

5b. Stratocaster T3Plus-Switch Use

Revised: October 17, 2019

Our **AweSome Upgrade** for your Stratocaster uses our **T3Plus-Switch** that is designed to control your 3 pickup coils.

Here is how the controls of our T3Plus-Switch product are laid out.



There are two "groups" of switches: (SW4, SW5, SW6) -and- (SW1, SW2, SW3)

The first group of switches (SW1, SW2 and SW3) are ON-OFF-ON switches used to turn an individual pickup Off and On. The middle position of each switch is Off. The down position turns the pickup On (in *normal-phase*) and the Up position turns the pickup on (in *reverse-phase*). Pretty simple, don't you agree?

Switch SW1 controls the Bridge pickup,
Switch SW2 controls the Middle pickup and
Switch SW3 controls the Neck pickup.

When you use these three switches (*while switches SW4, SW5, SW6 all in the Down position*), you will get 13 different pickup tones from the various combinations of three pickup coils being Off or On (either in *normal-phase* or in *reverse-phase*). These pickup tones are also due to the combination of pickup coils being in a **Parallel circuit**.

The second group of switches (SW4, SW5 and SW6) are ON-ON switches are used to put select pickups into a **Series circuit**. Two things to remember when using this second group of switches:

First, putting two or three pickups in Series circuit creates a "Compound" (i.e., Humbucker) pickup that gives you about 8 to 15 percent More output (think Heavy Metal/Jazz tone).

Second, because the pickups are in a Series circuit, ALL of the affected pickups that are in a Series circuit **MUST** be On (either in *normal-phase* or *reverse-phase*). Any non-Series circuit pickup can be either Off or On (either in *normal-phase* or *reverse-phase*).

Using the Second Group of Switches

Starting with switches SW4, SW5 and SW6 in the Down position;

If you only put switch **SW4** into the Up position, this puts both the Bridge pickup and Middle pickup into a Series circuit. This means you **MUST** turn On both the Bridge pickup and the Middle pickup using switches SW1 and SW2 (either in *normal-phase* or *reverse-phase*) to hear any sound. In this example, the Neck pickup (controlled by SW3) can be either Off or On (in *normal-phase* or *reverse-phase*).

If you only put switch **SW5** into the Up position, this puts both the Bridge pickup and Neck pickup into a Series circuit. This means you **MUST** turn On both the Bridge pickup and the Neck pickup using switches SW1 and SW3 (either in *normal-phase* or *reverse-phase*) to hear any sound. In this example, the Middle pickup (controlled by SW2) can be either Off or On (in *normal-phase* or *reverse-phase*).

If you only put switch **SW6** into the Up position, this puts both the Middle pickup and Neck pickup into a Series circuit. This means you **MUST** turn On both the Middle pickup and the Neck pickup using switches SW2 and SW3 (either in *normal-phase* or *reverse-phase*) to hear any sound. In this example, the Bridge pickup (controlled by SW1) can be either Off or On (in *normal-phase* or *reverse-phase*).

If you put both switches **SW4** and **SW6** into the Up position, this puts all three pickups into a Series circuit. This means you **MUST** turn On **ALL** of the pickups using switches SW1, SW2 and SW3 (either in *normal-phase* or *reverse-phase*) to hear any sound. This gives you an incredible overdriven bass sound in spades. It also gives you Brian May's heavy metal tones.

In summary, the combinations of these switches will give you 35 pickup tones.

See our website Document library (documents #E) for pickup tone mapping worksheet.