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Sterling by Music Man Ray5

Sterling by Music Man S.U.B. Series Ray5 StingRay Bass Instruction Manual

Model: Ray5

INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential information for the setup, operation, and maintenance of your Sterling by Music Man S.U.B. Series Ray5 StingRay Bass. Designed for excellent playability and clear low-end tone, the Ray5 features an active humbucking pickup and a 2-band EQ. Please read this manual thoroughly to ensure proper use and longevity of your instrument.

SETUP

1. Initial Inspection

Upon unboxing, carefully inspect your bass for any signs of damage. Ensure all components are securely attached. The instrument is typically set up at the factory, but minor adjustments may be needed due to shipping or environmental changes.

2. Stringing and Tuning

The Ray5 is a 5-string bass. Ensure strings are correctly seated in the bridge and wound properly around the tuning pegs. Tune the bass to standard tuning: B-E-A-D-G (from lowest to highest string).



Image: Front view of the Sterling by Music Man Ray5 StingRay Bass, showcasing its Mint Green finish, white pickguard, and 5-string configuration.

3. Action and Intonation Adjustment

The string action (height above the fretboard) and intonation (accuracy of notes across the fretboard) are crucial for playability and tone. These adjustments are typically made at the bridge saddles and truss rod. For optimal performance, especially if you are new to bass setup, it is recommended to have these adjustments performed by a qualified guitar technician.

4. Active Electronics and Battery

The Ray5 features active electronics, requiring a 9V battery for operation. The battery compartment is located on the back of the bass. Ensure a fresh battery is installed before use to guarantee proper function of the humbucking pickup and 2-band EQ.



