

## Congratulations on your new Xotic Guitar!

We take great pride in building some of the best guitars on the planet and hope you will enjoy it for many years.

Care and attention has been put in to making your guitar - please take time to read this owners manual as it will guide you through some basic adjustments and answer questions that will keep your guitar working great for years.

### ⚠ IMPORTANT:

- Keep in mind that a guitar is made of wood. Exposure to various temperatures and humidity levels will affect the factory setup. Climate conditions at every point of the guitar's travel to you may have an effect on its factory setup specs.
- If you plan to change string gauges, you may need to adjust the specs somewhat to compensate for the changes in string sizes.
- This manual will introduce you to setting up, adjusting and maintaining your guitar so it plays the way that you like. If you do not feel comfortable performing these adjustments please take your guitar to an authorized Xotic repair center.

## INTONATION:

Intonation is defined as the pitch of your guitar strings as you move up the fretboard. You can set your guitar's intonation by making the second octave (the 12th fret and above) stay in tune with the first octave. The way this is done is by shortening or lengthening the length of the string.



To intonate your guitar: 1) Use a high quality tuner and tune all of your strings at the harmonic on the 12th fret: E A D G B E. Adjust the tuning pegs slowly to be as accurate as possible. 2) Place your finger on the 12th fret and pluck the string. Your harmonic on the 12th fret and the fretted note on the 12th fret should both play the same note - neither sharp nor flat.

You can adjust the intonation of the 12th fret by adjusting the scale length. To do this, move the saddles with an adjustment screw (in this case, a Phillips head screw) until the note at the 12th fret and the open string are the same.



## LOCKING TUNERS:

To remove the string: 1) Place a coin or screw driver in the front notch of the tuning peg slot. Loosen the string by turning the peg counter clockwise until the string is loose, but not fully unwound. 2) While holding the coin firmly to keep the locking tuner static, continue loosening the string by turning the tuning peg counter clockwise with the other hand until the string releases.

To string the guitar: 1) Pull the new string through the locknut and turn the tuning peg while using the other hand to hold the lock nut static with a coin or screwdriver. Note: Do not lock the string forcibly. 2) Trim the excess string.

## PICKUP HEIGHT:

The pickup heights on each Xotic guitar is set to our standards at our shop; however, they can be adjusted. To adjust the pickup height: turn the two screws at either end of the pickup. After you set your desired string height, fret your strings at the highest position to check your pickup height. Distance between top of the polepiece (High E and Low E) and bottom of the strings.



## NECK RELIEF:

To measure neck relief you will need a capo and a string action gauge. Place a capo on the first fret. With the high E string depressed at the last fret, or where the neck joins the body, use the feeler gauge and measure the gap between the bottom of the string and the top of the eighth fret (measuring from fret wire itself, not the fingerboard), which is where the curvature should be deepest. Repeat this process again on the low E string.



## TRUSS ROD ADJUSTMENT:

XS Series Guitars - Xotic XS series guitars are equipped with a standard truss rod that can be adjusted using an Allen wrench in the heel of your neck. To adjust the truss rod: 1) Check your tuning. 2) Place a capo at the first fret and press down the sixth string at the last fret. With a feeler gauge, check the gap between the bottom of the

string and the top of the 8th fret. 3) Look down the edge of the fingerboard from behind the headstock toward the body of the guitar. 4) If the neck is too concave (action too high), turn the truss rod nut clockwise to remove excess relief.



If the neck is too convex (strings too close to the fingerboard), turn the truss rod nut counter-clockwise to allow the string tension to pull more relief into the neck. 5) Check your tuning, then re-check the gap with the feeler gauge and re-adjust as needed.

XSC SERIES GUITARS - Adjusting the XSC truss rod can be laborious and a little more difficult than adjusting headstock truss rods. Please note: we DO NOT recommend that you perform this task but, instead, take it to an authorized repair person. Broken truss rods are not covered under warranty. To adjust the truss rod: 1) Loosen the connection between the neck and the body by loosening the screws on the backplate. 2) Turn the guitar over and with both hands put pressure on the neck and body bringing the neck up out of the body joint. 3) Completely expose the screw on the bottom of the neck so the pick guard isn't damaged while adjusting. 4) Tighten or loosen the truss rod as needed turn the guitar back over and tighten the screws on the backplate. 5) You may need to re-adjust saddles once truss rod is adjusted.

