

Takamine CT4-DX PRE-AMP

OWNER'S GUIDE

This manual introduces the two channel CT4-DX on-board preamp. Used with the Takamine Palathetic under-saddle pickup, it offers four bands of EQ and two notch filter controls to reduce feedback. Add a second magnetic pickup or transducer (the Takamine Tri-Ax or Soundboard Transducer), and the CT4-DX gives you independent control over both pickups, each having two-bands of EQ and a notch filter control. Blend as desired for your best acoustic sound ever.

Important Use and Safety Instructions

- Unplug cable and all connecting equipment from endpin jack when installing or removing batteries.
- Avoid touching the connecting metals within upper and lower parts to avoid compromising contacts.
- For optimum battery life, use fresh batteries of same brand.
- Replace the batteries carefully observing polarity.
- When replacing the batteries, check for dust or any foreign matter inside the preamp. If found, stop using and consult local dealer.
- When installing upper section into the lower, please check for smooth insertion.
- After installing the upper section, confirm that it is properly firm and fixed.

- Very high preamp output volume may cause distortion in connecting equipment. Adjust input levels of connecting device as necessary.

Important Instructions for Storage

- Preamp power is engaged as long as output cable is plugged into the endpin jack. Unplug the cable when guitar electronics are not in use.
- Upper and lower sections of preamp are not available individually. Please handle with care.
- Malfunction due to battery leakage is not covered by warranty even during the guarantee period. Select a reliable battery brand and remove them when preamp not in use.

Changing Batteries

1. Pinch the battery cartridge tabs together until the upper preamp section ejects slightly. Pull the entire section straight out.
2. Pull out the battery cartridge from inside and replace the batteries. Carefully check polarities and avoid touching contact plates.
3. When replacing battery cartridge, set the cartridge along the rail guide with the polar plates facing downward.
4. Reinstall the upper section of the preamp so that it is flush and firmly fixed.

Control & Mode Switching

The CT4-DX in "PU1" mode is designed to operate Takamine's original "Palathetic Bridge Pickup" system in typical single pickup fashion. In "Dual" mode you can include and EQ an auxiliary magnetic pickup or contact transducer, blending the two pickups together or using them independently.

● PU1 MODE

Turn the mode switch to "PU1" to operate in single pickup mode.

- **PU1 input jack**
Connect to bridge pickup (Exclusive for Takamine Original Palathetic Pickup).
- **Gain select switch for PU1**
Selector switch by strings type
No need to change as switch is properly selected at the factory normally.
1. For Steel Strings / 2. For Nylon Strings
- **PU2 input jack: No control**
- **PU2 GAIN: No control**

- **LOW**
Increase and Decrease the power of sound in the low range
- **LOW-MID**
Increase and decrease low-mid range frequencies
- **HIGH-MID**
Increase and decrease high-mid range frequencies.
- **HIGH**
Increase and decrease the power of sound in the high range.

- **VOLUME**
Control the amount of volume output from zero to max.
- **NOTCH1**
Adjust to reduce feedback by frequency without changing the output EQ.
- **NOTCH1 reduction amount changer**
Push down this button to change the reduction amount of NOTCH1 adjusted frequency from -6db to -12db.
- **NOTCH2**
Adjust to reduce feedback by frequency without changing the output EQ.
- **NOTCH2 reduction amount changer**
NOTCH2 reduction amount changer: Push down this button to change the reduction amount of notch from -6db to -12db.

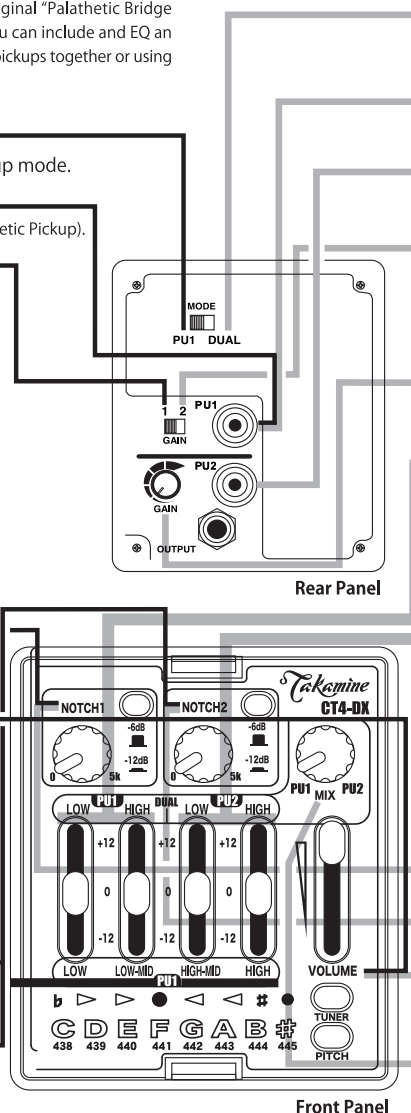
○ **MIX: No Control**

● DUAL MODE (PU1+PU2 merging mode)

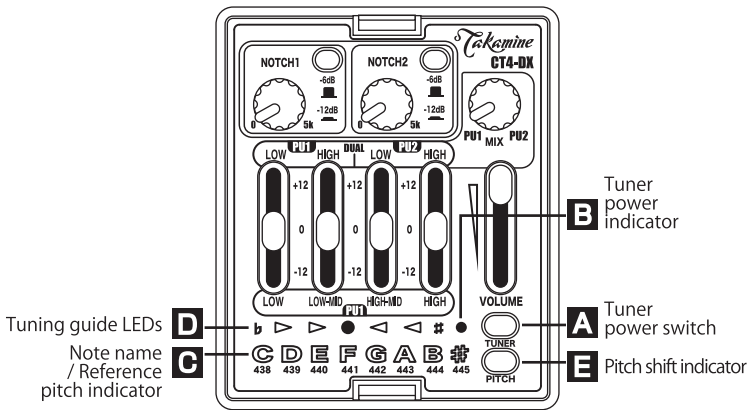
Turn the mode switch into "DUAL" then. Output sound is merged from both input of PU1 and PU2.

