



Mojotone Quiet Coil Strat Pickups FAQ's

What is the difference between the '58 and '67 Quiet Coils?

There is a significant tonal difference between the 67's and 58's. Just like the original 1958 and 1967 Strat pickups, the materials, number of turns, winding patterns, etc all changed, which is why there is a tonal difference between the two. The 58's tend to sound brighter with more upper midrange presence, which gives them a more open and woody sounding tone, compared to the 67's which are more scooped on the mids and tend to have more quack and overall glassier highs. Think SRV or Clapton Brownie Strat tones with the 58's, and think Hendrix or Gilmour Strat tones with the 67's.

I see you recommend 500k potentiometers for the Quiet Coils, but can I use 250k pots instead?

The Quiet Coils are designed to work with 500k pots because they utilize 2 coils and 2 magnets per string rather than 1 coil and 1 magnet per string like a single coil. That being said, you have to double the resistance of the pot to 500k to match the impedance for a true single coil tone. We also sell prewired assemblies and prewired pickguards specifically for the Quiet Coils which are equipped with 500k pots. The prewired pickguards are also completely solderless so you don't need to worry about solder skills or professional installation.

None of the other hum-cancelling Strat pickups seem to fit my guitar because they are too tall.

Will your Mojotone Quiet Coils fit my reissue Strat with the vintage pickup routs?

The Quiet Coil Strat pickups are only about 1/16" taller than standard vintage Strat pickups because of the shielding plate on the back of the pickup. That being said, as long as you lay the lead wires flat and side by side across the back of the pickups, without twisting or stacking the wires over top of one another, they will fit the shallow vintage routs just fine. We installed them into a '57 reissue here with no issues.

Why do I hear noise, especially when I remove my hands from the strings?

With any hum-cancelling pickups, if you hear noise or buzz, especially when you take your hands off of the strings, it is most likely not the fault of the pickups but quite possibly the lack of shielding in your guitar. The Quiet Coil pickups are designed to be "hum-cancelling" against single coil 60 cycle hum, but they are not shielded against RF or EMI noise. The reason we do not shield the pickups or wires themselves, is because it adds capacitance directly to the circuit and changes the tone. It is recommended to completely shield the pickguard and control cavities, and connect the shielding to ground along with the ground wires from the tremolo/bridge and input jack. Shielding helps block out unwanted RF/EMI noise for the quietest performance possible.

Can I get them made left handed?

Yes we can reverse the faux polepiece stagger for the look of left handed orientation by request. But the pickups themselves do not need to be made specifically for left handed guitars. See polepiece FAQ below.

Can I get the polepieces flat or change the stagger?

The short answer is no. The Quiet Coil polepieces do not serve any purpose other than looks. We carefully considered players who don't like the feel of magnets under their hand by beveling the tops and keeping them lower or flush to the cover. The actual Alnico magnets are hidden below the cover and the magnetic field is solid across all of the strings so there is no need to stagger the magnets or worry about string spacing. They can also be installed for left or right handed guitars because the actual magnets themselves are not specifically oriented for left or right handed guitars.

Do standard Fender Strat pickup covers fit?

Most standard American Strat pickup covers will fit, however they are shorter so there will be a gap between the bottom of the pickup and the bottom of the cover. You won't see this gap because it will be below the pickguard anyway. However, many of the standard Strat pickup covers can be too thick on the top leaving our polepieces below the cover so we recommend using our Quiet Coil covers instead which are thinner on the top. They also cover the entire coil so there is no gap. We can sell them by request for customers who own Quiet Coil Strat pickups.

Can I coil tap them?

No we do not build the Quiet Coils with 4-conductor wire. These are designed to be like vintage Strat pickups with 1 lead for ground and 1 lead for hot. There is really no reason to coil tap them anyway considering they already sound exactly like single coils. Coil tapping them would just make them sound thin and weak.

Do I need a treble bleed capacitor?

Yes we recommend using a 470pf - 500pf treble bleed cap in between the input and output of the volume pot. This will keep your treble clear when rolling the volume back so the pickups don't get muddy sounding. We do NOT recommend using a resistor in series or parallel with the capacitor as it can reduce the output of the pickups slightly. See our wiring diagram.

What are the recommended pickup heights?

We recommend starting at 3/32" on the treble side and 4/32" on the bass side. All measurements are taken while pressing the string against the last fret and measuring from the top of the polepiece to the bottom of the string. You can adjust the Quiet Coils closer without magnet pull on the strings so there is more room to adjust the pickups to your own personal preference.

Can I get them custom wound to my spec and change the magnet type?

At this time we are not offering custom versions of the Quiet Coil pickups. We put years of research and development into the current models and we believe they represent the best possible sound you can achieve from their current specs.