

Overview



Floyd Rose | Rail Tail Tremolo System - Installation Guide

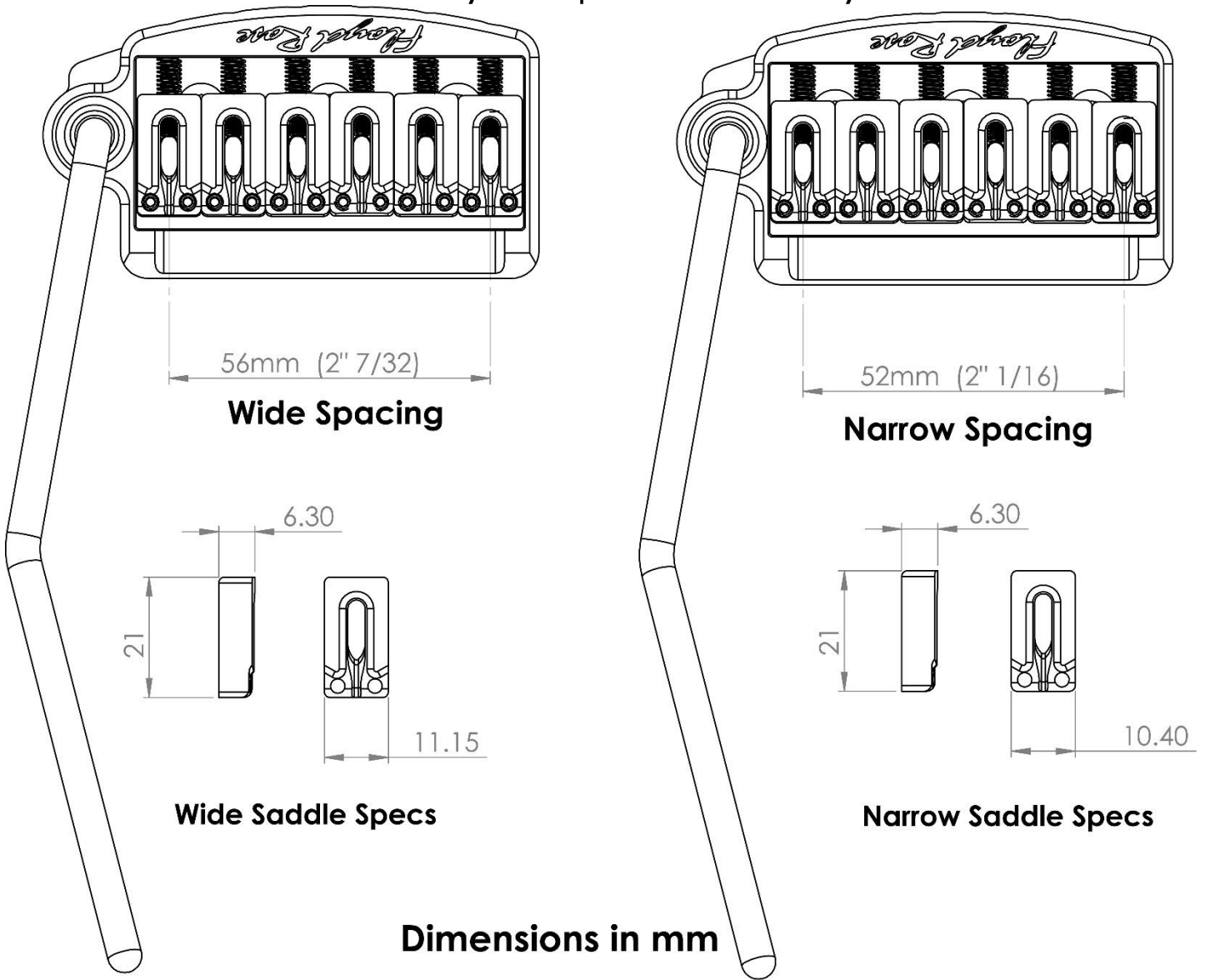
The Rail Tail Tremolo is a full contact, dive-only tremolo designed to retrofit your existing Strat®-style 6-point tremolo with no modifications to your guitar; a clever design merging the feel and reliability of a hardtail bridge with the flexibility of a tremolo system. Computer designed and precision-machined, the Rail Tail achieves maximum performance and stunning appearance without compromising comfort or feel. Its unique features allow for adjustability to fit a variety of guitar bodies and for an easy DIY installation.

Unlike the original tremolo design that rocks on a bevel located under the screw heads, the Rail Tail tremolo plate rotates around a precision rail that is mounted directly to the guitar body. The plate cradles the entire rail with precision as if they were one unit improving sound quality and tuning stability. This union also creates a greater breakpoint allowing open strings to maintain pitch when bending another, much like a hardtail.

The tremolo plate consists of slotted string block mounting holes not only for accommodating installation but also allowing the string block to be positioned forward for greater rotational range. This means diving up to 15 degrees more than conventional tremolo bridges. An advanced string block also consists of game-changing features: Mid-positioned tapered string holes assist in true string saddle contact. Working in alliance with the rail and string block are the slick roller fitted string saddles. This entire assembly provides ultimate vibrational energy transfer from the strings to the guitar body resulting in better overall sustain and tonal qualities.

