

Fishman PRO-MAN-P51

Fishman Prefix Pro Blend Pickup System User Manual

Model: PRO-MAN-P51 (Narrow Format)

Brand: Fishman

1. INTRODUCTION

The Fishman Prefix Pro Blend Pickup System is designed for acoustic-electric guitars, offering advanced sound shaping capabilities in a compact form factor. This system integrates a high-quality undersaddle pickup with an internal microphone, allowing for a versatile blend of acoustic tones. Its smaller bezel design makes it an excellent fit for slim-bodied acoustic-electric instruments, occupying approximately one-third less space than standard Prefix models.

Key Features:

- Compact design for slim-bodied acoustic-electrics (2" x 3" / 50mm x 76mm bezel).
- Internal microphone with a dedicated Pickup/Mic blend control.
- Wide-range semi-parametric Contour EQ.
- Supports stereo or mono signal paths for the pickup and microphone.
- Includes an Acoustic Matrix Undersaddle Pickup and Switchjack Stereo Endpin Jack.

2. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

Below is an image of the Fishman Prefix Pro Blend control panel, highlighting its various controls and indicators.





Figure 1: Fishman Prefix Pro Blend Pickup System Control Panel. This image displays the front panel of the Fishman Prefix Pro Blend system, featuring controls for Frequency, Notch, Volume, Phase, Clip/Batt indicator, Bass, Contour, Treble, and Blend sliders, along with labels for Pickup and Mic. The Fishman logo is visible at the bottom.

Control Panel Features:

- **FREQUENCY Knob:** Adjusts the frequency range affected by the Notch filter.
- **NOTCH Knob:** Controls the depth of the feedback-suppressing notch filter.
- **VOLUME Knob:** Master output level control for the entire system.
- **PHASE Switch:** Reverses the phase of the output signal, useful for feedback control or tonal adjustments.
- **CLIP/BATT Indicator:** A red LED that illuminates to indicate signal clipping or a low battery condition.

- **BASS Slider:** Adjusts the low-frequency response of the instrument.
- **CONTOUR Slider:** A semi-parametric EQ control that shapes the mid-range frequencies.
- **TREBLE Slider:** Adjusts the high-frequency response of the instrument.
- **BLEND Slider:** Mixes the signal between the undersaddle pickup (labeled PICKUP) and the internal microphone (labeled MIC).

3. SETUP

3.1 Installation

Installation of the Fishman Prefix Pro Blend Pickup System typically involves routing the preamp into the side of the guitar and installing the undersaddle pickup and endpin jack. Due to the precision required for optimal performance and to avoid damage to your instrument, professional installation by a qualified luthier or guitar technician is highly recommended.

3.2 Battery Installation and Replacement

The Prefix Pro Blend system requires a 9V battery for operation. The battery compartment is typically located on the preamp unit itself, accessible from the outside of the guitar. To install or replace the battery:

1. Locate the battery compartment on the preamp bezel.
2. Open the compartment cover.
3. Connect a fresh 9V battery to the battery clip, observing correct polarity.
4. Place the battery into the compartment and close the cover securely.

The CLIP/BATT indicator LED will flash briefly upon power-up to confirm battery connection. If the LED illuminates steadily during use, it indicates a low battery and replacement is necessary.

4. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

This section details the function of each control on your Fishman Prefix Pro Blend system to help you achieve your desired sound.

4.1 Volume Control

The **VOLUME** knob controls the overall output level of the preamp. Start with the volume knob at a low setting and gradually increase it to avoid sudden loud sounds. Adjust to a comfortable listening level without causing distortion in your amplifier or PA system.

4.2 Notch and Frequency Controls

The **NOTCH** filter is designed to suppress feedback. When feedback occurs, slowly turn the NOTCH knob until the feedback is eliminated. The **FREQUENCY** knob allows you to select the specific frequency that the NOTCH filter will target. Experiment with both controls to effectively combat feedback without significantly altering your desired tone.

4.3 Phase Switch

The **PHASE** switch reverses the polarity of the output signal. This can be useful in two scenarios: 1) to reduce feedback, especially when playing at high volumes, and 2) to achieve a fuller sound when combined with other microphones or pickups. Toggle the switch to determine which position sounds best or reduces feedback most effectively.

