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› Gretsch G5191BK Tim Armstrong Signature Electromatic Hollow Body Electric Guitar User Manual

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Model: G5191BK

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the user manual for your Gretsch G5191BK Tim Armstrong Signature Electromatic Hollow Body Electric Guitar. This manual provides essential information for setting up, operating, maintaining, and troubleshooting your instrument. Designed for durability and distinctive tone, this hollow body electric guitar features a maple top, back, and sides, a maple neck, and a rosewood fingerboard. It is equipped with two humbucking pickups and a tremolo bridge system.

Please read this manual thoroughly to ensure proper use and care of your guitar, maximizing its lifespan and performance.



Image: Full view of the Gretsch G5191BK Tim Armstrong Signature Electromatic Hollow Body Electric Guitar, showcasing its black finish and gold hardware.

SETUP

1. Unpacking

Carefully remove the guitar from its packaging. Retain all packaging materials for future transport or storage. Inspect the instrument for any signs of damage that may have occurred during shipping.

2. Initial Inspection

Before playing, visually inspect the guitar for any loose parts, scratches, or other imperfections. Check that all tuning machines are secure and that the bridge is properly seated.

3. Tuning

Tune the guitar using an electronic tuner. Standard tuning is E-A-D-G-B-e (from thickest to thinnest string). Gently stretch new strings after initial tuning to help them settle and hold pitch better.



Image: Close-up of the Gretsch G5191BK headstock, showing the tuning machines and Gretsch logo.

4. Strap Attachment

Attach a guitar strap to the strap buttons located on the lower bout and the upper horn of the guitar body. Ensure the strap is securely fastened before playing.

5. Amplifier Connection

Connect a standard 1/4-inch instrument cable from the guitar's output jack (located on the lower bout) to your amplifier's input. Ensure your amplifier is turned off or on standby before connecting or disconnecting the cable to prevent sudden

loud noises.

OPERATING

Controls Overview

Your Gretsch G5191BK features a straightforward control layout for shaping your tone:

- **Individual Pickup Volume Knobs:** Two knobs control the volume of the neck and bridge humbucking pickups independently.
- **Master Volume Knob:** This knob controls the overall output volume of the guitar.
- **Master Tone Knob:** This knob adjusts the overall treble response of the guitar. Turning it clockwise increases treble, and counter-clockwise decreases it.
- **3-Position Pickup Selector Switch:** Located on the upper bout, this switch allows you to select which pickup(s) are active:
 - **Up Position:** Neck pickup only.
 - **Middle Position:** Both neck and bridge pickups.
 - **Down Position:** Bridge pickup only.



Image: Close-up of the Gretsch G5191BK body, showing the humbucking pickups, control knobs, and f-holes.

Playing Techniques (Basic)

Hold the guitar comfortably, whether seated or standing. Experiment with the control knobs and pickup selector to find your desired sound. The hollow body construction contributes to a resonant tone, which can be influenced by your playing

dynamics.

MAINTENANCE

1. Cleaning

- **Body and Neck:** Wipe down the body and neck with a soft, lint-free cloth after each use to remove sweat and fingerprints. For a deeper clean, use a guitar-specific polish or cleaner sparingly.
- **Fretboard:** Periodically clean the rosewood fretboard with a specialized fretboard cleaner and conditioner to prevent drying and cracking.
- **Hardware:** Use a dry cloth to wipe down metal hardware (bridge, tuners, pickups) to prevent tarnishing.

2. String Replacement

Strings should be replaced regularly, depending on playing frequency and string type. Old strings can lose their tone and intonation. Replace one string at a time to maintain neck tension. Refer to online resources or a qualified technician for detailed string changing instructions.

3. Fretboard Care

The rosewood fretboard benefits from occasional conditioning. Apply a small amount of lemon oil or a dedicated fretboard conditioner to a cloth and wipe it onto the fretboard. Allow it to soak in for a few minutes, then wipe off any excess.

4. Storage

When not in use, store your guitar in a suitable case or gig bag to protect it from dust, impacts, and environmental changes. Avoid extreme temperatures and humidity.

5. Humidity Control

Hollow body guitars are particularly sensitive to humidity changes. Maintain a stable humidity level (ideally between 45-55%) in the storage environment to prevent wood warping, cracking, or other structural damage. Use a humidifier or dehumidifier as needed.

TROUBLESHOOTING

This section addresses common issues you might encounter with your electric guitar.

No Sound

- **Check Cables:** Ensure all instrument cables are securely connected to both the guitar and the amplifier. Try a different cable.
- **Amplifier Settings:** Verify the amplifier is turned on, not on standby, and its volume is up.
- **Guitar Controls:** Ensure the master volume knob on the guitar is turned up and the pickup selector switch is in an active position.

Buzzing or Humming

- **Grounding Issues:** Ensure your amplifier is properly grounded. Try plugging into a different outlet.
- **Loose Connections:** Check if any input jack or control knob feels loose.
- **String Action:** If the buzzing is mechanical (strings hitting frets), the string action might be too low. This often requires professional adjustment.

Tuning Instability

- **New Strings:** New strings require stretching to stabilize.

- **Worn Strings:** Old or corroded strings can cause tuning issues. Replace them.
- **Tuning Machines:** Ensure tuning machine screws are snug.
- **Nut:** A poorly cut or worn nut can cause strings to bind. This may require professional attention.

SPECIFICATIONS

The following table details the key specifications of the Gretsch G5191BK Tim Armstrong Signature Electromatic Hollow Body Electric Guitar:

Feature	Specification
Model Number	2516000506
Item Weight	14.6 pounds
Product Dimensions	49.08 x 20.92 x 8.79 inches
Body Material	Maple
Top Material	Maple Wood
Back Material	Maple Wood
Neck Material Type	Maple
Fretboard Material	Rosewood
Number of Strings	6
Guitar Pickup Configuration	H-H (Humbucker-Humbucker)
Guitar Bridge System	Tremolo
String Material	Alloy Steel
Color	Black
Hand Orientation	Right

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Your Gretsch G5191BK Tim Armstrong Signature Electromatic Hollow Body Electric Guitar is covered by a manufacturer's warranty. Please refer to the warranty card included with your purchase or visit the official Gretsch website for detailed information regarding warranty terms and conditions.

For technical support, service, or any questions not covered in this manual, please contact Gretsch customer service or an authorized Gretsch dealer. Contact information can typically be found on the official Gretsch website (www.gretschguitars.com).

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.

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