

Celebrity

by **Ovation**<sup>®</sup>

OWNER'S MANUAL

Congratulations on buying an Ovation Roundback Guitar. Since its first introduction in 1966, the Ovation Roundback has been acclaimed the world over for its dramatic technical advances and musical refinements that literally changed the shape of music.

This owner's manual has been prepared to acquaint you with details of the special features found on your Roundback, and to provide you with the facts and tips you will need to maintain your guitar.

least replace the plain strings. Your Ovation dealer can provide you with replacement strings.



Adamas Strings for acoustic and acoustic-electric guitars have been engineered to sound better and last longer than any other strings available. Your guitar will play best with one of these . . .

- 1818 Light Gauge = Easier to play, most popular set.
- 1919 Medium Gauge = Slightly stiffer and louder.
- 4141 (Normal Tension) or 4242 (High Tension) Omega nylon strings.

Before removing your old strings, look to see how they are secured at the bridge. Then loosen the strings slightly with one or two turns of each tuning machine. Using a pair of cutters remove only one string at a time. It is usually a good idea to completely clean your Celebrity while the strings are off, making sure to wipe off any excess cleaner or polish when you're finished.

## Steel String Guitars

Thread your new strings, one at a time, through their correct bridge positions. Cut each string about 1½" past the appropriate tuning peg. Starting with the low "E" string (heaviest string) insert the string into the tuning peg hole so that about ½" of string goes through the hole. Then, crank the tuning machine counterclockwise, while guiding the string into its correct slot on the nut. Make sure that, as the string is brought up to pitch, the string wraps around the peg



**below** the hole, as shown in the diagram. Once the low "E" string is tuned, work on the high "E" string next, and then work toward the middle strings until all the strings are brought to pitch.

## Features

The Celebrity guitar is designed and manufactured to exacting specifications, characteristic of the most professional instruments:

**Mahogany Neck**—The Celebrity guitar is designed with a unique, all-mahogany "through neck" design. This design helps insure that the fingerboard stays flat throughout its length for a stable, playable neck all the way up the fingerboard.

**Dovetail Neck/Body Joint**—The Celebrity neck and body are joined with a bonded dovetail joint. This allows the neck angle to be accurately set and maintained at the factory.

**Tension Rod**—The Celebrity neck has a steel tension rod in a hollow aluminum center channel, allowing easy adjustment. The adjustment is accomplished using a hex key (supplied with each guitar), with the adjustment just inside the soundhole for easy access. (It is recommended that neck adjustment be carried out by a skilled repairperson; see later section for details.)

**Rosewood Fingerboard**—All Celebrity fingerboards are made from rosewood for appearance and durability.

**Rosette**—Celebrity guitars feature the distinctive Ovation rosette with its trademarked leaf pattern design.

**Solid Walnut Bridge**—A one-piece walnut bridge is bonded directly to the wood of the guitar top and is secured with two bridge locating pins. Kaman's "through" bridge design eliminates the need for cumbersome bridge pins and results in increased sound volume.

**Laminated Spruce Top**—Designed and braced for maximum flexibility, the unique Celebrity bracing pattern places the major braces along the length of the top, maximizing flexibility and enhancing both sound quality and volume.

**Lyrachord® Roundback**—This design was pioneered by Ovation during the late 1960s and has revolutionized guitar design. The incredible durability, improved projection, and even frequency response of the Roundback guitar makes it the *only* guitar for the 1980s.

## Care And Maintenance

A guitar is usually out of its case and not being played when any damage to it occurs. Chips and dents can all usually be avoided if the guitar is stored in its case when not in use. Your Ovation dealer can provide you with an inexpensive case that will adequately protect your Celebrity from unnecessary damage.

There are a few simple precautions that you can take while transporting your Celebrity guitar that will minimize the chances of damage. When transporting the guitar in a car, always keep the case on the floor so that it will not move around inside the car in case of a sudden stop. Also, avoid storing the guitar in the trunk of a car, where it will be exposed to extremes of heat and cold. **Always** avoid freezing temperatures, as this can result in the top finish cracking.

When travelling by air, always loosen the strings slightly before checking the guitar as baggage. The airlines will not be liable for instruments damaged as a result of their being tuned to full concert pitch.