4.4 EQ Sliders (Bass, Contour, Treble)

- **BASS:** Adjusts the low-end frequencies. Move the slider up to boost bass for a warmer, fuller sound, or down to cut bass to reduce muddiness.
- **CONTOUR:** This semi-parametric control allows you to shape the mid-range. Moving the slider up boosts the mids, while moving it down scoops them. This is crucial for defining the guitar's presence and cutting through a mix.
- **TREBLE:** Adjusts the high-end frequencies. Move the slider up to add sparkle and clarity, or down to soften harshness.

Experiment with these sliders to tailor your acoustic guitar's tone to your preference and the performance environment.

4.5 Blend Control

The **BLEND** slider allows you to mix the signal from the undersaddle pickup (labeled PICKUP) with the internal microphone (labeled MIC). Sliding towards PICKUP emphasizes the direct, percussive sound of the strings, while sliding towards MIC introduces more of the guitar's natural acoustic resonance and air. Find the balance that best suits your playing style and desired tone.

4.6 CLIP/BATT Indicator

The red **CLIP/BATT** LED serves two purposes:

- **Clipping:** If the LED flashes during playing, it indicates that the input signal is too strong and causing distortion (clipping). Reduce your playing dynamics or adjust the input gain (if available on your amplifier/PA) to prevent clipping.
- **Low Battery:** If the LED remains steadily lit, it signifies that the 9V battery is low and needs to be replaced soon.

5. MAINTENANCE

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to clean the control panel. Avoid abrasive cleaners or solvents, which can damage the finish or controls.
- **Battery Life:** To prolong battery life, unplug your guitar cable from the endpin jack when the instrument is not in use. The system draws power whenever a cable is connected.
- **Storage:** Store your guitar in a climate-controlled environment to protect both the instrument and the electronics.
- **Professional Service:** For any internal repairs or complex issues, consult a qualified technician or Fishman authorized service center.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
No sound output.	Dead or low battery. Cable not fully inserted. Volume knob set to zero. Faulty cable or amplifier.	Replace 9V battery. Ensure cable is securely plugged into the endpin jack. Increase the VOLUME knob. Test with a different cable and amplifier.
Weak or distorted sound.	Low battery. CLIP/BATT LED flashing (clipping). EQ settings are extreme. Improper pickup seating.	Replace 9V battery. Reduce playing dynamics or output volume. Adjust EQ sliders to a more neutral position. Consult a technician for pickup inspection.
Feedback issues.	High volume levels. Proximity to amplifier/speakers. Phase cancellation.	Utilize the NOTCH and FREQUENCY controls. Engage the PHASE switch. Move away from sound sources. Reduce overall volume.

7. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Item Weight	10.9 ounces

Feature	Detail
Product Dimensions	8.75 x 5.5 x 3.25 inches
ASIN	B001EZQJ0A
Item model number	PRO-MAN-P51
Batteries	9V batteries required.
Date First Available	July 26, 2010
Color Name	Black
Compatible Devices	Guitar
Connector Type	3.5mm Jack
Material Type	Plastic
Output Wattage	20 Watts (Note: This might refer to an associated amplifier, not the preamp itself, which is typically low power. Interpreting as provided.)
Power Source	Corded Electric (Note: This contradicts "9V batteries required." It likely refers to an external power option or a general product category. Interpreting as provided.)
Brand	Fishman
Color	Black
Material	Plastic

Note: Specifications are subject to change without notice.

8. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Fishman products are manufactured to high standards and are typically covered by a limited warranty against defects in materials and workmanship. For specific warranty terms, duration, and registration information, please refer to the documentation included with your product or visit the official Fishman website. For technical support, service, or parts, please contact Fishman customer service directly or an authorized Fishman service center.

You can find more information and contact details on the official Fishman website:www.fishman.com

ASK A QUESTION ABOUT THIS MANUAL

Ask about setup, troubleshooting, compatibility, parts, safety, or missing instructions. Manuals+ will review the question and use this page's manual context to help answer it.

Name

Anonymous

Email

you@example.com

After a successful submission, we securely hash the supplied account or form email before sending it to Microsoft Advertising for conversion attribution. [Privacy details](#).

Question

Example: How do I reset this device or fix this error?

Details

Model number, symptoms, what you tried, or the section of the manual you are using.

Submit question