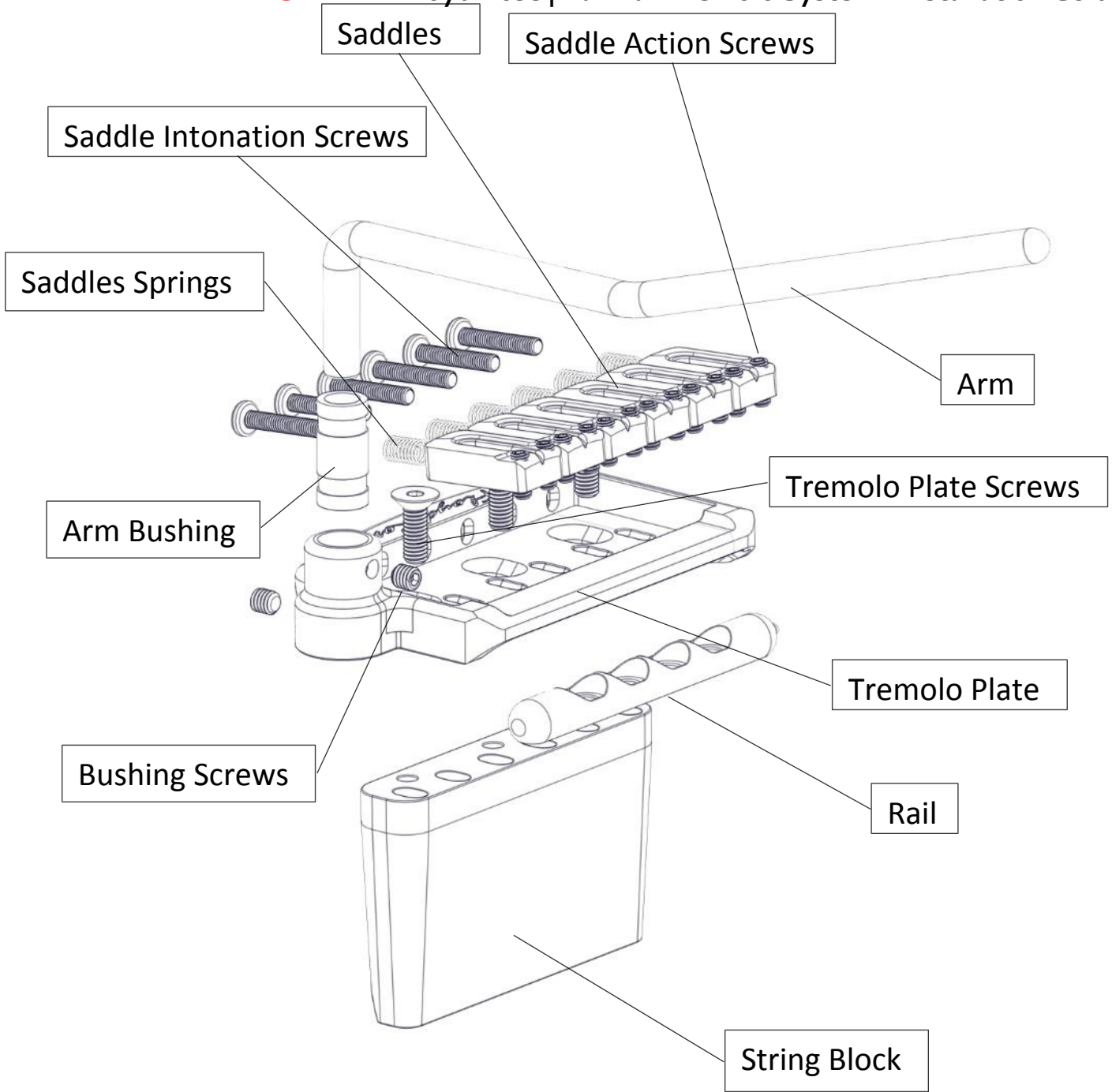
Before installation:

For optimum performance, playing experience and reliability, we highly recommend that the guitar this unit is being installed on, is equipped with locking tuners and a quality nut.

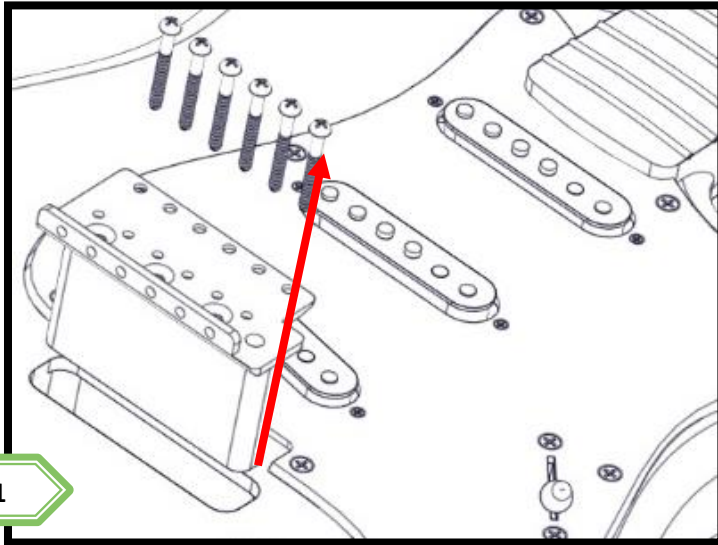


Note: The Rail that is mounted to guitar body via the 4 screws is universal. Wide and narrow spaced tremolo plates are interchangeable with any Rail.

