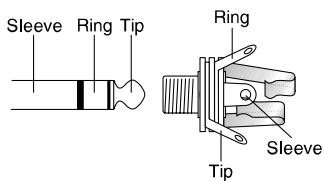


## System Components

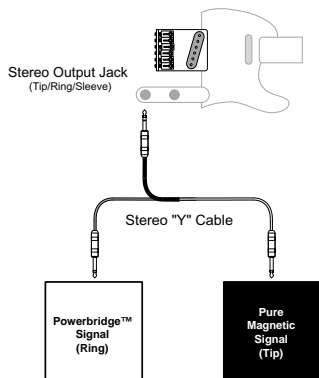
### • Stereo Jack (included)



A 1/4" stereo output jack is provided with your Powerbridge™ Pickup. It is an essential component to the Powerbridge™ System. It can send piezo and magnetic pickup signals to separate amplifiers. The magnetic pickups are wired to Tip, and the Powerbridge™ Pickup is wired to Ring.

### • Instrument Cable (not included)

Depending on how you want to set up your Powerbridge™ system, you can use one of the following three instrument cables (available from your Fishman dealer).

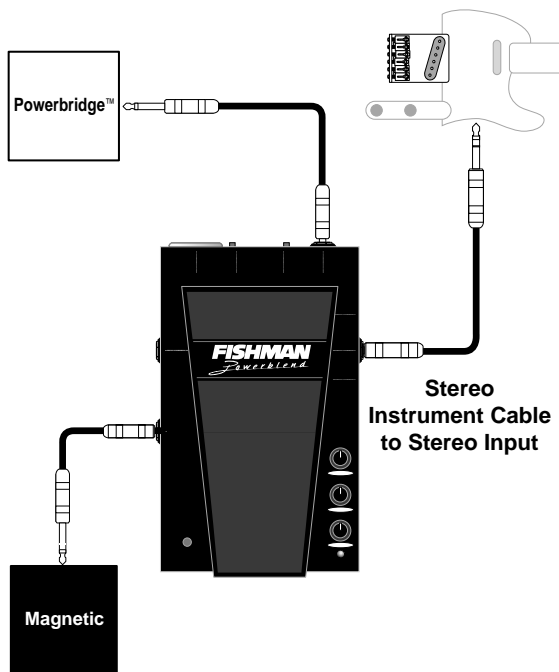


#### 1 - Stereo "Y" Cable

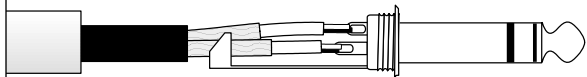
This will split the Powerbridge™ and magnetic pickup signals and send them to separate amplifiers or other destinations (PA, recording devices, etc.).

#### 2 - Stereo Instrument Cable

Both magnetic and piezo signals can be sent through a single stereo instrument cable to our outboard Powerblend™ pedal. From there, magnetic and piezo signals can be either combined to a single mono output or split to separate stereo outputs.

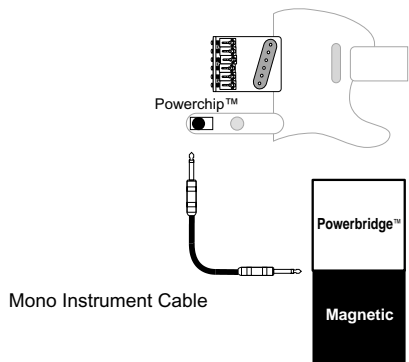


**NOTE:** To minimize cross-talk between the two signals, use a "2 Pair" premium stereo cable (available through your Fishman dealer) with separate shielding for both the Powerbridge™ and magnetic signals.

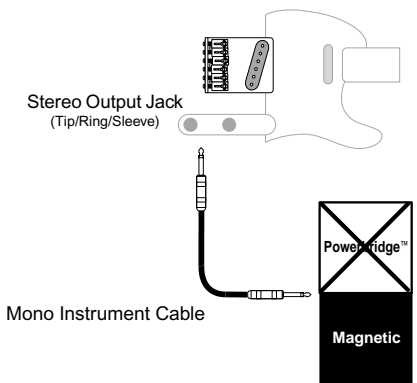


### 3 - Mono Instrument Cable

**With a Fishman Powerchip™:** A standard mono instrument cable used with a Fishman Powerchip™ will provide a combined Powerbridge™ / magnetic pickup signal. (See Powerbridge™ System User's Guide for Powerchip™ description.)



