

Gibson Bender Manual

Basic Setup and Use

String Installation:

1. The Bender String is installed through the small hole in the front of the Bender Saddle piece – called the Finger. If necessary, it may help to put a small bend or curl in the end of the string so that the string end feeds up through the opening in the Bender Saddle. It can then be pulled forward and installed through the tuner as normal.



Bender Strap Use:

2. This Gibson Bender Guitar comes with Dunlop Straplok buttons and work with Straploks or a conventional strap.
3. The pitch range of the Bender pull is usually set at a whole step, "B" to "C#" or "G" to "A" but, depending on the string gauge used, the range can be up to 3 half steps. The bend interval is adjusted with the Knurled Roller Wheel located on the Tuner Plate next to the neck.



Pull Tension Adjustment:

4. The amount of effort to move the Bender arm – or resistance – is adjusted at the butt end of the guitar body next to the rear strap button. The spring in the Bender should be set tight enough to counter normal bounce when playing but this setting is really a user preference. Adjustment requires a #2 Phillips screw driver and turning clockwise will tighten the pull. Try two or three turns either direction and continue as needed.



Action and Intonation Adjustment:

5. The Bender Saddle should be lightly tightened to the Bridge Plate. To make this possible, there is a push-up/hold-down screw setup. There are two 3mm set screws in the front of the Bender Saddle similar to the other 5 Saddles.

These are adjusted with a 1.5mm Allen wrench and set the preferred string height. The Bender Saddle should be kept snug to the Bridge Plate by the hold-down screw near the back of the Bender Saddle and this requires a 2mm Allen wrench.



6. To Raise the Bender Saddle, loosen the 2 set screws a bit, loosen the hold-down screw by one turn – or enough to allow it to be raised to suit. Finally, snug the 2 set screws. Do not over tighten



7. To lower the action, loosen the 2 set screws until the action is as desired, then snug the hold-down screw
8. To set the intonation, loosen the 2 set screws, use a #0 Phillips screwdriver to move the Bender Saddle forward or back to the correct place and re-tighten the set screws.