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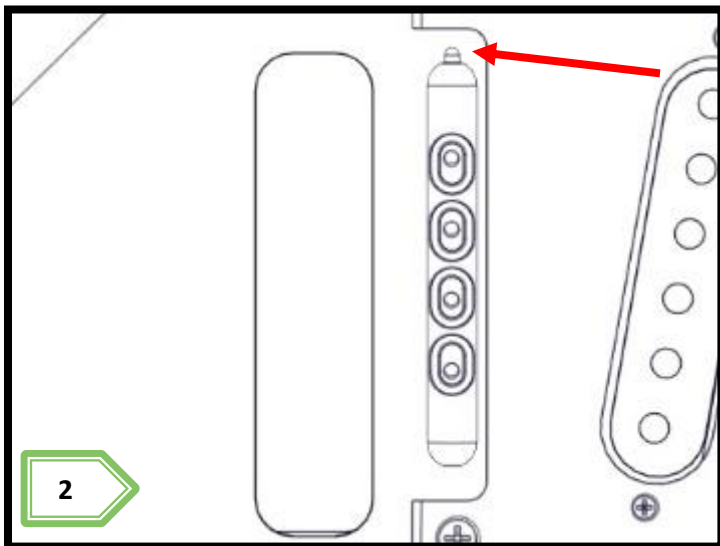
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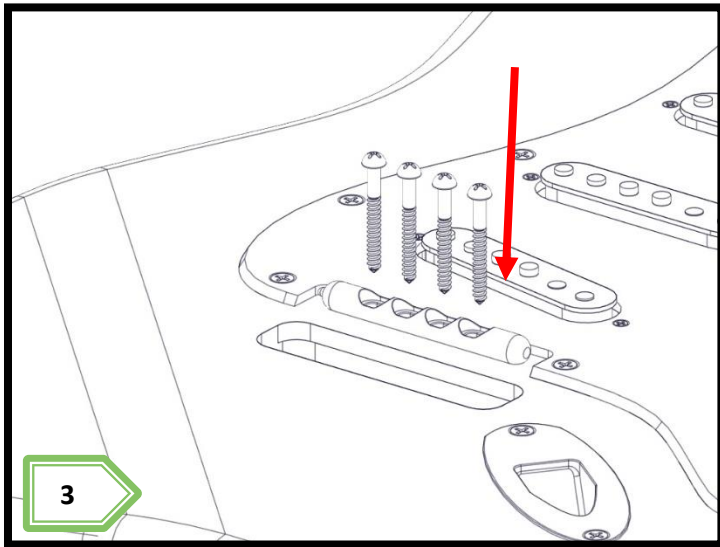
1.) Remove guitar strings and bottom tremolo springs. Undo screws and remove the old 6 point tremolo unit from the guitar.

STOP!

If you have a **2 point tremolo system**, proceed to **steps 20 and 21** before continuing with step 2.

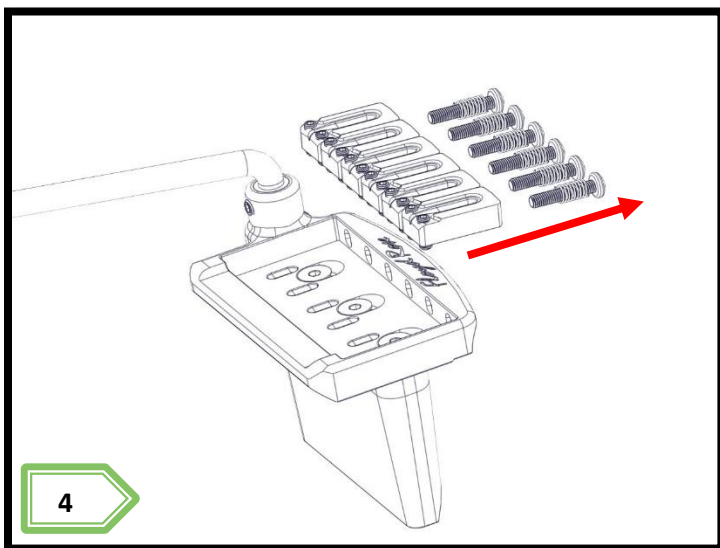


2.) With the Rail nipple towards the 6th string (bottom E), place the Rail onto the 4 center holes of guitar.



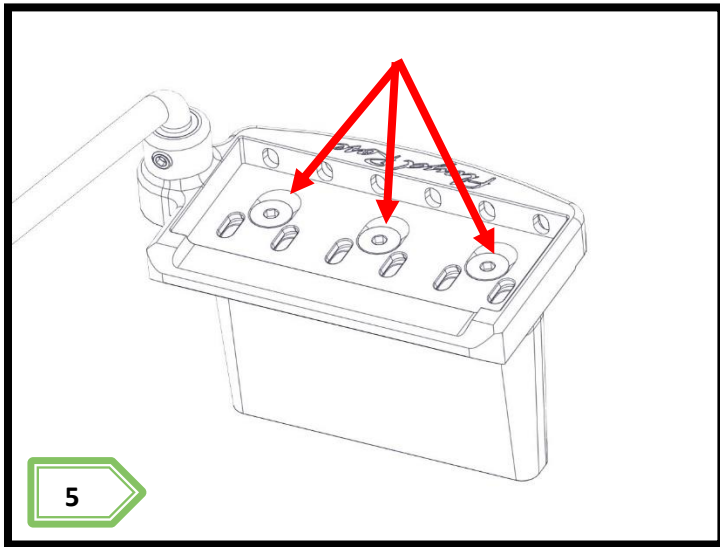
3.) Using the 4 hardware mounting screws included, screw the Rail onto the body. Bottom out screws then back off $\frac{1}{4}$ turn so the Rail is snug but can still be adjusted left to right.