**Without a Fishman Powerchip™:** A mono instrument cable will short out the Powerbridge™ Pickup, but your magnetics will function *exactly* as they did before you installed the Powerbridge™.



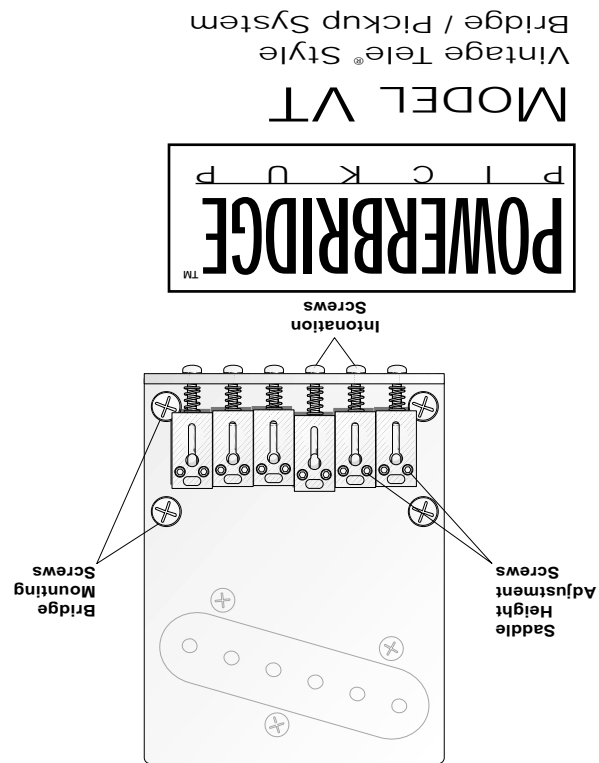
### • Basic Passive Setup

#### Stereo Outputs

The simplest way to get the Powerbridge™ Pickup up and running is to wire it and the magnetic pickups to Tip/Ring outputs of the supplied stereo jack. A stereo "Y" cable or a standard stereo cable can then carry the two signals. From there, all mixing and blending functions will be performed offboard the instrument. A Fishman Powerblend pedal is especially suited for offboard blending/mixing with this passive setup.

For a passive setup do not tie the Powerbridge™ and magnetic pickup wires together to a guitar's mono output jack. This may seem like a good idea, but it won't work. If you connect the piezo and magnetic outputs, you will experience a loss of tone and a very bizarre and un-musical interaction between the Powerbridge™ and magnetic pickups.

Magnetic and piezo pickups operate on different electrical platforms. Magnetics are "inductors" and piezos are "capacitive" devices. To mix signals on the instrument you'll need to electronically isolate or "buffer" the two signals with a Fishman Powerchip™.



- VT Powerbridge™ Pickup
- 1.5 mm hex wrench
- Shielding foil
- Drilling template
- (4) Mounting screws

### Parts List

Thank you for choosing the Fishman VT Powerbridge™ Pickup. You will find a variety of wiring options available for the Powerbridge™. To help you decide how to integrate it with your Telecaster® style guitar, please read the Powerbridge™ System User's Guide that accompanies these instructions. For technical assistance, contact Fishman Customer Support at 978-988-9665 or at tech@fishman.com.

- **Important!** Before you begin installation ...
- There are **TWO** styles of Telecaster® Powerbridges™ made by Fishman. Only **ONE** of these will fit your instrument. Be absolutely certain that you have the correct style Powerbridge™ Pickup for your Tele®. To check for fit, see the Preliminary section of the Bridge Installation instructions in this manual.
- Installation should be performed by a qualified repairman only. Fishman Transducers will not be held responsible for any damages that may result from improper installation.
- **DO NOT** disturb the black signal wires located under the saddles. They are extremely delicate. Pickup failure may result from handling these wires.