Keep your instrument tuned to concert pitch under normal playing and storage situations. However, if the instrument is to be stored for a long period of time, reduce the string tension slightly; one or two turns of each tuning machine will be adequate. There are many fine guitar tuners and guitar tuning aids available on the market today to help accurately tune your guitar. Consult your Ovation dealer about the features and benefits of the various tuning devices to determine which is right for you.

Your guitar will always look and sound its best if it is periodically cleaned. A buildup of dirt and dust can mar your guitar's finish. Your Ovation dealer stocks an entire range of guitar care products. Please read and follow the directions of the individual product you use.

## Strings

Your Celebrity guitar will sound its absolute best if you . . .

- Change your strings often
- Always use Adamas or Omega Strings

The frequency with which you should change your strings depends, of course, on how much you use your guitar. A good rule of thumb is to change your strings after about 20 hours of actual use, and at least every month. If a wound string breaks, it is usually best to replace the entire set. If a plain string breaks, at



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## Nylon String Guitars

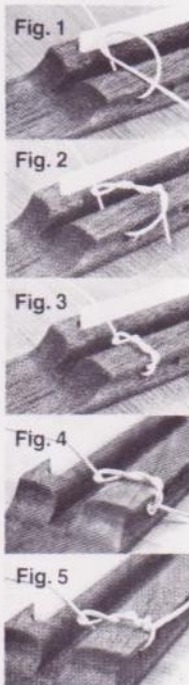
To maintain even tension on the neck while restringing, replace the outside strings first, then work towards the middle. Starting with the 1st string or the 6th string, run the string through its appropriate hole in the bridge, leaving about 3" protruding beyond the rear surface of the bridge. Bend up the end of the string around the part of the string that goes to the peghead (see fig. 1).

Now with the right hand, wrap the end of the string around itself 3 times as shown in fig. 2. Do not let go of the string. Note that the final wrap falls slightly beneath the ridge in the rear surface of the bridge. This will be the tension point and will prevent the string from slipping when it is tuned. See fig. 3.

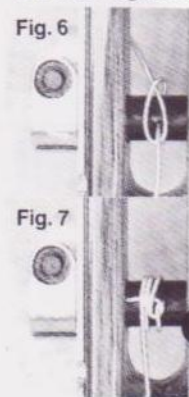
With the left hand, pull the long end of the string to take up the slack being careful not to pull the string against itself. Figure 4 shows a string that has been correctly wrapped. Figure 5 shows a string that has not been correctly wrapped; note that the tail end of the string points upward and that the long end of the string puts tension on the loop. Strings wrapped in this manner will slip when tuned to pitch.

After tying the string at the bridge, pass the other end through the hole in the shaft of the appropriate tuning peg. Then, loop the string around itself as shown in fig. 6 and 7. Wind the string towards the outside of the peghead, allowing the string to wind over the loose end to avoid slippage.

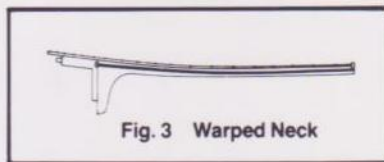
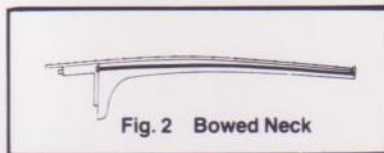
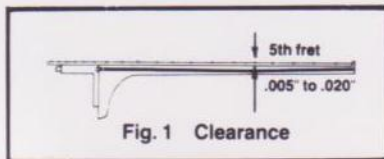
### At The Bridge



### At The Peghead



## Neck And Action Adjustment



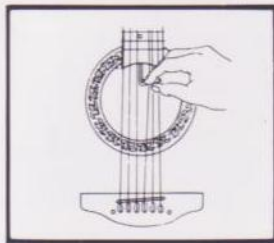
There are only two basic adjustments that you can make to your Celebrity guitar that affect the way it plays . . .

- Neck Bow/Warp
- String Action

You should periodically check both the neck and the action. Never adjust one without checking the other. Always check the neck first. **Unless you are completely familiar with guitar adjustment procedures, we strongly recommend that all neck adjustments are carried out by a skilled guitar repairperson.** Your

dealer can either carry out these adjustments or refer you to a guitar repair shop.