Tip: A hand screwdriver is recommended for this to prevent any wood from stripping.

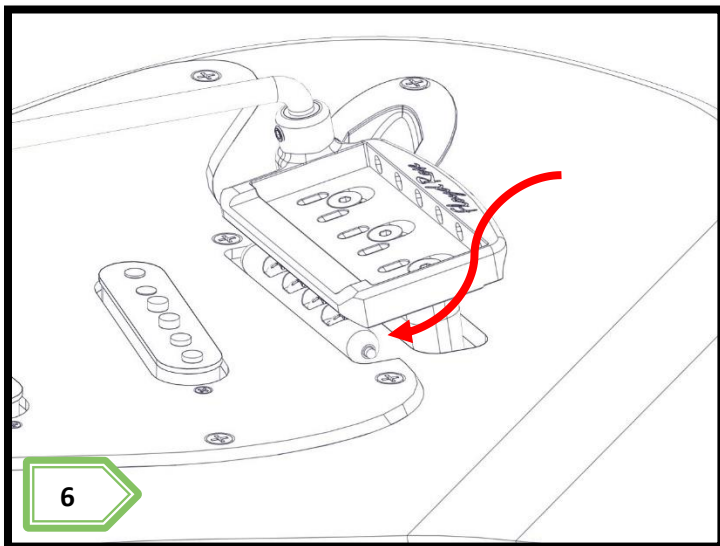


4.) Remove the saddles from the Rail Tail tremolo plate.

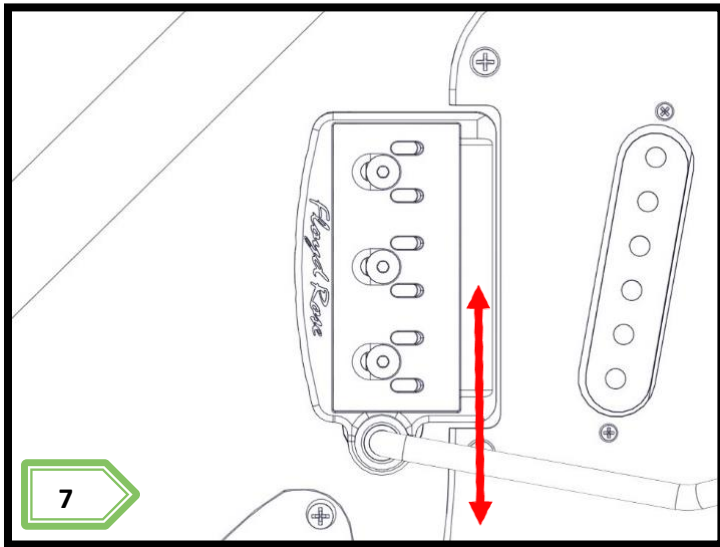
Tip: Along with the small saddle springs, screw the saddle intonation screws back into the saddles to prevent any small parts from being lost.



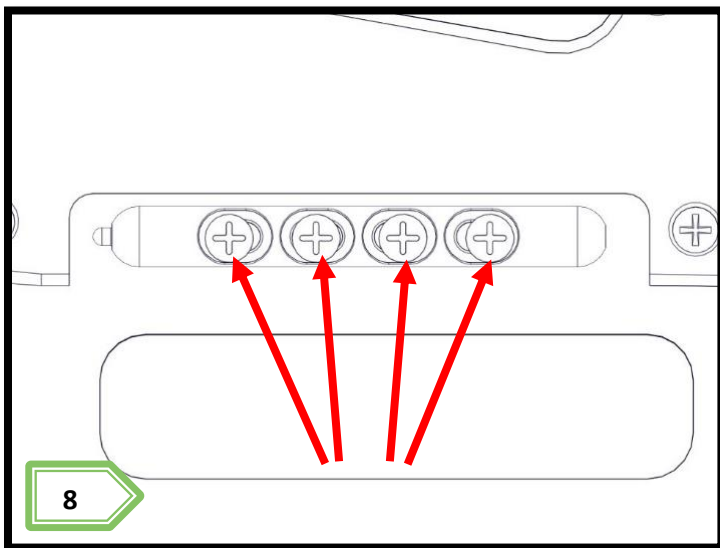
5.) Using the hex wrench provided, unloosen the 3 plate screws half a turn **CCW** so the String Block is free to move back and forth.



6.) Approaching on a slight angle, mount the tremolo unit onto the Rail. Make sure the nipple is engaged into the small slot as well as the main Rail before dropping the Tremolo Plate flush with the guitar body.

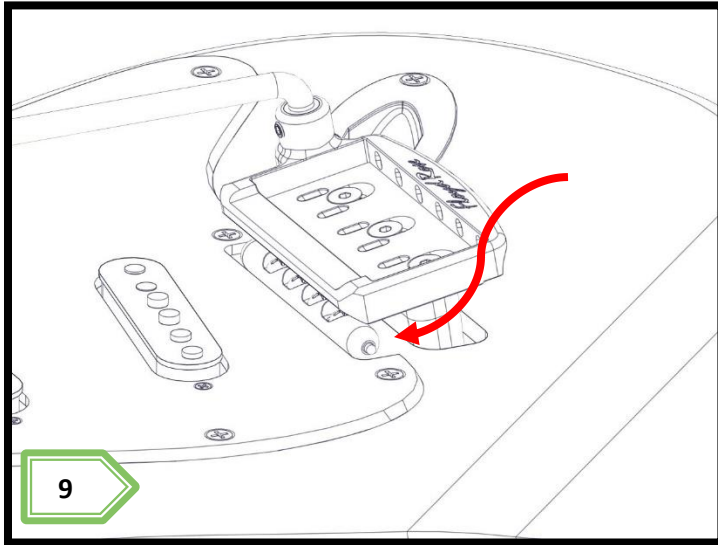


7.) With the Rail screws still loose, you can now center the Tremolo unit in between the pick guard or cavity if necessary.

