



Caring for your New Guitar

RE-STRINGING YOUR BATSON

Strings must be changed regularly to maintain accurate tuning, clarity and balance of sound. The gauge of strings supplied on your instrument is logged on the warranty registration sheet. We recommend staying with that size. If you go to a different gauge string, consult a professional as to what set-up changes will be needed.

AFTER PLAYING YOUR BATSON

After playing your Batson, there are several measures you should take to maintain the instruments condition. Always wipe the strings with the special string care cloths. Use the cloth in the sealed package first, and then wipe off with the second cloth. Next, use the buffing cloth on the body of the guitar to clear it of harmful chemicals. Finally, use the waxing cloth. This cloth has a special blend of carnauba and beeswax to ensure the protection of your instrument. There are many dangerous chemicals that can come in contact with your instrument, e.g.

alcohol, toiletries, perspiration, etc. To polish your guitar, use a non-silicone based liquid polish – lemon oil, or Dr. Ducks Axe Wax™. This will prevent your instrument from becoming harmed by these accumulating materials. Before returning your guitar to its case, always remove the strap and store it separately. Ensure that there are no loose items inside the case which could damage the guitar. If your Batson is not being used for a period, or when transporting long distances, reduce the tension of each of the tuning machines by two turns.

ADJUSTMENTS TO THE ACTION

The height of the strings above the fingerboard, known as the ‘action’, is very important. This will determine the ease with which the instrument can be played. If the strings are too high, playing becomes more difficult while strings that are too low will buzz against the frets. Action can be adjusted at both the saddle and the nut. These wear and should be checked regularly. If adjustments are needed, they should only be done by an authorized repairman where you purchased your Batson.

TRAVELING WITH YOUR BATSON

Always treat your Batson guitar with special care and attention when traveling. When transporting by car, always keep it in the trunk. The interior of a car is less subject to the extremes of temperature and humidity, both of which can be harmful to a

sensitive instrument. It is advisable not to leave your guitar in a parked vehicle because of the possible heat build-up and attendant security risks. If traveling by air, it is important to keep your Batson in your hands at all times. Inquire from the airline what special services are available for valuable baggage.

INSURING YOUR BATSON

Your Batson guitar is an appreciating asset. Also, the cost of hand made instruments is always increasing. It is very important that you insure your Batson adequately.

IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS

Batson guitars are made of relatively thin, solid wood. Therefore, any variation in temperature and/or humidity of the air surrounding the guitar will have differing effects on the various components of your instrument

TYPICAL PROBLEMS CAUSED BY HUMIDITY 40% OR BELOW

- 1) Action becomes very low. This is caused by soundboard shrinkage. This will only happen with extreme exposure to very low humidity. Remedy: Use a humidifier and release string tension for a few days.
- 2) Cracks appearing on soundboard, sides, or back. Remedy: Only an experienced repairman will be able to attend

to such problems. Cracks should be attended to quickly. 3) Saddle piece separating from soundboard. This is unlikely since all Batson guitar saddle pieces are sealed to inhibit shrinkage. In an extreme situation a saddle piece may come off but can usually be easily repaired. But it is best to avoid prolonged exposure to humidity under 40%. Our unique “hybrid” fingerboard eliminates many common problems caused by low humidity.

TYPICAL PROBLEMS CAUSED BY HUMIDITY 75%

- 1) High action
- 2) Guitar sound becomes ‘tight’ and restricted, usually with a loss of bass and volume. Where unavoidable rapid changes in humidity are necessary, use moisture adding devises or drying agents such as silicon crystals or a guitar case humidifier to help during the transition period.

We hope this information helps you enjoy your Batson guitar to its fullest! If you have any questions regarding the care of your instrument, please contact Batson Guitar Company.

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