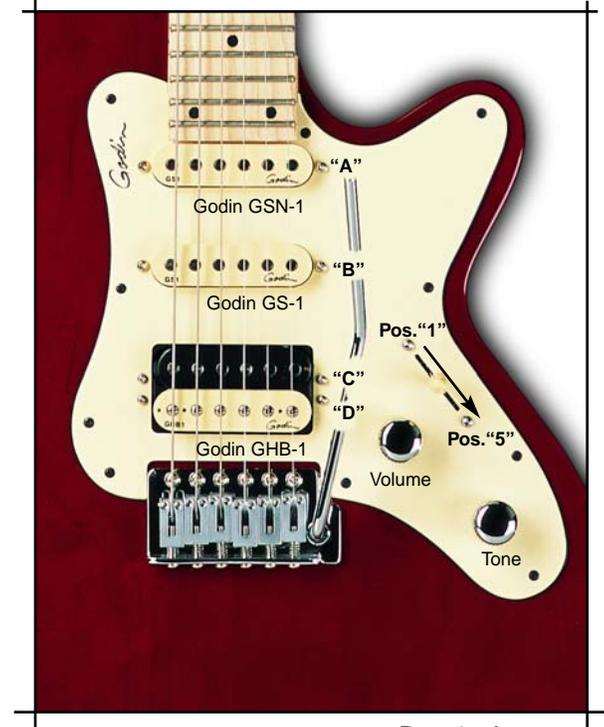
Position: 4

### **Classic rock/bright**

Position: 5

## SD

Custom Godin Pickups



Pos. 1 - A  
Pos. 2 - A,B  
Pos. 3 - B  
Pos. 4 - B,C,D  
Pos. 5 - C,D

## SDxt

Top nut: Tusq by Graphtech

Nut width: 1 11/16"

Scale: 25 1/2"

Radius: 12"

Tuners: Godin high ratio sealed tuners

String Gauge: Godin Nickel electric strings 9-46

Frets: Medium Nickel

Pickups: GHN1 (Neck) GS1 (Middle) GHB1 (Bridge)

The Humbucker-single-humbucker pickup configuration (Godin GHN1, GS1, GHB1) and five- way switch makes the SDxt extremely versatile. Instead of splitting the humbuckers in positions two and four we augment the sound by adding the middle single coil to the humbucker already selected.

## Bluesy/Full body tone/smooth

Position 1

## Vintage/Chord solo tone

Position: 2

## 70's style/Funk

Position: 3

Lower your tone to create a filter affect for more "Funkiness".

## Country Lead/clear and focused

Position: 4

## Rock/Mid punch

Position: 5

## SDxt

Custom Godin Pickups



Pos. 1 - A,B  
Pos. 2 - A,B,C  
Pos. 3 - C  
Pos. 4 - C,D,E  
Pos. 5 - D,E

## Exit 22

Top Nut: Tusq by Graphtech

Nut width: 1 11/16"

Scale: 24 3/4"

Radius: 12"

Tuners: Godin high ratio sealed tuners

String gauge: Godin Nickel electric strings 9-46

Frets: Medium Nickel

Pickups: Hum/single/single Godin pickups

Where many guitars tend to excel specifically for distortion or clean tones the Exit 22 can handle both with incredible ease and dynamics. Monstrous distortion tones are easily dialed in via the aggressive Godin bridge humbucker and stinging clean tones are also at your fingertips thanks to the Godin single coil pickups in the middle and neck position.

### Alternapop/Full/Round tone

Position: 1

lower tone for a warmer sound

### Modern Blues/Bell like tones for chord vamps and fat solos

Position: 2

Lower tone slightly for extra "dirt"