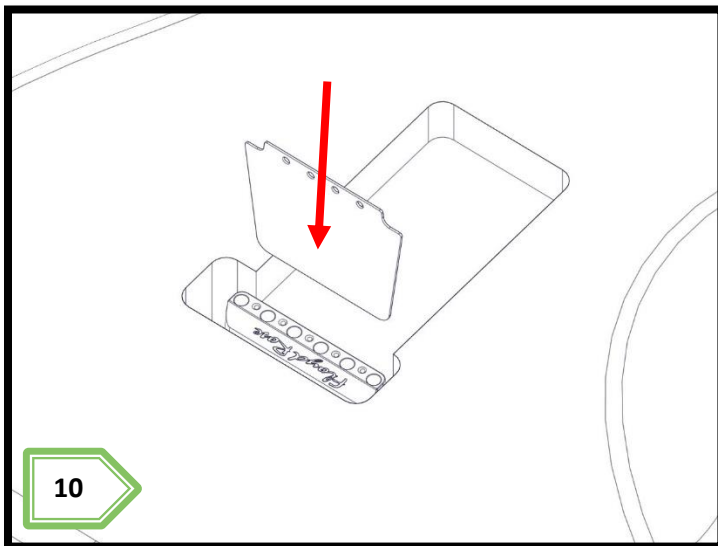


8.) After final Rail position is determined, remove the Tremolo unit and tighten the 4 Rail screws.

Tip: A hand screwdriver is recommended for this to prevent any wood from stripping.

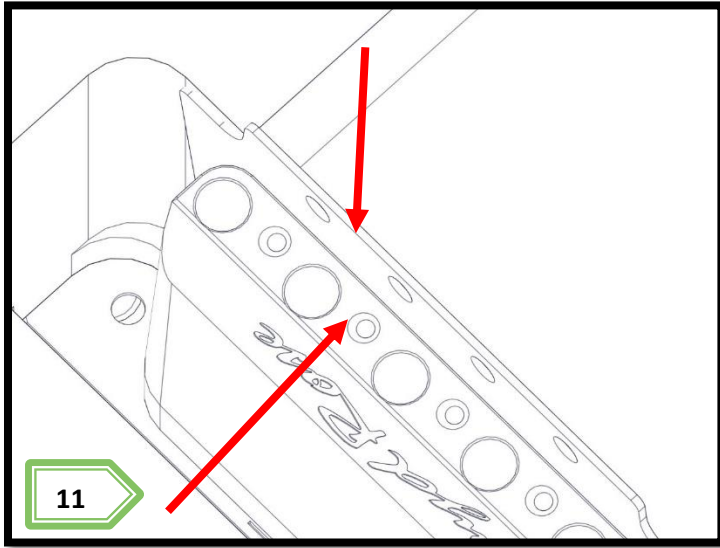


9.) After the Rail has been tightened to the guitar body, mount the tremolo unit back onto the Rail just like in step 6.

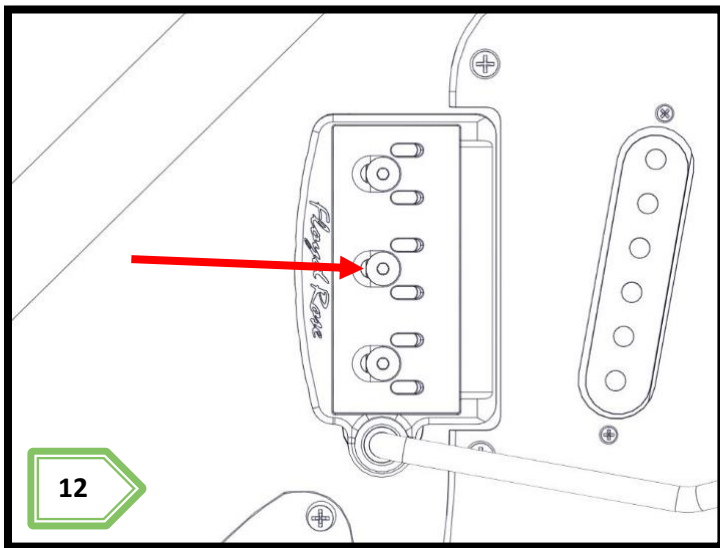


10.) Now it's time to adjust the String Block. To achieve maximum dive, the String Block will want to be positioned forward or towards the neck but it is important that the String Block doesn't make contact with the guitar cavity wall. We recommend $1/32"$ (.8mm) clearance to prevent any hang ups.