- **PU1 input jack**
Connect to bridge pickup (Exclusive for Takamine Original Palathetic Pickup).
- **PU2 input jack**
Connect to an auxiliary magnetic pickup or contact transducer.
- **Gain select switch for PU1**
Selector switch by strings type
No need to change as switch is properly selected at the factory normally.
1. For Steel Strings / 2. For Nylon Strings

- **PU2 GAIN**
Control the input gain of PU2 pickup. Carefully increase the level to avoid distortion.
- **PU1-LOW** Increase and decrease the low range of PU1.
- **PU1-HIGH** Increase and decrease the high range of PU1.
- **PU2-LOW** Increase and decrease the low range of PU2.
- **PU2-HIGH** Increase and decrease the high range of PU2.
- **VOLUME**
Control the amount of merged output from PU1 and PU2 from zero to max.
- **NOTCH1**
Exclusive for PU1. Adjust to reduce feedback by frequency without changing output EQ.
- **NOTCH1 reduction amount changer**
Push down this button to change the reduction amount of NOTCH1 adjusted frequency from -6db to -12db.
- **NOTCH2**
Exclusive for PU2. Adjust to reduce feedback by frequency without changing output EQ.
- **NOTCH2 reduction amount changer**
NOTCH2 reduction amount changer: Push down this button to change the reduction amount of notch from -6db to -12db.
- **MIX**
Adjust and blend the outputs of both PU1 (left) and PU2 (right).



Controls & Features



A Tuner power switch

This switch works as toggle switch of "Off", "On/Unmute", "On/Mute"

B Tuner power indicator

This LED indicator lights up when tuner function turned on.

C Note name indicator

The closest note name is shown when the guitar string is played
When the pitch calibration is engaged, a note name is displayed showing reference pitch (438-445) below it.

D Tuning guide LED

This guide shows you the level of closeness to the reference tone.
Preamp battery strength is indicated by a blinking center green LED. Please replace the batteries when this light blinks.

E Pitch shift indicator

To change the reference pitch of the tuner.

⚠️ Precaution about tuner power

This preamp features automatic power off function on tuner, which takes effect when no input signal is present for more than 5 minutes. This is to avoid unnecessary battery consumption if the tuner function is accidentally left on.

This automatic power-off function affects only the tuner function. The preamp's master power is engaged when the output cable is plugged into the endpin jack. Battery power is being consumed when cable is inserted.

How to use Tuner function

1. Press **A** button to turn on tuner.

A switch works differently when output cable is plugged in and when it is not.

Output cable not plugged in.

Tuner function works as indicated in below illustration.

1st Push "Tuner turn on" → 2nd Push "Tuner turn off"



Automatic power-off after 5 minutes of no signal

2. Play a single string and the closest note name displays.

Half tone up is indicated by the note name accompanied with # sharp sign.

3. Adjust the machine head of the string with accordance of the indicated note name and tuning guide LED.

A tuning is complete when the appropriate note name is displayed and the center green LED lights up.

⚠️ Precaution upon tuning strings

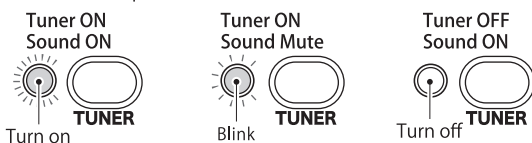
1. Due to the high sensitivity of the on-board preamp, conflicting, overdriven signals can cause delayed or inaccurate readings. We encourage playing each string slowly and moderately for accurate tuning.

2. It is not a malfunction when the note name indicator and tuning guide LED display unspecific and indistinctive readings due to conflicting signals or environmental hum noise. Readings will normalize once a singular input signal is identified.

Output cable plugged in.

Tuner function works as indicated in below illustration.

1st push "Tuner turn on" for "sound line-out"
→ 2nd push "Tuner turn on" for "sound mute"
→ 3rd push "Tuner turn off" for "sound line-out"



Automatic power-off after 5 minutes of no signal

How to set the reference tone (pitch shift setting)

- Turn on the tuner by pressing **A** button
- Press **E** button to enter pitch shift setting mode, the note name indicated blinks above the current reference tone.
(Default setting is A4=440Hz)
- While the note name indicator is blinking, press **E** button to move the blinking indicator move one-step right and change the reference tone 1Hz upward.

4. After 2 seconds without manipulation, it will automatically return to tuning mode.

This setting is preserved when **A** tuner power switch is turned off or preamp is powered down by removing output cable out from the endpin jack. Please note the setting will reset to default ,A4=440Hz, when you replace the battery of the preamp.

Blinking note name

[Reference tone]

