

**„Telecaster-Singlebucking“
or
„How to make a Strat-Style-Pickup (Humbucker)
fit in a Telecaster-bridge“**

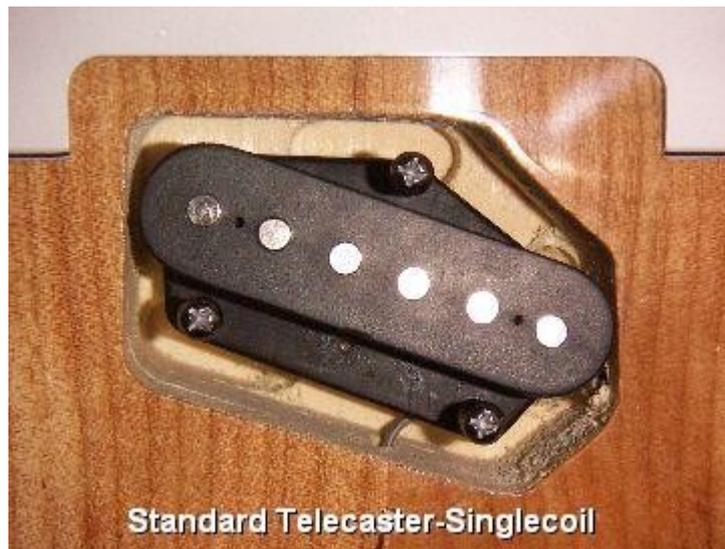
© by Magnus Plaue (magnusplaue@aol.com)

Today changing guitar-pickups is an easy work for us
- just moving some screws, desoldering the old pickup,
soldering the new pickup and tighten some screws - that's all!

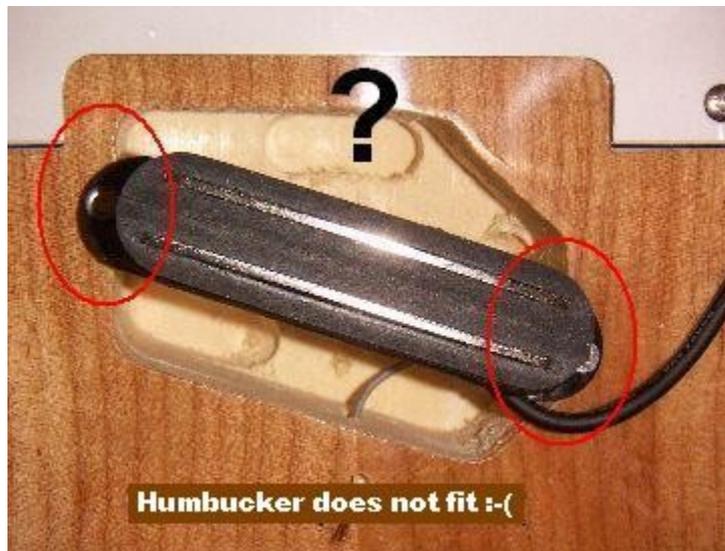
But if you look at your Telecaster it's completely different
and the more difficult if you don't buy a pickup
that correctly fits into your Telecaster's bridge :-)

Here's my variant for a complete solution how to make
your Strat-Style-Pickup (Humbucker) fit in a Telecaster-bridge:

**This is a typical Telecaster-Pickup (Singlecoil)
with a three-screw-mounting
(you can adjust it's height on the bridge with those three screws):**



As you can see on this picture the new humbucker doesn't fit in this Telecaster because of its usual „mounting-ears” left and right of the pickup - just too big for this shape...



With the following tools you can fix your problem:



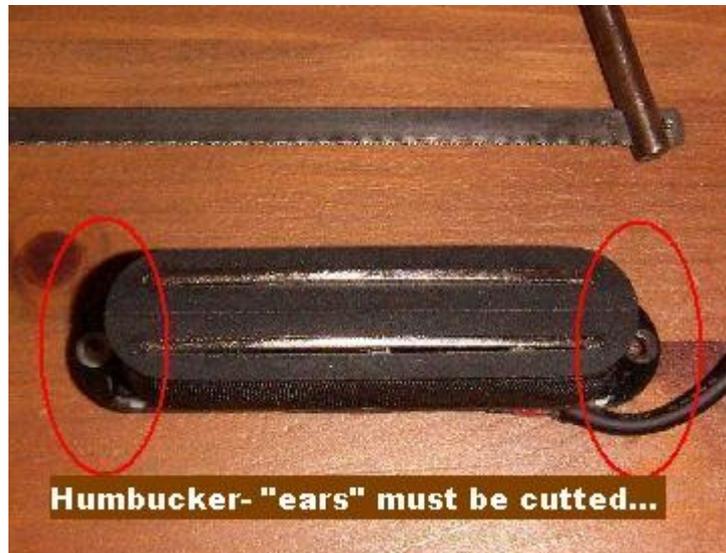
The first step is to remove the old pickup completely from its mounting-plate