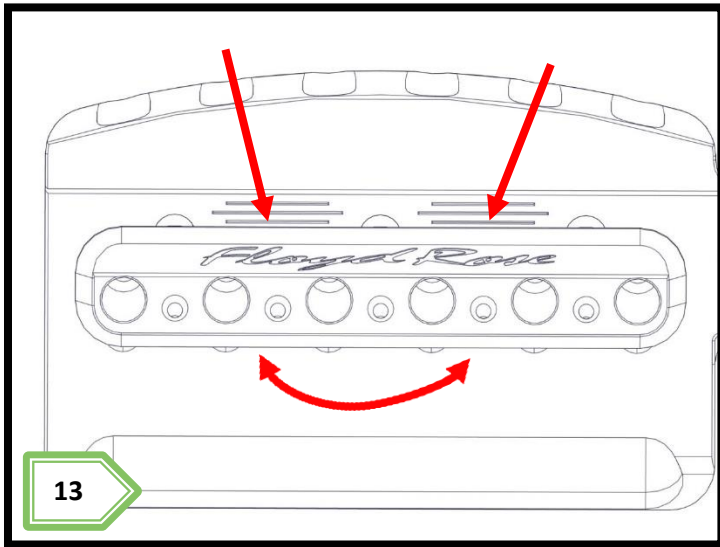
Tip: A quick way to do this is use the provided Conversion/Spacer card.



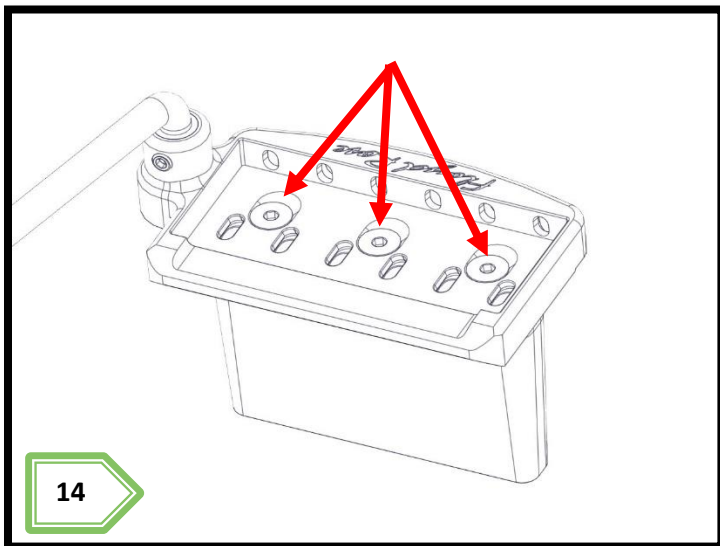
11.) With one hand holding down the Tremolo unit to the guitar body, insert the Spacer card completely as shown and push the String Block forward as much as possible.



12.) Using the hex wrench provided, slightly tighten the middle plate screw while still holding the Spacer card and String Block in place.

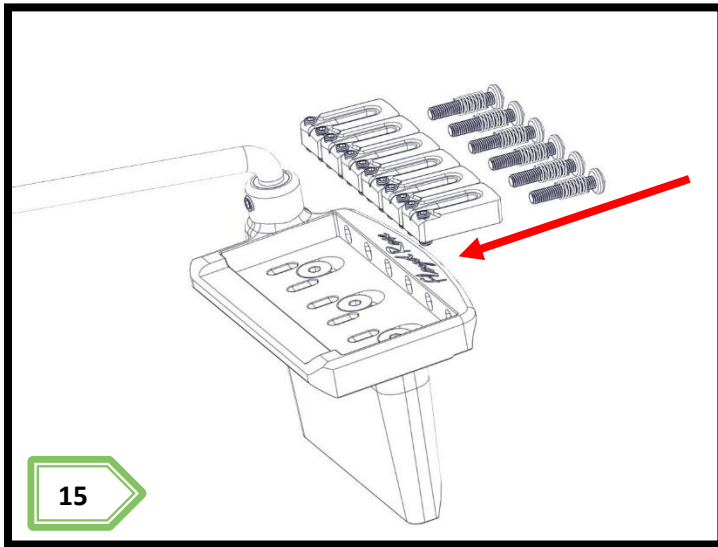


13.) Remove the Tremolo unit from the guitar and turn over. Using your thumbs, slightly rotate String Block one way or the other to get it parallel with a set of long or short sight lines. Whichever set is nearest. This will ensure the String Block is square with the Tremolo Plate.



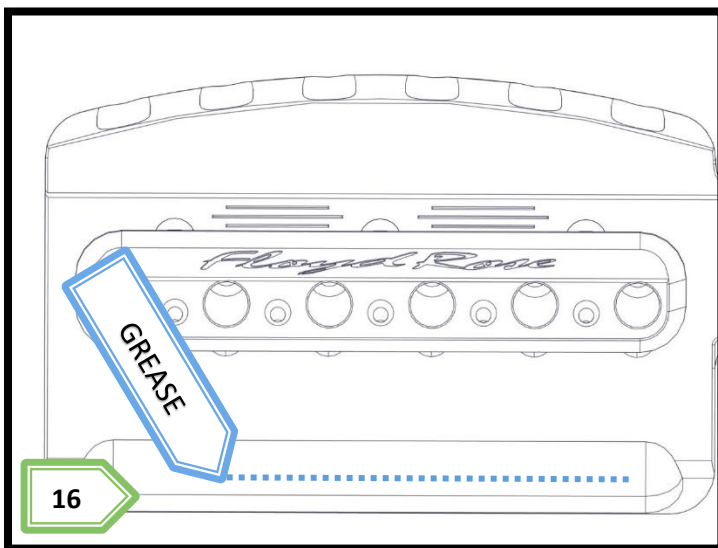
14.) When the String Block is properly positioned and squared, tighten all 3 plate screws. Double check by remounting onto Rail before continuing any further.

