

Alexander "Alex" Ullrich from Kiel (Germany) was the lucky winner of our x-mas giveaway 2007, chosen on January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2008. He sent us the body of his sunburst Chevy Telecaster on January 22nd, and he wanted a thicker and punchier sound out of it.

Michael Pantleon from the "LeoSounds" company ([www.leosounds.com](http://www.leosounds.com)) made a special "MudCat" Telecaster pickup set for this guitar. For more details about this pickups, please have a look at his webpage

After emailing and phoning with Alex, we finally made a list what we have to do !

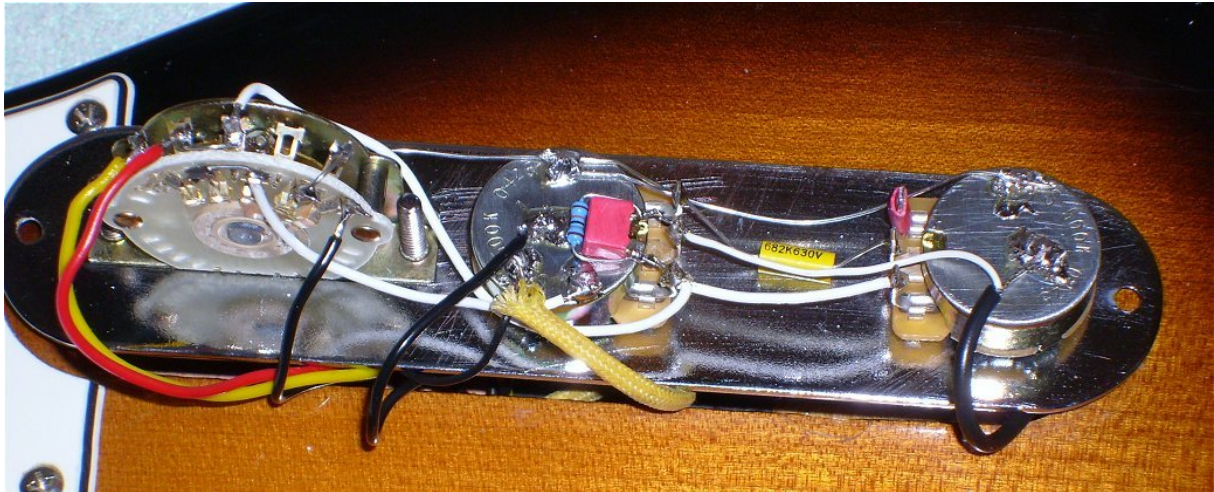


First of all, we took away approx. 2mm of paint from the neck cavity to guarantee the best tone transfer from the neck to the body. After Alex received his guitar back, he will do the same with the corresponding part of the neck – very important for a good, strong and vibrant tone !

After taking off all the hardware, the body was carefully but intensively cleaned and polished ... it was really time to do that ;-) We decided to use two selected and matched CTS 500k audio pots for the new electronics, together with a Fender 4-way Telecaster pickup selector switch, to additionally have both pickups wired in series for a very meaty and fat tone, especially cool for bluesy overdrive things. Alex decided to use a selected Mallory tone cap with a very small value, for a much better tone control. To get rid of the typical treble loss when rolling back the volume, we calculated and made a special treble bleed network for Alex's guitar. We also installed a special "snap in" output jack from the Switchcraft company, to prevent the plug from falling out while doing a wild

performance on stage. For the connection from the output jack to the electronics, we choose a high-quality premium shielded cable, the rest of the electronics was connected with teflon insulated silver cable, for maximum clarity, feel and transparency, using silver solder all over the way. No cable is longer than really necessary, and we twisted them together, to provide a good shielding factor.

After installing the new pickup set, soldering all the connections and some extensive test runs, it looked like this ....



As a "speciality", all the cavities had to be rerouted, because they were too small for standard parts :- ( The stock electronics and pickups are much smaller than the standard parts, so this was not a problem before, but now it has to be done. This work was professionally done by the experienced guitar and bass luthier Heiko Hoepfinger from the BASSLAB company ([www.basslab.de](http://www.basslab.de)) – a big shoutout to Heiko and thanks again for helping us with this !

The guitar was sent back on February 6<sup>th</sup>, together with the "guitar candy pack" from Heinz Rebellius from the "Guitar Saloon" company ([www.guitarsaloon.de](http://www.guitarsaloon.de)), containing new strings, a guitar book and some other nice things.



Now we are waiting for the feedback of Alex, and some cool pics, of him and his completely overhauled Telecaster.

..... to be continued !