## LIMITED WARRANTY

**INSTALLATION BY A QUALIFIED PROFESSIONAL REPAIRMAN IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED. FISHMAN TRANSDUCERS WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY DAMAGES THAT MAY RESULT FROM IMPROPER INSTALLATION.**

The Fishman Powerbridge™ Pickup is warranted to function for a period of One (1) Year from the date of purchase. If the unit fails to function properly within the warranty period, free repair and the option of replacement or refund in the event that Fishman is unable to make repair are Fishman's only obligations. This warranty does not cover any consequential damages or damage to the unit due to misuse, accident, or neglect. Fishman retains the right to make such determination on the basis of factory inspection. Products returned to Fishman for repair or replacement must be shipped in accordance with the Return Policy, as follows. This warranty remains valid only if repairs are performed by Fishman. This warranty gives you specific legal rights and you may also have other rights which may vary from state to state.

#### RETURN POLICY

To return products to FISHMAN TRANSDUCERS, you must follow these steps...

1. Call FISHMAN TRANSDUCERS at 978-988-9199 for a Return Authorization Number ("RAN").
2. Enclose a copy of the original Bill of Sale as evidence of the date of purchase, with the product in its original packaging and a protective carton or mailer.
3. FISHMAN TRANSDUCERS' technicians will determine whether the item is covered by warranty or if it instead has been damaged by improper customer installation or other causes not related to defects in material or workmanship.
4. Warranty repairs or replacements will be sent automatically free of charge.
5. If FISHMAN TRANSDUCERS determines the item is not covered by warranty, we will notify you of the repair or replacement cost and wait for your authorization to proceed.

**FISHMAN**  
Acoustic Power

**FISHMAN TRANSDUCERS, INC.**  
340-D Fordham Road Wilmington MA 01887 USA  
Phone 978-988-9199 • Fax 978-988-0770  
www.fishman.com  
009-075-007 • Rev 3 • 4-18-02

Fishman's bridge system fits on the Fender Stratocaster® guitar or Fender Telecaster® guitar and other similar and comparable guitars. • FENDER, STRAT, AMERICAN STANDARD STRAT, AMERICAN STANDARD TELE, TELE are registered trademarks of Fender Musical Instruments Corp. with which Fishman Transducers Inc. is not affiliated.