After this step it should look like that:



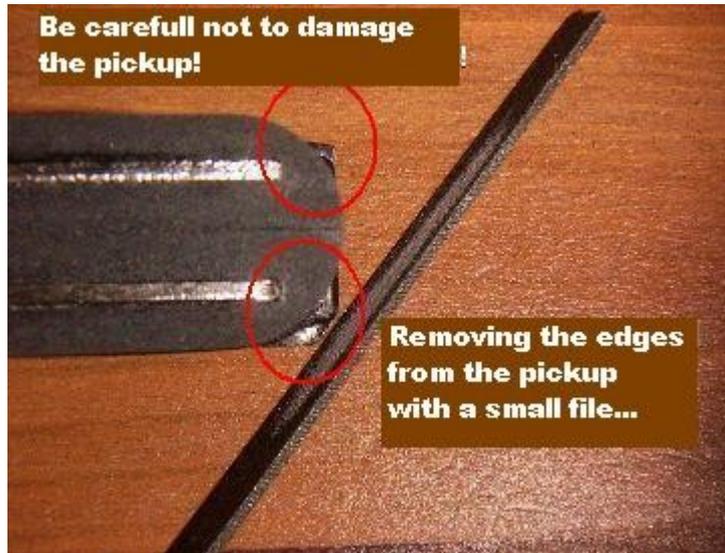
Now we have to cut off the humbucker's ears
(It doesn't help to stretch them - just a german idiom ;-)) :



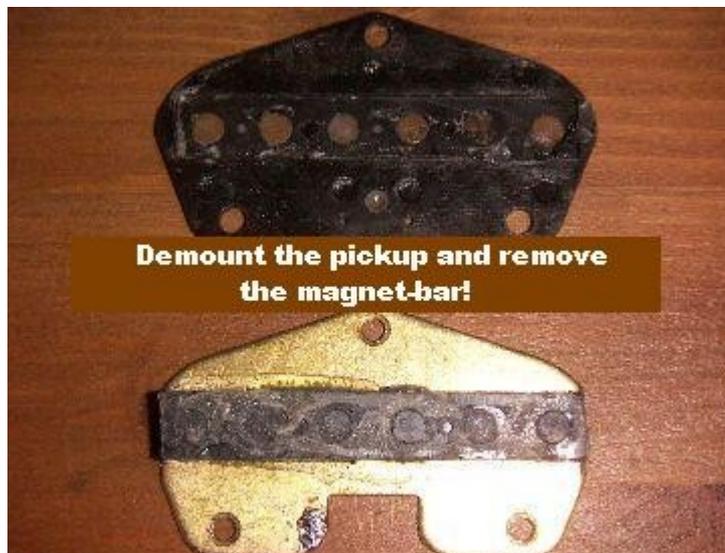
After this step it should look like that:



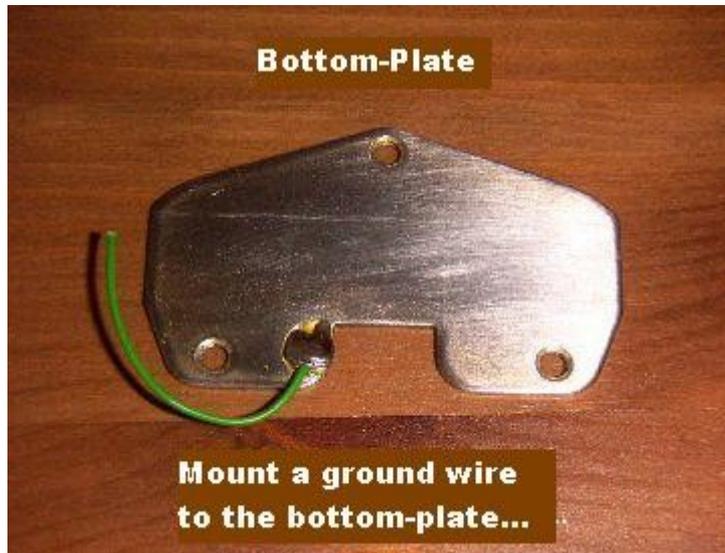
The next step is to grind the edges of the pickup (carefully!)