### Country Lead/stinging and tight

Position: 3

### Funky/R&B/Full sound but still cuts through

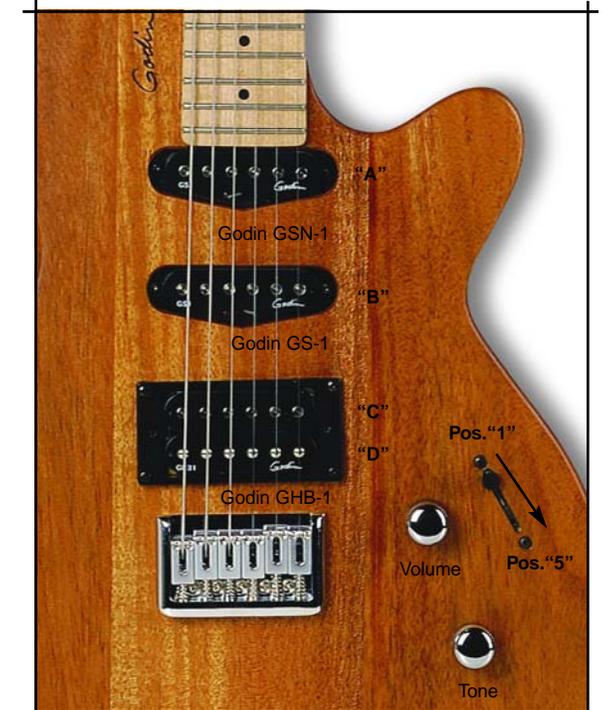
Position: 4

### Hard rock/Aggressive tone

Position: 5

## Exit 22

Custom Godin Pickups



Pos. 1 - A  
Pos. 2 - A,B  
Pos. 3 - B  
Pos. 4 - B,C,D  
Pos. 5 - C,D

## LG

Top nut: Tusq by Graphtech

Nut width: 1 11/16"

Scale: 24 3/4"

Radius: 16"

Bridge: Schaller

Tuners: Godin high ratio sealed tuners

String Gauge: Godin Nickel electric strings 10-46

Frets: Medium nickel frets

Pickups: Seymour Duncan P90 Single coil

The LG features a Mahogany neck and body with a rosewood fingerboard. Two Seymour Duncan P90 Custom 3 single coil pickups and a three-way selector switch make the LG versatile yet straightforward. The unique recessed bridge on the LG model allows for greater right hand comfort and the fact that the strings resonate closer to the body adds to the over all sustain. You will notice that the bridge features 2 pole pieces that double as adjustment screws. Since the bridge is recessed into the body this allows you to adjust the bridge height with a flat screwdriver without having to remove the bridge and use the conventional adjustment wheels.

### Fat Blues/Rich harmonics

Position: 1

Tone 9-10 (Lower tone for warmth)

### Slide/R n' R/Full sounding

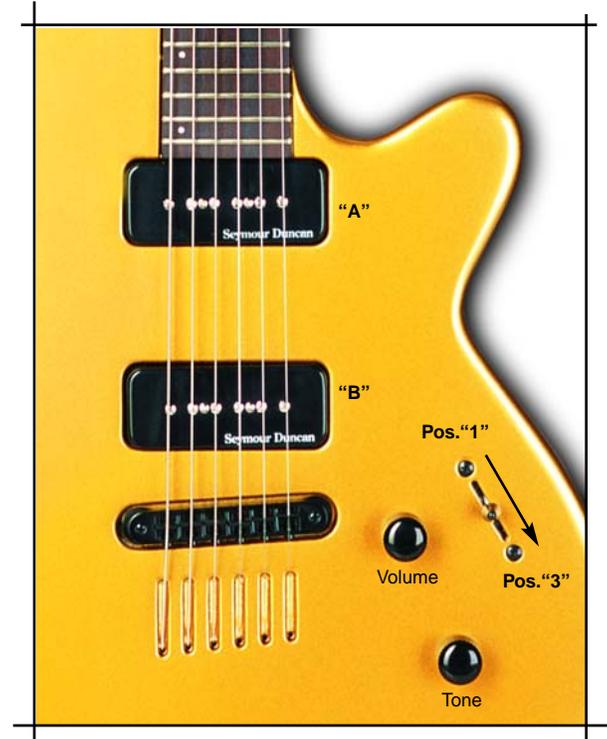
Position: 2

### Punk/Rock/Tons of Midrange great for solos & riffs

Position: 3

## LG

Seymour Duncan Single Coil P90 - Custom 3



Pos. 1 - A  
Pos. 2 - A,B  
Pos. 3 - B

## LG Hmb

Top nut: Tusq by Graphtech

Nut width: 1 11/16"

Scale: 24 3/4"

Bridge: Schaller

Radius: 16"

Tuners: Godin high ratio sealed tuners

String Gauge: Godin Nickel electric strings 10-46

Frets: medium nickel frets

Pickups: Godin Humbuckers

Thanks to the string through body, recessed bridge and perfectly fit neck, the LG tends to resonate and sustain forever, and that's before you even plug it in. The LG Hmb is comfortable in a variety of musical settings. It can easily produce warm clean tones as well as nasty distorted sounds. The LG Hmb sports two Godin Humbuckers and a 5-way switch enabling you to not only split the coils in position 2 and 4, but also access both humbuckers simultaneously in the third position.

## Bluesy-Jazz/Plenty of warmth

Position: 1

Tone: 7-8

## Clean Ballad/Natural and Soulful

Position: 2

## Modern Blues/Fat Rhythm

Position: 3

Tone: 8-9

## 70's Funk/Tight and focused

Position: 4

## Hard Rock/Aggressive and Raw

Position: 5

## LG HMB

Godin Humbuckers



Pos. 1 - A,B

Pos. 2 - A

Pos. 3 - A,B,C,D

Pos. 4 - D

Pos. 5 - C,D