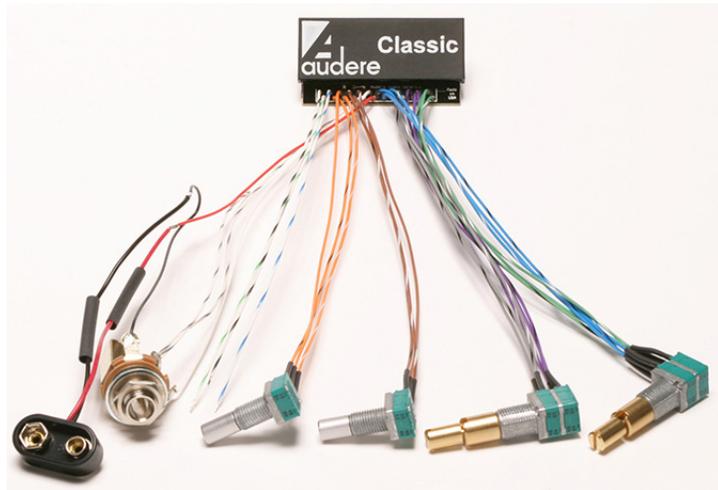




# CLASSIC PREAMP

INSTALLATION GUIDE  
PLEASE READ

The Z-Mode preamp is sold as an upgrade for existing basses and our instructions assume that the mounting holes are already in the instrument. Typical hand tools for soldering wire connections and assembly are required. If you are uncertain about the installation we recommend you have a trained guitar technician install it for you. You can find information in the Frequently asked Questions (FAQ) page on our web site or send an email to [service@audereaudio.com](mailto:service@audereaudio.com).



### Your new Audere preamp features:

- Ultra Low Distortion
- Low Noise
- High Quality Pots and Parts
- Active Balance & Volume Control
- 4 Bands of Tone Control
- Low Power consumption on 9 or 18 Volts

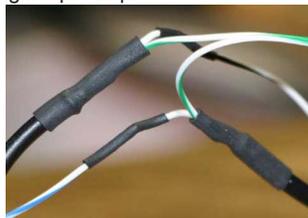
### Step 1) Connecting to the Pickups

The preamp wires used for the pickups are: Green strip on White base color (Green/White) for the pickup common, Black/White (Bridge pickup hot) and Blue/White (Neck pickup hot).

A. Disconnect your pickup wires from the original preamp.

B. All wire connections must be insulated to prevent shorting and to keep the leads isolated from the output jack and from the cavity ground.

Prior to connecting the wires, slide the heat shrink tubes over each pickup wire and the module Green/White wire. These tubes will be reduced over the solder joints later.



C. If you have active pickups - see required mod listed on page 2. Connect the Bridge pickup hot lead to the Black/White wire. Connect the Neck pickup hot lead to the Blue/White wire. Connect both of the pickups "common" leads together and then solder them to the module's Green/White wire.

D. Slide the heat shrink over the solder connections and shrink with a heat gun or hair dryer (do not over heat and protect other components from the heat). You may prefer to postpone shrinking the heat shrink until after the play test - just be sure that the exposed wires do not touch anything that will cause an electrical short.

If your pickups have an additional shielding wire; solder it to the output jack ground (center tab) or cavity ground.

Verify that your pickups are not connected on the negative (common) side to the cavity shielding. If the pickups are connected to the cavity remove this connection; the Green/White wire must not be grounded. Connecting the Green/White wire to the cavity ground will not hurt the preamp but it will sound bad with a lot of distortion.

Every instrument is different; if you find you need to make modifications to your instrument in order to install this product please take extra care. Audere Audio is **not** responsible for any damage or modifications you make to your instrument as part of the product installation of the product. See our Limited Warranty for restrictions on liability.

### Step 2) Connect the Preamp to do a Play Test

To test play the preamp prior to a full installation: tape the preamp to the back of the instrument with low tack tape to hold it in place during testing (verify first that the tape will not hurt the finish when it is removed).



Note: it will pick up extra noise while it is out of the shielded cavity. Also note that touching the temporarily ungrounded pots or switches can cause hum.

It is important to prevent any electrical connections from touching and shorting to each other.

