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Ashton SL29/12CEQ

Ashton SL29/12CEQ 12-String Electro-Acoustic Guitar Instruction Manual

Model: SL29/12CEQ | Brand: Ashton

Introduction

Welcome to the instruction manual for your new Ashton SL29/12CEQ 12-String Electro-Acoustic Guitar. This manual provides essential information for the proper setup, operation, maintenance, and troubleshooting of your instrument. Please read it thoroughly to ensure optimal performance and longevity of your guitar.

Product Overview

The Ashton SL29/12CEQ is a slim-line 12-string electro-acoustic guitar designed for comfort and rich sound. It features a cutaway body for easier access to upper frets and an integrated preamp system for amplified performance.

Key Features

- Slim-Line 12-String Electro-Acoustic Guitar
- Spruce top, Sapele back and sides, Mahogany neck, Rosewood fingerboard
- B-Band T35 preamp pickup system
- Tobacco Sunburst finish
- Diecast tuners, strings included
- Right-handed electro-acoustic with a cutaway

Components

Familiarize yourself with the main components of your guitar:

- **Body:** Features a Spruce top for resonance and Sapele back and sides for balanced tone. The cutaway design allows for comfortable access to higher frets.
- **Neck:** Constructed from Mahogany with a Rosewood fingerboard, providing a smooth playing surface.
- **Headstock:** Equipped with 12 diecast tuners for precise and stable tuning.
- **Bridge:** A Rosewood bridge securely holds the 12 strings.
- **Preamp System:** The B-Band T35 preamp is integrated into the side of the guitar, offering controls for volume and tone

when amplified.



This image displays the full Ashton SL29/12CEQ 12-String Electro-Acoustic Guitar, showcasing its slim-line body, cutaway design, and Tobacco Sunburst finish.



A detailed view of the guitar's body, highlighting the soundhole rosette and the Sapele back and sides.



This image shows the headstock of the Ashton SL29/12CEQ, featuring the 12 diecast tuners and the Ashton logo.



A detailed view of the B-Band T35 preamp system, including its controls for volume and tone adjustments, located on the upper bout of the guitar.



This image focuses on the guitar's bridge, showing the saddle and the arrangement of the 12 strings.

Setup

Unpacking and Initial Inspection

Carefully remove the guitar from its packaging. Inspect the instrument for any signs of damage that may have occurred during shipping. Ensure all components are present and intact.

Battery Installation

The B-Band T35 preamp system requires a 9V battery for operation. The battery compartment is typically located on the side of the guitar, near the preamp controls. Open the compartment, insert a fresh 9V battery, ensuring correct polarity, and close the cover securely. A 9V battery is included with the guitar.

Tuning the 12-String Guitar

Tuning a 12-string guitar involves tuning pairs of strings. The standard tuning for a 12-string guitar is E-A-D-G-B-E, similar to a 6-string, but with octave or unison pairs:

1. **Low E (6th string):** Two E strings, one tuned to standard E, the other an octave higher.
2. **A (5th string):** Two A strings, one tuned to standard A, the other an octave higher.
3. **D (4th string):** Two D strings, one tuned to standard D, the other an octave higher.
4. **G (3rd string):** Two G strings, one tuned to standard G, the other an octave higher.
5. **B (2nd string):** Two B strings, both tuned to standard B (unison).
6. **High E (1st string):** Two E strings, both tuned to standard E (unison).

Use a reliable electronic tuner for accuracy. Tune each string pair carefully, starting with the lower octave/unison string first.

Connecting to an Amplifier

To amplify your guitar, connect a standard 1/4-inch instrument cable from the guitar's output jack (usually located near the strap button at the bottom of the guitar) to your amplifier or PA system. Ensure your amplifier is turned off or at a low volume before connecting or disconnecting the cable to prevent sudden loud noises.

Operating Instructions

Basic Playing

Hold the guitar comfortably, ensuring proper posture. The 12-string configuration produces a rich, full sound. Experiment with strumming and fingerpicking techniques to explore its tonal capabilities.

Using the B-Band T35 Preamp System

The B-Band T35 preamp allows you to control your amplified sound. The controls typically include:

- **Volume:** Adjusts the overall output level of the amplified signal.
- **Tone Controls:** These may include Bass, Middle, and Treble sliders or knobs to shape the guitar's tonal characteristics. Adjust these to suit your preference and the acoustic environment.
- **Phase Switch:** (If present) Helps to reduce feedback when playing at high volumes.
- **Battery Indicator:** A small LED light that illuminates when the battery is low, indicating it's time for replacement.

Start with all tone controls at their center or flat position and adjust gradually. Always ensure the volume on your amplifier is set appropriately before adjusting the guitar's preamp volume.

Maintenance

Cleaning

Regular cleaning helps maintain the guitar's appearance and playability. Use a soft, lint-free cloth to wipe down the body, neck, and strings after each use. For the body, a guitar-specific polish can be used sparingly. Avoid abrasive cleaners or solvents.

String Replacement

Strings should be replaced periodically, as they lose their tone and can become difficult to tune. When replacing 12-string guitar strings, it is often recommended to change them one pair at a time to maintain neck tension. Use light or extra-light gauge 12-string sets to reduce tension on the neck and bridge.

Storage and Humidity

Store your guitar in a stable environment, away from extreme temperature changes, direct sunlight, and high humidity. Ideally, store it in a hard case with a humidifier, especially in dry climates, to prevent wood warping or cracking.

Troubleshooting

Here are some common issues and their potential solutions:

- **No sound when plugged in:**
  - Check if the 9V battery in the preamp is fresh and correctly installed.
  - Ensure the instrument cable is securely connected to both the guitar and the amplifier.
  - Verify the amplifier is turned on and its volume is up.
  - Check the guitar's preamp volume control.
- **Poor tuning stability:**
  - Ensure strings are properly stretched after installation.
  - Check for worn or old strings; replace if necessary.
  - Verify that the tuners are functioning correctly and not slipping.
- **Buzzing or rattling sounds:**
  - Check for loose hardware (tuners, strap buttons).
  - Inspect the strings for proper seating in the nut and bridge saddle.
  - If the buzzing is from frets, the guitar may require a professional setup.

Specifications

Detailed technical specifications for the Ashton SL29/12CEQ guitar:

Feature	Detail
Item Weight	6.61 pounds
Product Dimensions	42.72 x 24.02 x 5.71 inches
Item Model Number	SL29/12CEQTSB
Batteries	1 9V battery required (included)
Back Material	Rosewood
Body Material	Sapele
Color	Brown 12 String (Tobacco Sunburst)
Fretboard Material	Rosewood
Guitar Pickup Configuration	Combination
String Gauge	Medium
String Material	Alloy Steel
Top Material	Spruce Top, Mahogany
Neck Material Type	Mahogany

Number of Strings	12
Material Type (Overall)	Maple Wood
Battery Type	Zinc Carbon
Hand Orientation	Right

Warranty and Support

For warranty information and support, please refer to the documentation provided at the time of purchase or contact your retailer. Keep your proof of purchase for any warranty claims. For technical assistance, consult a qualified guitar technician or contact Ashton customer support through their official channels.

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