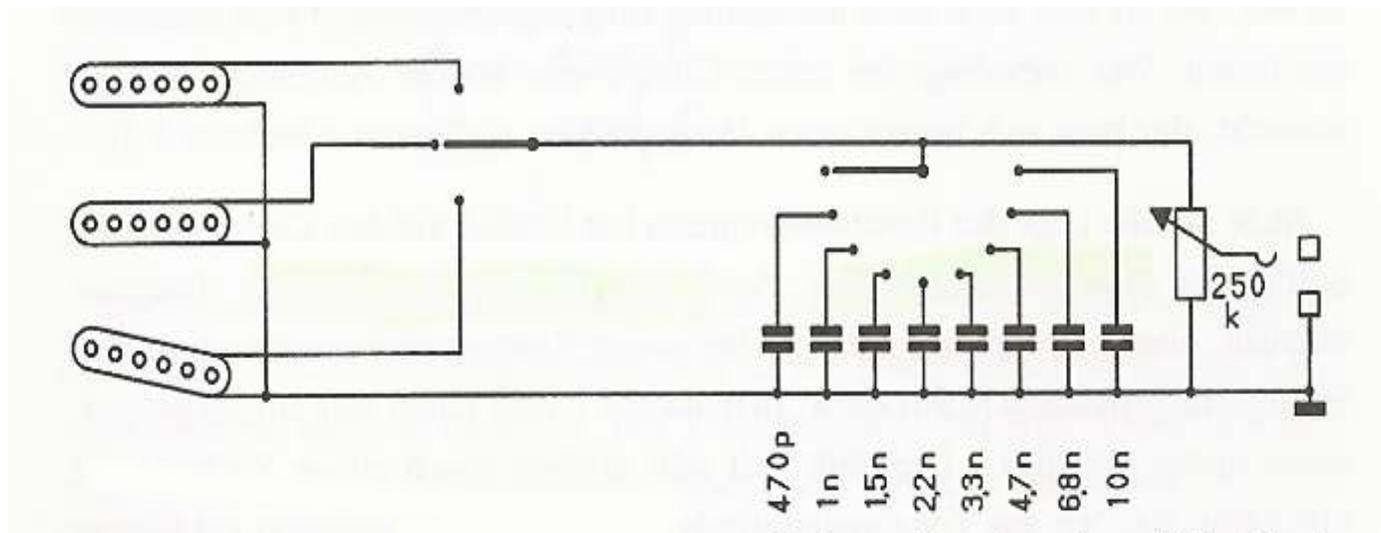


Make your passive tone-pot more effective

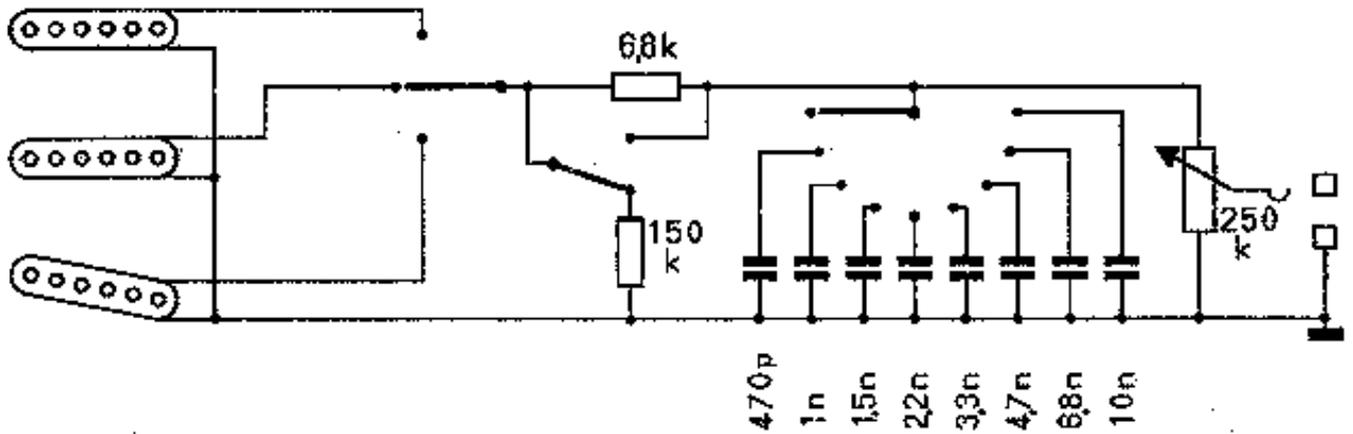
If you already use your tone pot but the tone is getting very dark it's simply the cap that is too big. Normally Fender guitars are loaded with a .022uF and Gibson guitars with a .047uF tone cap. For most players (including me) this is way too much. Simply replace the cap with one of a lower value and you are done. This is a very simple but highly effective way to change the tone of your guitar. You can go down to even 4700 pF with good results, my personal favourite value inside a Strat is 2200 pF cap. This is also a good thing to experiment with if you want to.