## INSTALLATION GUIDE

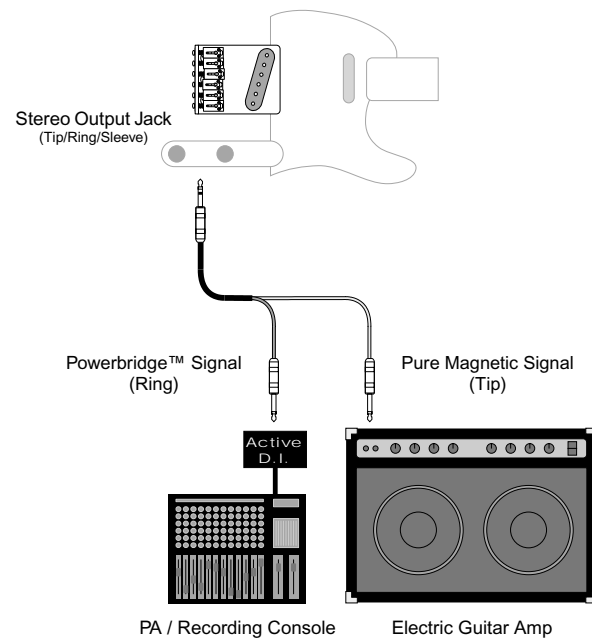


**MODEL VT**  
Vintage Tele® Style  
Bridge / Pickup System

Fits most Tele® style guitars with "Vintage" bridge plates

**FISHMAN**  
Acoustic Power

## Passive Setup

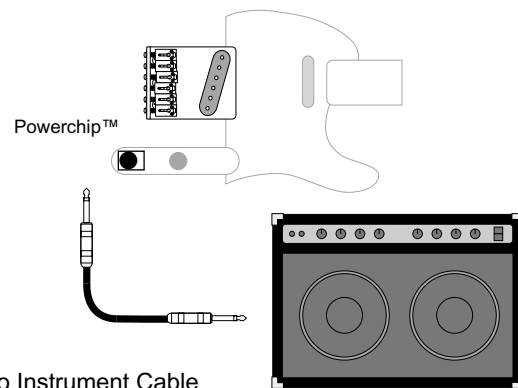


## Active Setup

### • Active Setup - Powerchip™

With our onboard Powerchip™, you can mix and combine both the Powerbridge™ and magnetic pickups (on the guitar) and plug right into a single channel guitar amplifier. You can also instantly split signals by simply changing to a stereo cable or stereo "Y" cable.

See the Powerbridge™ System Users Guide for Powertronics™ descriptions.



## Bridge Installation

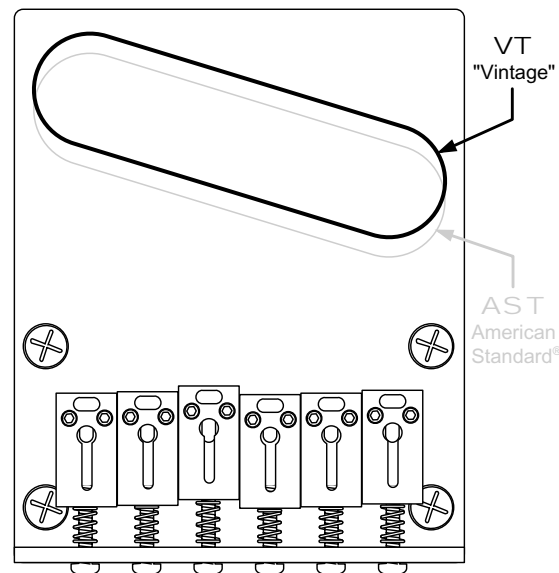
### • Preliminary

There are two Telecaster® Powerbridges™ available from Fishman - each with a slightly different lead pickup location. Only one of these will fit your instrument. The Fishman VT Powerbridge™ Pickup fits most "Vintage" Fender® Telecaster® style guitars. The Fishman AST Powerbridge™ Pickup fits Fender® American Standard® style bridges.

**BEFORE** you begin installation, you can make sure you have the correct Tele® style Powerbridge™ by following these steps ...

1. Check your guitar's original bridge against the provided Fishman Powerbridge™ Drilling Template by lining up the six (6) string through-holes with the corresponding marks on the drilling template.
2. Confirm that the lead pickup location on the original bridge plate aligns with the Powerbridge™ Template. If so, then go ahead with the installation.
3. If the template does not line up with the old bridge, the Powerbridge™ will not line up properly on the guitar. Get an AST Powerbridge™ and start again.

Follow the same procedure with any aftermarket Tele® style bridge to ensure compatibility with the Powerbridge™ Pickup.



### • Installation Procedure

1. Remove the existing bridge and route the ground wire so that it does not touch the circuit board on the bottom of the Powerbridge™.
2. Are you absolutely certain that the VT Powerbridge™ Pickup will fit your instrument? Align the drilling template with the six (6) string holes in the body of the instrument and fasten it in place with adhesive tape.
3. Drill the 7/64" (2.8mm) mounting holes.
4. Fasten the lead pickup onto the baseplate of the bridge.
5. Slip the Powerbridge's™ coaxial signal wire under the lead pickup and into the control cavity. Note that the Powerbridge™ has a channel milled into the bottom of the baseplate for the signal wire.
6. Fasten the Powerbridge™ with the included mounting screws.

## Wiring Instructions

### • Preliminary Notes

To prevent 60 Hz hum, the entire Powerbridge™ Pickup signal path should be fully shielded. The control cavity, jack cavity, and any non-conductive surface to which the controls are mounted (such as a plastic pickguard) must be shielded with adhesive-backed foil or conductive paint. The shielded cavities should then be grounded.