## TREM BRIDGE AND FLOAT ANGLE:

To align the bridge: 1) Make sure your strings are very loose until the string is almost completely unwound. 2) Remove the trem cover plate on the backside of the guitar. 3) Find the screws that hold the bridge to the body. If your bridge angles towards the neck, tighten the two screws. Do not screw them in all the way, but so that they are noticeably closer to the body. If your bridge angles away from

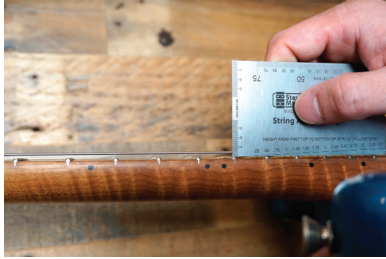
the neck, loosen those two screws slightly. 4) Tune up the guitar. 5) Check to make sure your string height is set to how you want it. Make small adjustments to the string saddle height if needed. 6) If needed, repeat steps 3-5 again to get the angle just right. It's ok to



loosen the screws in step #3 again. The goal is to find the perfect balance which may take a few tries.

## STRING HEIGHT:

To measure string height (the height of the string above the fret) place your feeler gauge along the top of the frets. The string height markings are at increments of .010" (ten thousandths of an inch). When the bottom of a mark aligns with the bottom of the string, that measurement is the string height at that point. Note: Each marking on the gauge is .005" thick. This is why string scale measurements are in .005" increments. To adjust saddle height: 1)



2) Tune the guitar to pitch. 2)

Measure the action at the 12th fret using an action gauge or precision metal ruler. 3)

Setting individual string height by adjusting the saddles (using allen key 1/20inch or 1.27mm). 4) Beginning with the 1st string,

turn the height adjustment screws located on either side of the saddle to raise or lower the string to your preferred height (see

photo). String height is different for each player, so this measurement will vary according to your technique and string gauge. After each adjustment, retune the string you're working on and re-measure the action at the 12th fret. 5) Repeat this process for each string until you have the action where you want it. The goal is to keep an even arc across all six strings that matches the radius of your particular fretboard.

String	Height
E6	0.067"
A5	0.064"
D4	0.061"
G3	0.059"
B2	0.056"
E1	0.053"

## TONE CONTROLS:

Xotic Guitars are equipped with a volume knob and 2 tone knobs along with a 5 position pickup selector switch. Tone knob 1 is for neck and middle pickup control. Tone knob 2 controls middle and bridge pickups.

## 5 WAY PICKUP SWITCH:

The pickup switch controls which pickups or which combinations of pickups are on at any given time. The switch's pickup-selection functions are as follows:

Position 1: Neck pickup only.

Position 2: Middle pickup and neck pickup together (Hum cancelling).

Position 3: Middle pickup only.

Position 4: Bridge pickup and middle pickup together (Hum cancelling).

Position 5: Bridge pickup only.

## FINISH:

Xotic's lacquer finish can expand or contract to adjust to extreme temperatures and humidity—but not to sudden changes in temperature or humidity. If a guitar that has been sitting in a car in wintertime, gradually let guitar warm up inside the case before opening the case. Rain: Water will wipe away easily, but if not removed it can cause noticeable water spots. Sun: Avoid direct rays of the sun on your guitar - direct sunlight can blister or discolor the finish. Cleaning: Avoid using products containing alcohol to wipe down guitars with lacquer finish. It will damage the finish.

## WARRANTY:

Our products are warranted against failures due to defective parts or faulty workmanship for a period of one(1) year after delivery to the original owner. During this one (1) year period, we, Xotic, will make any necessary repairs without charge for parts and labor. However, shipping charges to and from the repair location must be paid by the owner.

This warranty applies only to the original owner and is not transferable. This warranty does not cover damage to the product as a result from accident or misuse. This warranty will be canceled at the sole discretion of us if the product has:

- Any signs of tampering, unauthorized service, or modifications.
- Any damage resulting from physical abuse or failure to follow operating warning.

### ⚠ IMPORTANT:

To obtain warranty service, it is imperative that you provide a copy of the original receipt. If you do not provide a receipt, you are responsible for all repair and shipping charges. The warranty does not cover shipping costs.

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**XOTIC GUITAR  
OWNER'S MANUAL**