**NECK BOW/WARP**—The neck on your Celebrity guitar can be adjusted for the amount of bow/warp. For best playing results, the neck should always have a slight warp. In order to check the neck bow/warp, hold the low (heavy) "E" string down at the 1st and 12th frets. Look closely at the 5th fret. There should be a slight clearance between the string and the top of the 5th fret, about the thickness of a matchbook cover. If the string is touching the 5th fret, the neck is bowed; if there is excessive clearance, the neck has too much warp.



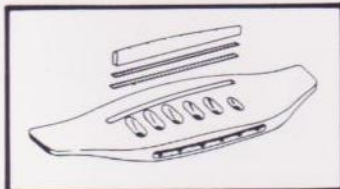
The neck is adjusted by inserting the hex head wrench into the adjusting mechanism located directly inside the soundhole. Loosening the adjustment decreases the bow, tightening the adjustment decreases the warp. Always adjust the neck with the strings on the guitar and the guitar tuned up to full concert pitch.



**STRING ACTION**—After the tension rod is adjusted, the string action can be adjusted. String action describes the height of the strings above the 12th fret. Action is measured at the 12th fret by determining the distance from the top of the 12th fret to the bottom of the string. The recommended distances are as follows:

### Action Settings

Distance between string and top of fret, measured @ 12th fret		
6th string, E	1st string, E	Playing Conditions
$\frac{8}{64}$ "	$\frac{6}{64}$ "	High Action—suitable for "hard" playing with a pick and where maximum volume/tone is a requirement.
$\frac{7}{64}$ "	$\frac{5}{64}$ "	Standard action for steel strings.
$\frac{6}{64}$ "	$\frac{4}{64}$ "	Low Action—suitable for fingerpicking and/or playing in higher positions on the neck.
$\frac{10}{16}$ "	$\frac{8}{64}$ "	Standard action for nylon strings.



Your Celebrity guitar has been set at the factory for Standard Action. This setting has been determined to be the best for the widest range of playing styles. The action on your Celebrity is adjusted by adding or removing shims from under the saddle. By removing a 0.030" shim, the action at the 12th fret will be lowered  $\frac{1}{64}$ ". If an extremely low action is desired, the bottom of the saddle can be sanded. However, any modification of the saddle should be done by a competent repairperson. Also, it is not uncommon to encounter fret buzzing with lower action. Fret buzzing produced by lowering the action is not considered a defect in the guitar.

If a higher action is desired, additional shims can be placed beneath the saddle. Shims for your Celebrity guitar can be obtained from your Celebrity dealer. Each additional shim will raise the action  $\frac{1}{64}$ " at the 12th fret.

### Acoustic/Electric Models

Acoustic/Electric models are fitted with a 6-element piezoelectric pickup system under the bridge saddle. This is a variation of Ovation's original, patented design which revolutionized acoustic guitar amplification and still remains the standard which others try to achieve. Output is by a standard  $\frac{1}{4}$ " jack socket in the back of the guitar, and volume and tone controls are provided. **IMPORTANT:** If you remove the saddle and adjustment shims on Acoustic/Electric models, be very careful not to damage the pickup or its wiring.

### Service And Warranty

If for any reason your Celebrity Roundback should require repair, we have an active Factory Service Department staffed with craftspeople who are familiar with every method of construction used in our instruments. We also have an established network of Authorized Ovation Dealers and Service Centers located throughout the world. All are trained and equipped to handle any problem that might arise with an Ovation guitar. Because of the unique construction employed in Ovation Roundbacks, we recommend that only an Authorized Ovation Dealer or Service Center service your instrument. Only in this way can we be certain that your problem is handled correctly and that lasting satisfaction is achieved. Our customers are very important to us at Ovation. That's why so many guitar players around the world turn to Ovation for product quality and after-sale service.

Backing up our Ovation quality is the Celebrity Limited One Year Warranty. Further details regarding our warranty can be found on the hang-tag accompanying each instrument.

Address service correspondence to—Ovation Instruments, Inc., Blue Hills Avenue Extension, P.O. Box 4, Bloomfield, CT 06002-0004.

For your records, we suggest you make a note of Model, Serial Number, and the date you purchased your Ovation guitar:

Model # \_\_\_\_\_ Serial # \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Purchase \_\_\_\_\_

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Ovation Instruments, Inc., A Kaman Company  
Blue Hills Avenue Extension, P.O. Box 4  
Bloomfield, CT 06002-0004  
[www.ovationguitars.com](http://www.ovationguitars.com)

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