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Model: RAY34HH

INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential information for the setup, operation, and maintenance of your Sterling by Music Man RAY34HH 4-String Bass Guitar. Please read these instructions carefully to ensure proper use and to maximize the lifespan of your instrument.

PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The Sterling by Music Man RAY34HH is a 4-string electric bass guitar featuring a mahogany body, roasted hard maple neck, and roasted hard maple fretboard. It is equipped with two Sterling by Music Man designed Alnico humbucking pickups and a 3-band active preamp for versatile tonal control. The instrument includes a fixed bridge and a 5-way pickup selector switch.





Image: Front view of the Sterling by Music Man RAY34HH 4-String Bass Guitar, showcasing the body, neck, headstock, pickups, and control knobs.







Image: Rear view of the Sterling by Music Man RAY34HH 4-String Bass Guitar, showing the back of the body, neck, headstock, and battery compartment.

SETUP

1. Unpacking

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

2. Battery Installation

The RAY34HH features an active preamp that requires a 9V battery. Locate the battery compartment on the back of the bass body. Open the compartment and insert a fresh 9V alkaline battery, observing the correct polarity. Close the compartment securely.

3. Initial Tuning

Before playing, tune your bass guitar. Standard tuning for a 4-string bass is E-A-D-G (from thickest to thinnest string). Use an electronic tuner for accuracy.

4. Strap Attachment

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

OPERATING THE BASS GUITAR

1. Connecting to an Amplifier

Connect one end of a standard instrument cable to the output jack on the bass guitar and the other end to the input of a bass amplifier. Ensure the amplifier's volume is set to a low level before turning it on.

2. Control Knobs

The RAY34HH features several control knobs to shape your sound:

- **Volume:** Controls the overall output level of the bass.
- **3-Band Active Preamp:**
 - **Treble:** Adjusts the high frequencies.
 - **Mid:** Adjusts the mid-range frequencies.
 - **Bass:** Adjusts the low frequencies.

These controls are active, meaning they can boost or cut frequencies. A center detent usually indicates a flat (no boost/cut) setting.

3. 5-Way Pickup Selector Switch

This switch allows you to select different pickup configurations:

1. **Position 1 (Bridge):** Activates the bridge humbucker.
2. **Position 2 (Bridge & Neck Outer Coils):** Activates the outer coils of both humbuckers for a brighter, single-coil-like tone.
3. **Position 3 (Bridge & Neck Humbuckers):** Activates both humbuckers for a full, rich tone.
4. **Position 4 (Bridge & Neck Inner Coils):** Activates the inner coils of both humbuckers.
5. **Position 5 (Neck):** Activates the neck humbucker.

MAINTENANCE

1. Cleaning

Regularly wipe down the body, neck, and strings with a soft, lint-free cloth after each use to remove sweat and grime. For deeper cleaning, use guitar-specific cleaning products. Avoid abrasive cleaners or solvents.

2. String Replacement

Strings should be replaced periodically, depending on usage. When replacing strings, change them one at a time to maintain neck tension. Use Ernie Ball strings or other high-quality bass strings of appropriate gauge.

3. Fretboard Care

The roasted maple fretboard generally requires minimal maintenance. If it appears dry, a small amount of fretboard conditioner can be applied sparingly, following the product's instructions.

4. Truss Rod Adjustment

The truss rod adjusts the neck relief. Adjustments should only be performed by experienced individuals or a qualified guitar technician. An included truss rod tool is provided for this purpose.

5. Storage

Store the bass guitar in its gig bag or a hard case when not in use to protect it from dust, humidity changes, and physical damage. Avoid extreme temperatures and humidity.

TROUBLESHOOTING

- **No Sound:**

- Check if the instrument cable is securely connected to both the bass and the amplifier.
- Ensure the amplifier is turned on and its volume is up.
- Verify that the bass's volume knob is turned up.
- Check the 9V battery in the active preamp. Replace if necessary.

- **Weak or Distorted Sound:**

- Replace the 9V battery. A low battery can cause signal degradation.
- Inspect the instrument cable for damage. Try a different cable.
- Check amplifier settings.

- **Buzzing or Hum:**

- Ensure proper grounding of your amplifier and power outlets.
- Move away from electronic devices that may cause interference.
- Check for loose connections in the bass's output jack.

- **Fret Buzz:**

- This can be caused by low string action, improper neck relief, or uneven frets. Professional setup is recommended.

SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Model Number	RAY34HH
Body Material	Mahogany
Neck Material	Roasted Hard Maple
Fretboard Material	Roasted Hard Maple
Scale Length	34 inches
Number of Strings	4
Pickups	2 x Sterling by Music Man Designed Alnico Humbuckers
Preamp	3-Band Active
Bridge System	Fixed
Controls	Volume, Treble, Mid, Bass, 5-Way Pickup Selector
Battery Requirement	1 x 9V (included)
Item Weight	9 pounds
Dimensions (L x W x H)	45 x 13.5 x 1.5 inches

WHAT'S IN THE BOX

Your Sterling by Music Man RAY34HH Bass Guitar package includes:

- Sterling by Music Man RAY34HH Bass Guitar
- Gig Bag
- Truss Rod Tool
- 1 x 9V Battery

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For warranty information, product registration, or technical support, please visit the official Sterling by Music Man website or contact their customer service department. Keep your purchase receipt as proof of ownership.

Official Website: www.sterlingbymusicman.com