Tip: The Tremolo Plate should naturally sit flush on top of guitar body.



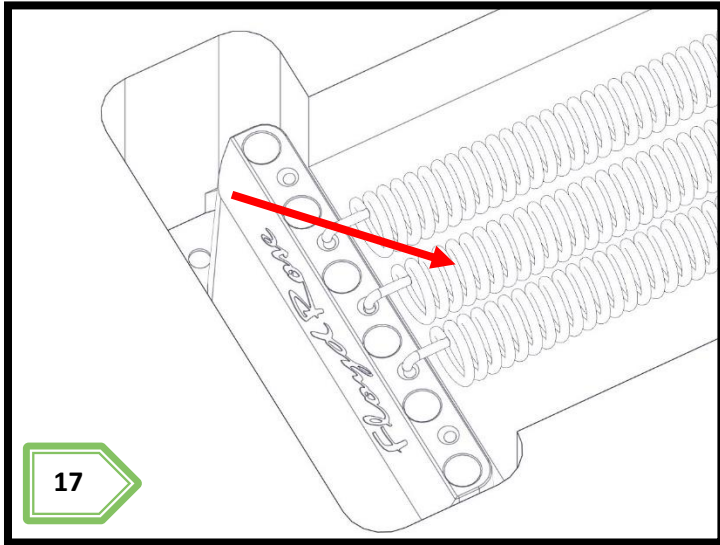
15.) Reinstall the saddles onto the Tremolo Plate.

Tip: To help speed up set up time, look at the saddle positions from your old tremolo as reference for a rough intonation.



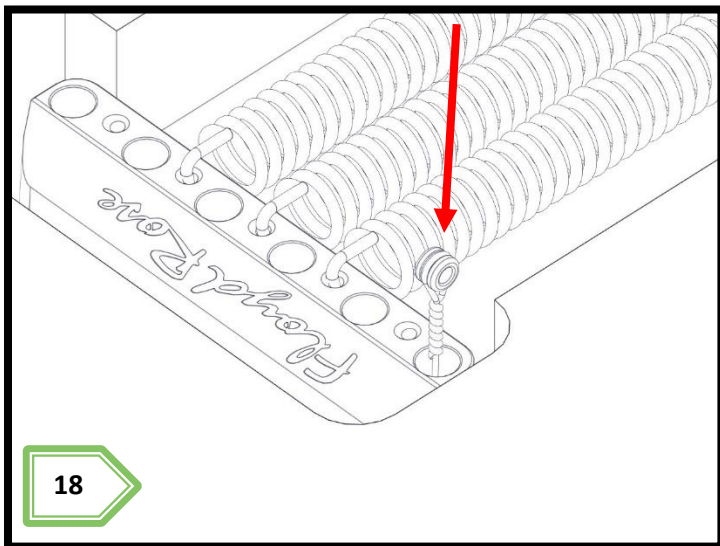
16.) Using the grease provided, apply a strip inside the slot cavity of the Tremolo Plate and spread evenly.

Tip: For smoother action, use a dab on the string nut as well. It's recommended that grease is present or reapplied between every string change. For optimum performance and minimal wear, a high quality synthetic lubricant with PTFE is recommended.

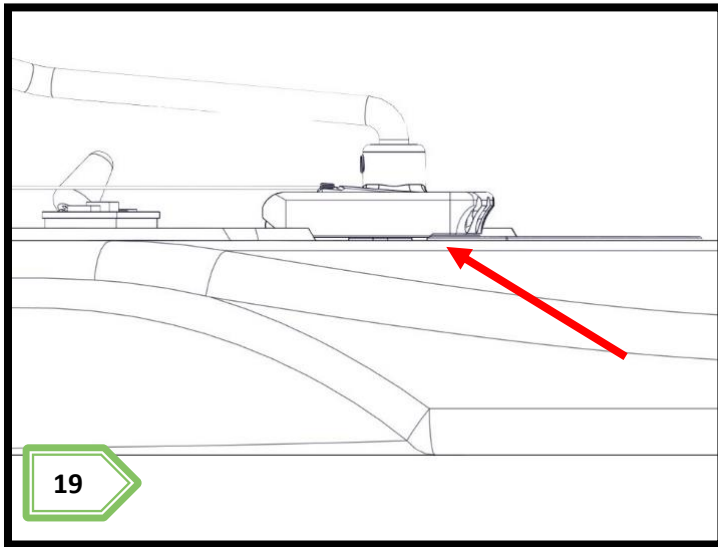


17.) Mount the Tremolo unit back onto the Rail just like in step 6. Attach at least 3 springs from the String Block to the claw before installing new strings.

Tip: Wipe away any excess grease that may have oozed out.