If you want to be more flexible you can replace one or all tone pots with a rotary selector switch, equipped with different cap values to dial in. It's a good idea (depending on the switch) to use a 10M resistor in parallel with each cap to avoid popping noises when using the switch. This will make your guitar very flexible and you can imitate a wide range of different pickups. The shown values are only recommendations, you can alter them in any way you want to. Feel free to experiment with different values and different types of caps and as always let your ears decide !

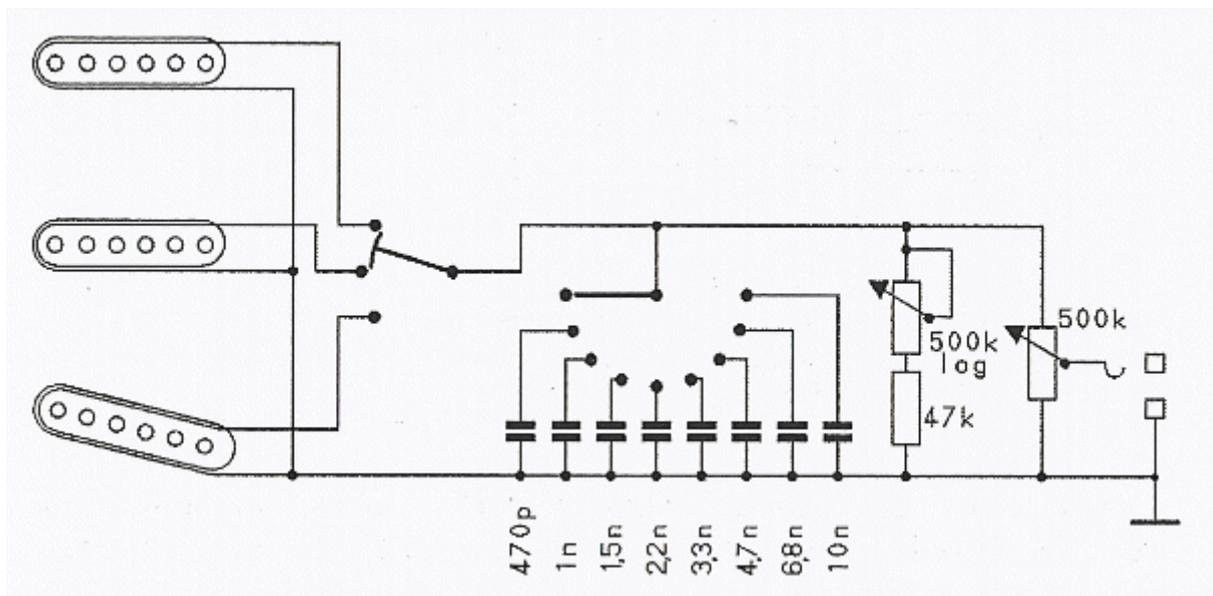


If you want to go one step further and add an on/off switch (SPST) with two resistors like shown in the next drawing, you will get a kind of two-dimensional tone control for your guitar. The rotary switch with the caps stays the same and the new switch will give you the possibility to influence the resonance peak of each setting. With the switch open you will have the full resonance peak and a bright sound - with the switch closed the resonance peak will smoothen out by cutting the peak frequencies a little bit. Your overall sound will get warmer and is losing any penetrating character. This works very similar to the "Sweet Switch" that PRS used a long time to simulate the influence of a very long cable between the guitar and the amp. The shown values of the resistors (6,8k

and 150k) are non-critical and work very well in that combination but you can change them if you want to. You can also use different types of resistors like metal film, carbon comp to further influence the sound.



Feel free to use this basics and go wild you can add some more switches to choose between different types of caps and resistors, rotary switches for more than 8 cap values, add an additional pot after this complete structure to have even more control about each individual cap that is dialed in (see circuit above)



**Rotary switches and caps are available at the singlecoil-webshop
www.singlecoil.com/shop.html**