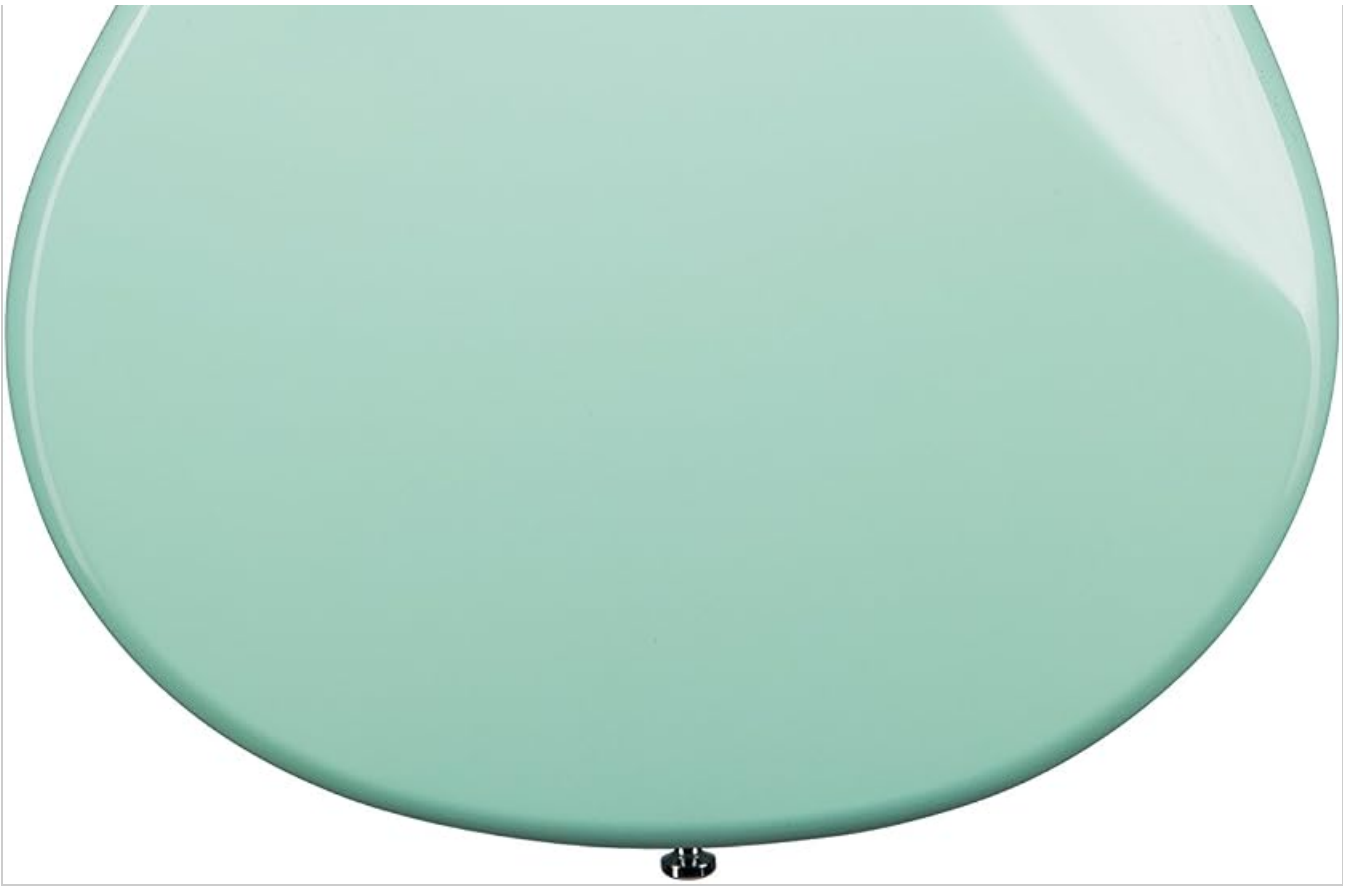


Image: Close-up of the rear of the bass body, highlighting the battery compartment for the active electronics.

5. Connecting to an Amplifier

Connect your bass to an amplifier using a standard 1/4-inch instrument cable. Ensure the amplifier is turned off or at a low volume before connecting or disconnecting the cable to prevent damage to your equipment.

OPERATING THE RAY5 BASS

1. Controls Overview

The Ray5 is equipped with a single humbucking pickup and an active 2-band equalizer for versatile tone shaping. The controls typically include:

- **Volume Knob:** Controls the overall output level of the bass.
- **Treble Knob:** Boosts or cuts high frequencies.
- **Bass Knob:** Boosts or cuts low frequencies.





Image: Detailed view of the bass's control knobs (volume, treble, bass) and the bridge assembly.

2. Tone Shaping

Experiment with the Treble and Bass knobs to achieve your desired sound. Boosting the bass can add warmth and depth, while boosting the treble can enhance clarity and attack. Adjusting these controls in conjunction with your amplifier settings will allow for a wide range of tonal possibilities.

MAINTENANCE

1. Cleaning

- **Body:** Wipe the body with a soft, lint-free cloth after each use to remove sweat and fingerprints. For a deeper clean, use a guitar-specific polish.
- **Fretboard:** Periodically clean the fretboard to remove grime. For maple fretboards, a damp cloth can be used. For rosewood or ebony, use a specialized fretboard conditioner.
- **Strings:** Wipe down strings after playing to extend their life and maintain tone.

2. String Replacement

Replace strings regularly to maintain optimal tone and playability. When replacing, change one string at a time to maintain neck tension. Use strings of the same gauge and type to avoid significant setup changes.

3. Hardware Care

Keep all hardware (tuners, bridge, knobs) clean and free of corrosion. A light application of a non-abrasive cleaner can be used if necessary. Ensure all screws are snug, but do not overtighten.

4. Battery Replacement

When the sound becomes weak or distorted, it is likely time to replace the 9V battery for the active electronics. Open the battery compartment on the back of the bass and insert a fresh battery, observing polarity.





Image: Full back view of the Sterling by Music Man Ray5 StingRay Bass, illustrating the smooth body finish and neck attachment.

TROUBLESHOOTING

- **No Sound:** Check cable connections, amplifier power, and ensure a fresh 9V battery is installed in the bass.
- **Buzzing Strings:** This can be caused by low action, uneven frets, or improper neck relief. A truss rod adjustment or bridge saddle adjustment may be needed. Professional setup is recommended.
- **Poor Intonation:** If notes are out of tune higher up the neck, intonation adjustment at the bridge saddles is required.
- **Weak or Distorted Sound:** Replace the 9V battery. If the issue persists, consult a qualified technician.

SPECIFICATIONS

Model Name	Ray5-MG
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Brand	Sterling by Music Man
Number of Strings	5
Body Material	Basswood
Top Material	Maple
Neck Material	Hard Maple
Fretboard Material	Maple
Pickup Configuration	1 Humbucking Pickup (Active)
Electronics	Active 2-band EQ
Finish Type	Polished
Item Weight	9 Pounds
Item Dimensions (L x W x H)	45 x 2.75 x 13.5 inches

OFFICIAL PRODUCT VIDEO

Your browser does not support the video tag.

Video: A demonstration of the Sterling by Music Man S.U.B. Series Ray4 StingRay Bass, showcasing its sound and playability. While featuring the Ray4 model, the video provides a relevant overview of the S.U.B. Series StingRay bass line's characteristics.

WARRANTY

Sterling by Music Man offers a 1-year warranty to the original consumer. To initiate a warranty claim, you must receive a repair authorization from Sterling by Music Man. More detailed information regarding warranty terms and conditions is available on the official Sterling by Music Man website.

SUPPORT

For additional support, product registration, or to find authorized service centers, please visit the official Sterling by Music Man website. You can also refer to the product's Amazon store page for frequently asked questions and customer reviews.

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