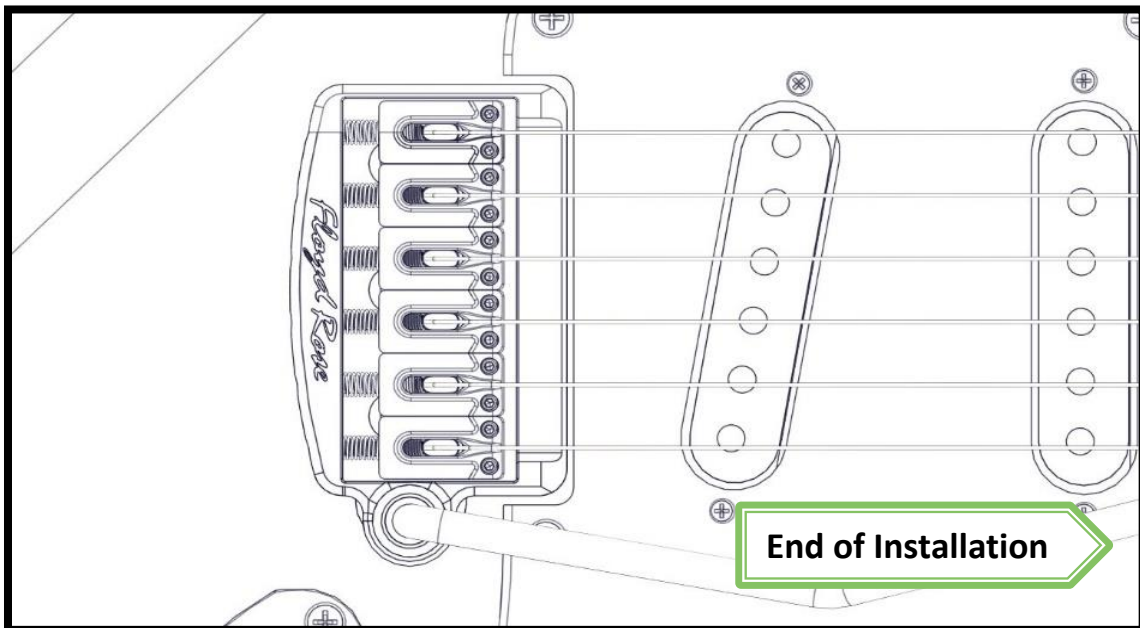


18.) Push strings through the 6 larger holes and tune the guitar as you normally would.

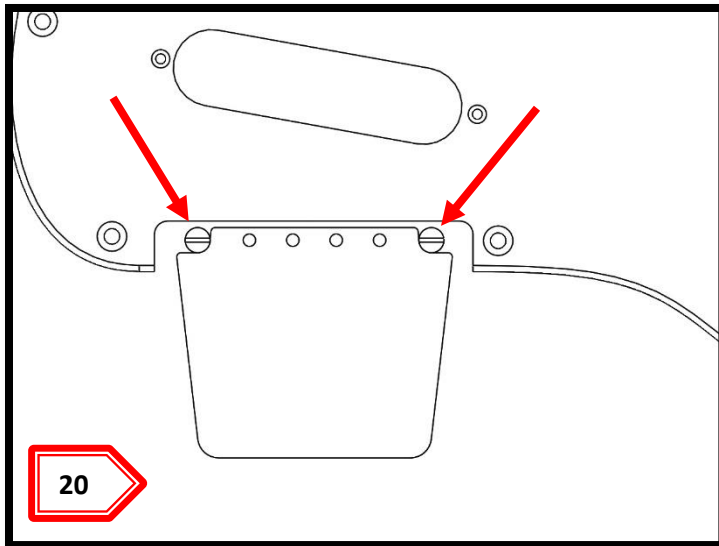


19.) When tuning the guitar, make sure that the Tremolo Plate stays in contact with the guitar body. If the Tremolo Plate begins to lift slightly, you'll need to tighten down the claw screws to increase the spring tension.

Tip: After the guitar is in tune and the Tremolo Plate is seated against the guitar, you can slowly loosen the claw screws just before the Tremolo Plate begins to lift. This will help keep the guitar in tune as well as make for an easier dive.

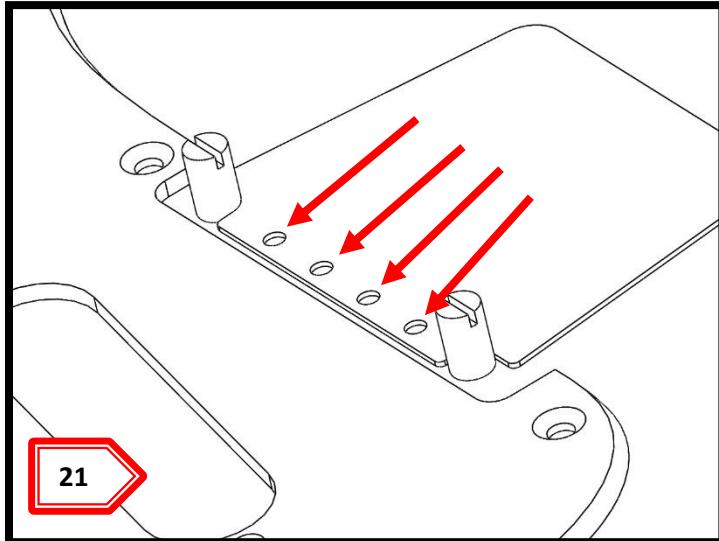


2 Point Tremolo Conversion



20.) Remove the 2 point tremolo from the guitar. Use the Conversion / Spacer card provided and line up against the 2 studs as shown.

NOTE: This card is designed to work with standard 6mm diameter threaded studs. It is a tool to help locate the center line of the studs. Results may vary.



21.) Mark the 4 middle holes and remove card and studs. Using a $3/32$ " drill bit, drill the 4 holes to a depth of at least 1". Be careful not to blow through the other side.

Tip: Wrap a piece of tape around the drill bit to the appropriate depth.

When complete, proceed back to step 2.