

## Sadowsky MetroExpress 21-fret Hybrid PJ 4-string Bass

# Sadowsky MetroExpress 21-fret Hybrid PJ 4-string Bass Instruction Manual

## INTRODUCTION

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Welcome to the Sadowsky MetroExpress 21-fret Hybrid PJ 4-string Bass instruction manual. This document provides essential information for the proper setup, operation, maintenance, and troubleshooting of your new instrument. Please read this manual thoroughly to ensure optimal performance and longevity of your bass.

The Sadowsky MetroExpress Hybrid PJ Bass combines the classic P/J pickup configuration with Sadowsky's renowned active electronics, offering a versatile tonal palette suitable for various musical styles. Its comfortable design and high-quality components ensure a superior playing experience.

## SETUP

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### Unpacking Your Bass

Carefully remove your Sadowsky MetroExpress bass 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. If you find any damage, contact your dealer immediately.

### Initial Inspection

Before playing, visually inspect the bass. Check the neck for straightness, ensure all hardware is securely fastened, and confirm that the strings are properly seated in the bridge and nut. Minor adjustments may be necessary after shipping due to temperature and humidity changes.

### Connecting to an Amplifier

1. Ensure your amplifier is turned off and its volume is set to zero.
2. Connect one end of a standard 1/4-inch instrument cable to the output jack located on the lower bout of your bass.
3. Connect the other end of the cable to the input jack of your amplifier.
4. Turn on your amplifier and slowly raise the volume to a desired listening level.

## Tuning Your Bass

The Sadowsky MetroExpress bass is typically tuned E-A-D-G (from thickest to thinnest string). Use an electronic tuner for accurate tuning. Pluck each string individually and adjust the corresponding tuning machine head until the tuner indicates the correct pitch.

## Strap Attachment

Attach your bass 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.





Front view of the Sadowsky MetroExpress 21-fret Hybrid PJ 4-string Bass in black, showcasing its body shape, pickups, and controls.

## OPERATION

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### Controls Overview

Your Sadowsky MetroExpress bass features a comprehensive control layout designed for maximum tonal flexibility:

- **Volume Knob:** Controls the overall output level of the bass.
- **Pickup Blend Knob:** Blends between the P-style split-coil pickup (neck position) and the J-style single-coil pickup (bridge position). Turning it fully counter-clockwise selects the P-pickup, fully clockwise selects the J-pickup, and the center position blends both.
- **Passive Tone Knob (Push/Pull):** In passive mode (knob pulled up), this acts as a traditional passive tone control, rolling off high frequencies. In active mode (knob pushed down), it functions as the treble control for the active EQ.
- **Active Bass Knob:** Boosts or cuts bass frequencies when the active preamp is engaged.



Close-up view of the control knobs and pickups on the Sadowsky MetroExpress bass, illustrating the layout of the volume, blend, tone, and EQ controls.

## Adjusting Tone

Experiment with the blend knob to find your preferred mix of the P and J pickups. The P-pickup typically offers a thick, punchy tone, while the J-pickup provides a brighter, more articulate sound. Engage the active preamp by pushing the tone knob down. Use the active bass and treble controls to further sculpt your sound. The active preamp requires a 9V battery for operation.

## Battery Access

The active preamp is powered by a 9V battery, located in a compartment on the back of the bass body. To replace the battery, open the compartment cover and insert a fresh 9V battery, observing correct polarity. Always unplug your bass when not in use to conserve battery life.





Rear view of the Sadowsky MetroExpress bass, highlighting the neck joint and the battery compartment cover for the active electronics.

## MAINTENANCE

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## Cleaning

Regular cleaning will help maintain the appearance and playability of your bass. Use a soft, lint-free cloth to wipe down the body, neck, and strings after each use. For stubborn grime, a small amount of guitar-specific cleaner can be used on the body. Avoid harsh chemicals or abrasive materials.

## String Replacement

Strings should be replaced periodically, depending on your playing frequency and preference. Old strings can lose their tone and intonation. When replacing strings, change them one at a time to maintain neck tension. Use high-quality bass strings of the appropriate gauge.

## Storage

When not in use, store your bass in a suitable gig bag or hard case to protect it from dust, impacts, and extreme environmental changes. Avoid exposing the instrument to direct sunlight, excessive heat, cold, or humidity, as these can cause damage to the wood and finish.

## TROUBLESHOOTING

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Here are some common issues and their potential solutions:

- **No Sound:**

- Check if the amplifier is on and volume is up.
- Ensure the instrument cable is securely connected at both ends.
- Verify the bass's volume knob is turned up.
- If using active electronics, check the 9V battery.

- **Weak or Distorted Sound:**

- Replace the 9V battery if the active preamp is engaged.
- Check the instrument cable for damage.
- Ensure pickup heights are correctly set (consult a technician if unsure).

- **Buzzing or Fret Noise:**

- Check for proper string action and neck relief. This may require professional setup.
- Ensure all hardware (tuners, bridge saddles) is tight.
- Verify proper grounding of electronics (consult a technician).

- **Tuning Instability:**

- Ensure strings are properly stretched and seated.
- Check tuning machine screws for tightness.
- Consider replacing old strings.

For issues not resolved by these steps, or for complex adjustments, it is recommended to consult a qualified guitar technician.

## SPECIFICATIONS

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Feature	Detail
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Feature	Detail
Model	MetroExpress 21-fret Hybrid PJ 4-string Bass
Body Material	Okoume
Neck Material	Roasted Maple
Fingerboard	Maple, 12-inch radius
Frets	21
Nut	Tedur Just-A-Nut III
Neck Profile	Sadowsky Standard
Neck Finish	Natural Oil Back Finish
Bridge Pickup	Sadowsky Passive/Shielded Single-coil J
Neck Pickup	Sadowsky Passive P Split-coil
Electronics	Active Onboard 2-band EQ (Bass/Treble), Passive Tone (Push/Pull)
Hardware	Sadowsky Quick Release Bridge, 20:1 Ratio Sadowsky Tuners
Number of Strings	4
Color	Black
Item Weight	17.75 pounds
Product Dimensions	51.5 x 18.75 x 6 inches

## WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For warranty information, technical support, or service inquiries regarding your Sadowsky MetroExpress 21-fret Hybrid PJ 4-string Bass, please refer to the official Sadowsky website or contact your authorized Sadowsky dealer. Keep your proof of purchase for any warranty claims.

Sadowsky is committed to providing high-quality instruments and customer satisfaction. Do not attempt to repair the instrument yourself, as this may void your warranty. Always seek assistance from qualified professionals.