REBO*

the electro-magnetic pickup system

for violin, viola, violoncello and doublebass

— develloped by a perfect duo: audio technician **Manfred Reckmeyer** & violinist **Uli Bösking**.

* Patent Pending. DGBM 202004018423.0

We´re sorry but the english pages are not available yet. We are still working on them and hope to get them launched not later than February 2005.
http://www.uli-boesking.de/rebo/sorry.htm

A short introduction before you get started.

• The two pickup elements are mounted with a small plastic plate and three screws onto the front of the fingerboard. This way the two pickup elements can be best adjusted and positioned relative to the strings. For the installation three 2,85 mm diameter (UNC No. 4) threaded holes have to be drilled into the front of the fingerboard. This type of connection provides the most stability.

• The jack (Switchcraft thick panel phone jack, Carpenter style) is clamped via a chinrest mechanism to the ribs of a violin or a viola.

• On the cello and doublebass models a Switchcraft .141“ miniature phone jack is inserted into the plastic plate.

• The REBO violin and viola models should be installed by a luthier.

• The REBO can be easily removed any time.

• Master luthier Christoph Teichmann (Bremen, Germany, **http://www.geigenbau-teichmann.de**):

"I would install the REBO on a valuable instrument, too. The fingerboard is a replacement part that doesn‘t influence the sound. The borings are hardly visible after removing the pickup."

Required tools:

Electric drilling machine
Long drill bit 2,4 mm
Drill bit 3 mm
Screw tap UNC 4/40
Ruler
File or sand-paper

You would like to instal the REBO on your viola?

Please send us by mail a piece of cardboard with the copied shape of the front of the fingerboard. Because the width of the front of the fingerboard varies with the different sizes of violas, we don‘t offer a standard plastic plate. On this page you will find fotos of a viola **http://www.uli-boesking.de/inst_gal/index.htm** On this viola, the jack is inserted into the ribs of the instrument. We supply the viola REBO with a jack that has to be clamped to the ribs.

9 steps to your REBO- violin

Step 1 of 9: **Mark the fingerboard holes**
• Remove strings, tailpiece, bridge and chinrest.
• Mark the three holes to be drilled: two marks on the outer edges and one in the middle of the front of the fingerboard.

The next steps should be practised on a piece of hard-wood!

Step 2 of 9: **Drill the holes**
• Drill the holes with the long 2,4 mm bit:

• Mark a depth of 20 mm for the holes with a piece of adhesive tape on the bit.
• Using a ruler, verify that the holes and the fingerboard align.

Step 3 of 9: **Tap the fingerboard holes (cut the threads)**
• Tap the fingerboard holes from step 2 using the UNC 4/40 tap:
• You can extend the screw tap with, for example, a connector (insulating screw joint) and a screwdriver.
• Verify with a ruler that the holes and fingerboard align.

Take your time and be careful as you tap the holes.

Caution: If rotating the tap is getting harder, remove the screw tap and thoroughly remove all chips from the screw tap and hole.
• Suspending the instrument from the scroll helps in removing chips.

Step 4 of 9
• Level the front of the fingerboard **rectangularly** with a file or sandpaper on a block.

Step 5 of 9: **Prepare and mount the plastic plate**
• Copy the position of the holes in the fingerboard to the raw plastic plate. Using the marks, drill holes in the plate using the 3 mm bit.
• Test mount the plastic plate.
• The plastic plate should align properly with the screws and the holes in the fingerboard. If it does not, enlarge the holes in the plastic plate with a (round) file.

Step 6 of 9: **Check the depth of the holes**

• Using the screws, plastic plate and the pickup element, check if the holes are tapped sufficiently deep.

Step 7 of 9: **Mount the pickup elements**

• Clamp the two pickup elements between the fingerboard and the plastic plate.

• The side of the pickup elements where the wires come out should point in the direction of the G-string.

Step 8 of 9

• Mount the jack.

• String with steel strings (recommended are "D'Addario Helicore" or "Pirastro Flexocor / Permanent"), mount and adjust the bridge, tailpiece and chinrest.

• Connect the instrument with an instrument cable to a musical instrument amplifier.

Step 9 of 9 **Adjusting the pickup elements**

• Start with the elements positioned so that the element - to - strings distances are the same for both elements. Initially, they should be placed equidistant between string pairs G/D and A/E.

• Try different element - to - strings positions. Bring them nearer or move them away. Try different angles. Develop your idea of your sound.

• Don‘t bring the elements too near to the strings, or else the strings may snare on the elements.

• Experience the electric sound of your instrument with your ensemble or band and readjust if necessary.

• If on a special occasion you‘d like to use your instrument in a “purely“ traditional way and your new REBO system is disturbing you visually, simply remove the three screws, the two pickup elements, the plastic plate and the jack.

Enjoy yourself with the REBO!