For complete hum prevention, the included stereo jack must also be shielded. To do this, we've included a piece of shielding foil. Note that one side is insulated. After you have soldered the wires to the jack, roll the foil into a tube so that the insulation is on the INSIDE and surround the stereo jack with the tube. Connect the foil side of the tube to ground by soldering it to the shielding of the Powerbridge™ Pickup wire or to a jumper that is connected to any ground.

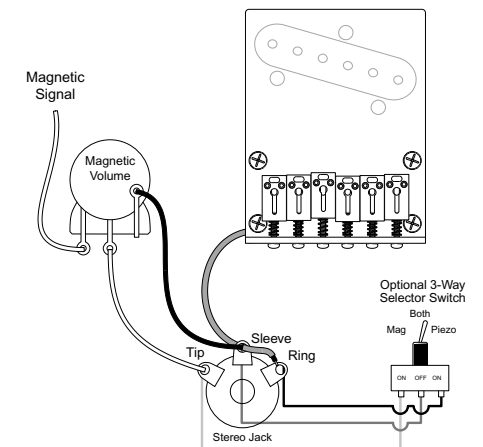
If your instrument has active magnetic pickups (requiring an onboard battery), you will need a special 9 Pin Switching Jack (Fishman Part Number ACC-PBR-9PJ), available through your Fishman dealer.

### • Wiring Options

There are several different ways to wire the Powerbridge™. Choose the option that best suits your needs.

### Powerbridge™ & Magnetic Pickups wired directly to a Stereo Jack

1. Connect the Powerbridge™ signal wire directly to the Ring terminal on the supplied stereo jack.
2. Connect the Powerbridge™ and magnetic grounds to the Sleeve terminal.
3. Connect the magnetic signal wire to the Tip terminal.



Direct Wiring

### Passive Volume for the Powerbridge™

This circuit that is easily assembled from "stock" guitar pots and components available at any electronics parts retailer.

#### You will need:

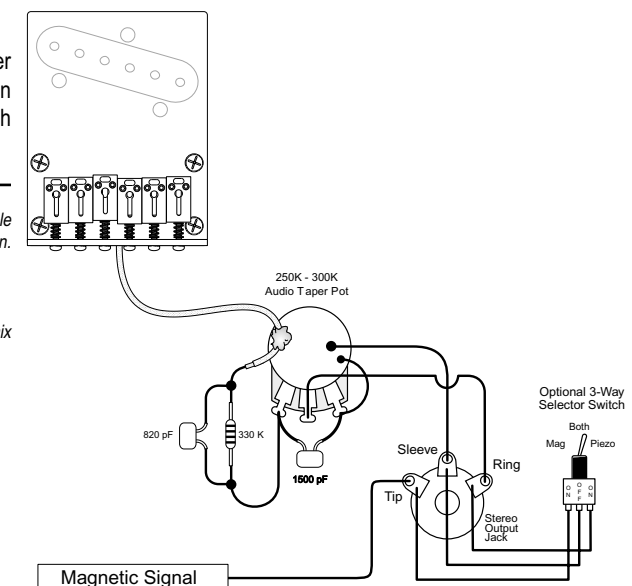
- 250 k audio taper pot
- 330 k resistor
- 820 pF capacitor
- 1500 pF capacitor

This network will attenuate the Powerbridge™ so that it better matches levels between magnetic and piezo pickups. You can expect a 14 dB (nominal) decrease in Powerbridge™ output with this circuit.

**NOTE: Optional 3-Way Selector Switch** - If desired, a single pole, double throw (spdt) 3-way switch can also be added for piezo/magnetic pickup selection. Use a switch with an ON-OFF-ON orientation.

#### NOTE: Active Onboard Blending

A Fishman Powerchip™ (not included) must be installed if you wish to blend/mix piezo and magnetic signals onboard the instrument.



Passive Volume

**FISHMAN™**  
Acoustic Power

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340-D Fordham Road Wilmington MA 01887 USA  
Phone 978-988-9199 • Fax 978-988-0770  
www.fishman.com