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Yamaha TRBX304

Yamaha TRBX304 4-String Bass Guitar Instruction Manual

Model: TRBX304 | Brand: Yamaha

1. INTRODUCTION

Thank you for choosing the Yamaha TRBX304 4-string bass guitar. This instrument is designed for optimal playability and versatile tone, featuring a sculpted solid mahogany body, a fast 5-piece maple/mahogany neck, and powerful YGD M3 ceramic pickups with Performance EQ circuitry. This manual provides essential information for setting up, operating, maintaining, and troubleshooting your TRBX304 bass.



Image: The Yamaha TRBX304 4-string bass in Factory Blue finish, showcasing its contoured body and headstock.

2. KEY FEATURES

- **Body Construction:** Sculpted solid mahogany body for comfortable playability and rich tone.
- **Neck:** Fast 5-piece maple/mahogany neck for enhanced stability and smooth feel.
- **Pickups:** Powerful YGD M3 ceramic pickups deliver clear, punchy tones.
- **Active Electronics:** Performance EQ circuitry with five preset curves and 2-band master equalization for a wide range of tonal options.
- **Bridge:** High-mass die-cast bridge efficiently transfers string vibrations to the body, increasing sustain.
- **Tuning Stability:** Straight string pull from nut to tuners minimizes lateral tension, ensuring superior tuning stability.

3. SETUP

3.1 Initial Inspection

Upon unboxing, inspect your bass for any visible damage. Ensure all components are securely attached. The instrument may require minor tuning adjustments due to shipping.

3.2 Tuning

Use an electronic tuner to accurately tune each string. Standard tuning for a 4-string bass is E-A-D-G (from thickest to thinnest string).

3.3 Connecting to an Amplifier

Connect a standard 1/4" instrument cable from the output jack of your bass to the input of your bass amplifier. Ensure your amplifier is powered on and set to a low volume before playing.

3.4 Battery Installation (for Active Electronics)

The TRBX304 features active electronics, requiring a 9V battery. The battery compartment is located on the back of the body. Ensure a fresh 9V battery is installed for optimal performance of the active EQ system. A low battery indicator is present on the back of the body.

4. OPERATING THE CONTROLS

The Yamaha TRBX304 is equipped with intuitive controls for shaping your tone:

- **Master Volume:** Controls the overall output level of the bass.
- **Pickup Balancer:** Blends the output between the neck and bridge pickups. Turn towards 'Neck' for a warmer, rounder tone, and towards 'Bridge' for a brighter, more articulate sound.
- **Bass EQ:** Boosts or cuts the low frequencies.
- **Treble EQ:** Boosts or cuts the high frequencies.
- **Performance EQ Switch:** This 5-way lever switch allows you to select between five optimized EQ curves, providing instant access to a variety of tones suitable for different playing styles (e.g., slap, pick, finger, flat, solo).

Demonstration of Tone Options

Video: A detailed explanation of tone options on a 5-string bass, demonstrating how the EQ and pickup balancer controls can shape the sound. While a 5-string model is shown, the principles of tone shaping apply to the TRBX304.

Yamaha TRBX Series Overview

Video: An overview of the Yamaha TRBX series, highlighting features and playability. This video features a TRBX174 model, but provides general insights into the TRBX line's design philosophy.

5. MAINTENANCE

5.1 Cleaning

Regularly wipe down your bass with a soft, dry cloth after each use to remove sweat and fingerprints. For a deeper clean, use a guitar-specific cleaning solution on the body and a fretboard conditioner on the fretboard (avoiding the frets).

5.2 String Replacement

Strings should be replaced periodically, depending on usage. When replacing strings, do so one at a time to maintain neck tension. Use appropriate gauge strings for a 4-string bass.

5.3 Battery Replacement

Replace the 9V battery for the active electronics when the low battery indicator illuminates or if you notice a degradation in sound quality or output. Always use a fresh alkaline 9V battery.

5.4 Storage

Store your bass in a stable environment, away from extreme temperature changes or humidity. Use a gig bag or hard case for protection when not in use or during transport.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

- No Sound:** Check cable connections, amplifier power, and ensure the bass's volume is turned up. Verify the 9V battery is fresh and correctly installed.
- Buzzing/Fretting Out:** This could indicate an issue with string action, neck relief (truss rod adjustment), or worn frets. Minor adjustments can often resolve this; for complex issues, consult a qualified technician.
- Poor Tuning Stability:** Ensure strings are properly wound around tuning pegs. Check the nut and bridge for any binding issues. Extreme temperature changes can also affect tuning.
- Weak/Distorted Sound:** Replace the 9V battery. Check for loose connections in the electronics cavity (if comfortable doing so, otherwise consult a technician).

7. SPECIFICATIONS

Item Weight	12 pounds
Product Dimensions	17 x 6 x 52 inches
Item Model Number	TRBX304 FTB
Body Material	Mahogany
Back Material	Basswood, Mahogany, Maple
Top Material	Mahogany, Maple
Color Name	Factory Blue

Number of Strings	4
Guitar Bridge System	Adjustable
Guitar Pickup Configuration	Combination (YGD M3 ceramic pickups)
Battery Type	Manganese (9V)

8. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Your Yamaha TRBX304 bass guitar is covered by a manufacturer's warranty. Please refer to the warranty information provided with your purchase for specific terms and conditions. For technical support, service, or additional product information, please visit the official Yamaha Musical Instruments website or contact your authorized Yamaha dealer.

Learning Resources

Yamaha offers various resources to help you learn and improve your bass playing skills. Consider exploring the official Yamaha Player Port app for beginning guitarists, which can also be beneficial for bass players.

Video: An introduction to the official Yamaha Player Port app, designed to assist beginning guitarists. This app can also be a valuable tool for new bass players.

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