### Step 3) Remove the old preamp and Prepare the Cavity

- Remove screws holding the existing output jack plate and remove the jack nut. Set the plate and hardware aside for use with the new jack. Pull jack back into the cavity.
- Remove the knobs from the pots and then remove the nuts and washers from pots.
- Pull out the old preamp circuit.
- Determine the location for the new module, battery.
- Most basses have the cavity shielded with either conductive paint or a foil shield; however some low cost basses do not have a shielded cavity. This is required for quiet operation in any electric bass and for providing a ground connection for the controls. With shielding you don't need to get 100% coverage, but you want to get the best coverage that is reasonably achieved.
- It is important that the pots and switches are grounded to the cavity and that the cavity is grounded to the output jack. If the pots and switches are not grounded they will buzz when you touch them.

Installing a copper foil shield is easy. Copper foil is available with glue on the back (like tape) and you simply apply it to the wood. If your copper tape does not have a special conductive adhesive then solder the strips of copper tape together at all joints. A simple small tack joint of solder at one spot per joint is all that is required. Conductive paint is also available to shield instruments but copper works better.

### Step 4) Installing Pots

The pots are all 100K Ohm with audio taper for volume pots and linear taper for tone and balance pots. Pots turn clockwise for the maximum setting.

Single pots have an M7 bushing which fits in a 7mm mounting hole. Stacked/dual pots have an M9 bushing and fit in a 9mm mounting hole.

- If your existing holes are larger than the single pot's bushing size: An oversized washer has been provided for use in the cavity interior if required. This larger washer goes over the shaft first. Then add the two rubber spacer rings that fit over the shaft; these go up into the standard sized hole to center the pot shaft.
- Orient the control as is desired, then secure each pot with a washer and panel nut on the face of the bass.



Do not attempt to solder to the pot's metal bushing.

The operation of the pots is written on the back of the pots. For example, T/B would be a stacked Treble/Bass. The codes we use include:

- |                        |                          |                     |
|------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Vol – Volume           | HM – High Mid            | Bass – Bass range   |
| Bal – Balance          | LM – Low Mid             | Treb – Treble range |
| V/B – Volume / Balance | M/M – High Mid / Low Mid | T/B – Treble / Bass |

## Step 5) Output Jack

Tab 1-top) Jack Audio Out - **White** wire

Tab 2) Jack Ground - center tab: 2-3 **Grey/White** wires. The loose **Grey/White** wire connects to your Cavity Ground.

Tab 3) Jack Negative - **Black** wire



Secure the jack plate with the original hardware or with the hardware provided on the jack. Set the depth of the jack using an internal panel nut, if required. Reinstall the plate with the original screws

Be aware that when the cable to the amplifier is partially inserted into the jack, the center connector gets the full battery voltage. This is the most common jack used with active basses and this characteristic is well known.

The shielded cavity and bridge ground wires need to be connected to the output jack center tab. The output jack has an extra unattached ground wire for this use. Slide heat shrink over the **Grey/White** wire, then solder this wire to the Bridge and cavity ground wires. Slide the heat shrink over the solder joint and shrink.

## Step 6) Final Installations Details

A. Apply one of the adhesive pads to the base of module; remove the first liner, press in place, remove the 2nd liner and press the module into position in the cavity.

B. Install the battery.

C. Re-Install the electronic cavity cover and attach your knobs.

D. Our potentiometers have solid shafts so the knobs need a set screw to secure them. The single potentiometer has a 6mm shaft. Dual potentiometers have an 8mm outer shaft and 6mm inner shaft.

The knobs are a standard set screw style & size, available at online retailers and on Audere's web site.

## MODS: SINGLE PICKUP INSTRUMENTS

It is easy to modify the preamp to work with only 1 pickup:

A. Solder the **Blue/White** wire to the **Green/White** wire.

B. Remove the wires from the Balance Pot.

C. Solder the **Black/Orange** wire to the **Orange** wire.

D. Cut off the excess **White/Orange** wire (there's no connection made to it).

E. Cover the 3 wires with heat shrink.

## MODS: ACTIVE PICKUPS

**From Step 1C. This is a modification needed for active pickups only!**

330 nF caps are soldered to each preamp input wire then to the pickup output wire.