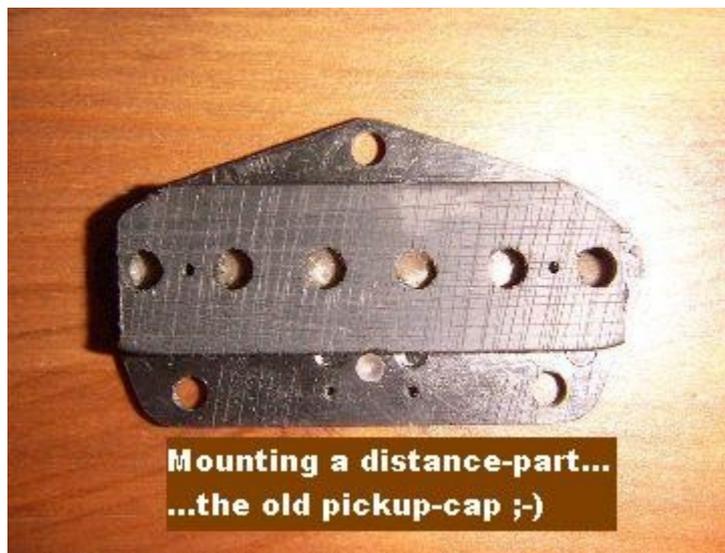
Subsequently the magnet of the old pickup has to be removed - otherwise it would influence the new pickup in a negative way!
A hammer may do a good job (only if you use it carefully ;-)



The bottom metal-plate can be grinded a bit and a new iron-dot with a short cable can be placed:



Now we have to mount a spacer where the magnet once was fitted...
The old pickup-plate should do a great job here now!
(Of course I removed the old polepieces before):

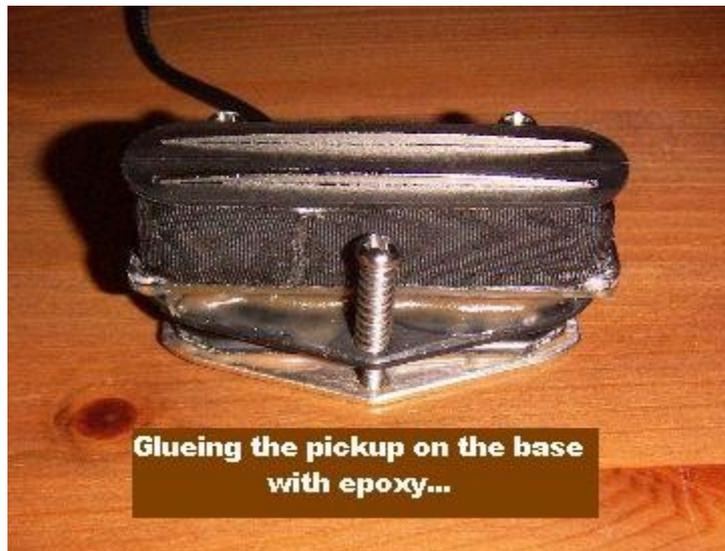


The next step is to glue the plastic bottom-plate
on top of the new spacer...

The screws and springs do a good job
with their pressure while the epoxy is drying:

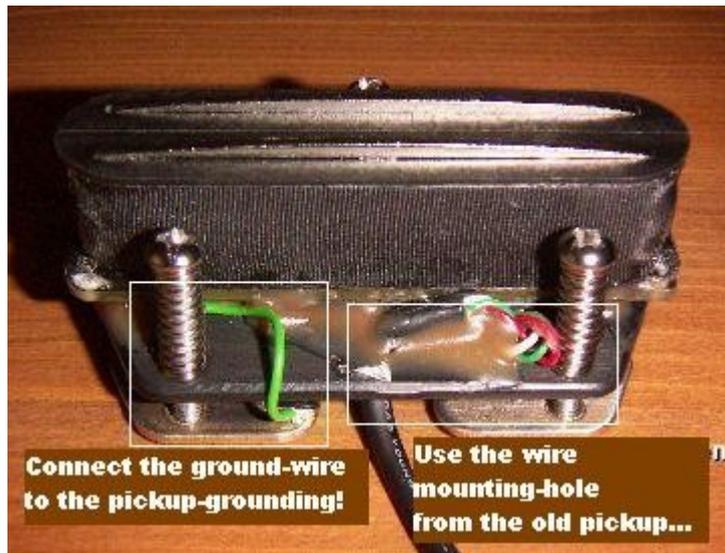


Subsequently the new pickup
can be fixed with epoxy
(On this picture: a Humbucker in Singlecoil-size with „blades“)



At last you have to solder the green ground-wire to the ground-connection on your new pickup.
Now the screws - which are connected to the plate - carry the signal to the bridge and strings to eliminate hum.

The pickup wire can be installed like before through the cable-mounting-hole.



It should look like this finally:



Now the pickup is ready to be installed
on the bridge of your Telecaster
without any wood-work on your guitar-body...

Good luck on your modifying ;-)
Magnus