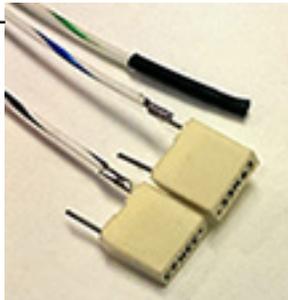
1) Solder the preamp **Black/White** wire to a cap lead. Repeat, soldering the preamp **Blue/White** wire to the 2nd cap (see picture).

2) Connect the **Bridge** pickup hot lead to bare leg on the cap that has the **Black/White** wired attached.

3) Connect the **Neck** pickup hot lead to the bare leg on the cap that has the **Blue/White** wire attached.

5) Insulate the preamp **Green/White** wire - it will not be used.

6) Connect both of the pickups "common" leads together and solder them to ground or connect to the **Grey/White** wire. This will have been already done if installing into a previously working bass.



## NOTE: NOISE COLLECTED BY THE PICKUPS

Our preamps are significantly more accurate at capturing and amplifying All of the Details of your signal. This is why the true tone of the instrument is revealed with greater richness. If your bass is not properly shielded you may find the apparent noise has increased. Our preamps can not tell the difference from external noise sources and the critical subtle details of your playing as both create a signal at the input of the preamp.

If you are interested in upgrading your shielding, we have posted on the Audere Audio web site some usable ideas and recommendations on how you can do it pretty easily. The most important step is shielding the pickup cavities which often isn't done; for example, some bass builders think it doesn't help to shield hum canceling pickups which isn't true.

You can push the noise floor down further as you increase the time and effort you put into it but a modest investment in shielding typically yields a good balance between the results achieved and time invested.

## SATISFACTION GUARANTEE

If within 10 days after delivery the purchaser decides for any reason to return the product, Audere will refund the purchase price of the product subject to the following conditions: return the product in new condition; follow the shipping instructions under the Limited Warranty section; refunds will be issued to the purchaser by the original payment method; and refunds do not include shipping and handling.

## LIMITED WARRANTY

### What this warranty covers:

Audere Audio warrants its Products to be free from defects in materials and workmanship for one year from the purchase date and is available to the original purchaser.

### The limited warranty does not cover:

- Damage caused by misuse or abuse;
- Exposure to environmental extremes;
- Products that have been modified;
- Shipping damages of any sort;
- Damage due to use that is not in conformity with factory specifications;
- Normal wear and tear or parts intended to be replaced due to normal use;
- Claims based on the subjective issue of tonal characteristics;
- Product if the serial number has been defaced, modified, or removed.

### What Audere Audio will do:

If, in our sole determination, the defect is covered by the Limited Warranty, Audere Audio will promptly repair or replace the product, at our option, and return it prepaid to the purchaser. If the defect is not covered or is excluded from this Limited Warranty it will be returned without repair or replacement, shipping and insurance to be paid by purchaser.

AUDERE ENGINEERING IS NOT LIABLE FOR MODIFICATIONS MADE TO YOUR INSTRUMENT EVEN IF THOSE MODIFICATIONS WERE MADE TO FACILITATE PRODUCT INSTALLATION. YOU SHOULD EVALUATE THE PRODUCT FULLY PRIOR TO A FULL INSTALLATION.

IN NO EVENT SHALL AUDERE AUDIO BE LIABLE FOR INDIRECT, INCIDENTAL, OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES. THIS LIMITED WARRANTY IS GIVEN AS YOUR EXCLUSIVE REMEDY AND IS MADE IN LIEU OF ALL OTHER WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED. ALL IMPLIED WARRANTIES, INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION, ANY IMPLIED WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, ARE HEREBY EXPRESSLY LIMITED IN DURATION TO THE DURATION OF THIS WRITTEN WARRANTY

In the case of conflicting terms and conditions between this Limited Warranty and any purchase order, contracts or invoices, this Limited Warranty is the controlling document.

### Shipping instructions:

1. Contact Audere Audio within the warranty period and obtain a Return Authorization (RA) number and ship to address prior to shipping.
2. Package the product for safe shipping. Mark the RA number prominently on the outside of the box.
3. Include inside the box the RA number, your name, and address.
4. Ship the product prepaid and insured within 14 days of the RA date.

### Your rights under state law:

This limited warranty gives you specific legal rights and you may have other rights which vary from state to state; for example some states do not allow all of the limitations on warranties.

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www.audereaudio.com