



TRI-AX2 USER'S GUIDE



USING THE TRI-AX2 WITH THE TAKAMINE COOLTUBE PREAMP

The TRI-AX2 pickup was designed to create the most versatile and warmest sounding acoustic guitar amplification system when used with the Takamine CoolTube preamp. The richness and complexity of the TRI-AX2 are enhanced with the warm tube effect of the CoolTube preamp. We recommend that you start with the tone controls flat and the CoolTube control at the 9 o'clock position. Bring in the TRI-AX2 using the AUX PU control until the TRI-AX2 sound begins to blend with the CoolTube sound. From this point forward it's "player's choice."

You'll find a great variety of tones by working the interaction between the CoolTube and the TRI-AX2. Most players set the CoolTube control between 9 o'clock and 3 o'clock and control the richness by varying the TRI-AX2 level. Once you discover your favorite sonic balance, the EQ can be tweaked to polish up the tone. In passive mode, the volume control on the TRI-AX2 does not function. Use the AUX PU knob on the CoolTube preamp to control the TRI-AX2 level.

IMPORTANT NOTES WHEN USING THE TRI-AX2 PICKUP WITH THE COOLTUBE PREAMP:

1. We highly recommend using the TRI-AX2 in passive mode with the CoolTube. The output level of the TRI-AX2 is designed to provide a pleasing mix with the Takamine guitar's built-in pickup in passive mode. The mode selector switch on the bottom of the TRI-AX2 pickup changes the operation from active to passive.
2. While not recommended, you can use the TRI-AX2 in active mode with the CoolTube without causing any damage to either. This will deliver more output from the TRI-AX2, but will require you to move the mode selector switch to PASSIVE after each use in order to turn off the battery. (Plugging the TRI-AX2 into the CoolTube disables the on/off switch incorporated into the strapjack.)

USING THE TRI-AX2 ALONE

The TRI-AX2 will plug into practically any amplification or recording equipment with good results. Although the TRI-AX2 can be used alone in passive mode, we recommend using the active mode. This will give you volume control right at the guitar and the line driver will permit longer output cable runs with no signal degradation.

The TRI-AX2 can be used alone in passive mode, but you will not have volume control at your guitar and will have to rely on the volume control on your backline amp or mixing console.

If you want to use outboard EQ or a direct box, we recommend the L.R. Baggs Para D.I., which provides both EQ and DI features.

Plugging a guitar cable into the strapjack turns the active circuit on and unplugging turns the circuit off. If you want your battery to live a long life, remember to unplug when you're finished playing.

IMPORTANT NOTE WHEN USING THE TRI-AX2 ALONE:

1. The volume control on the TRI-AX2 will work ONLY in active mode. When the pickup is in passive mode, the volume control will not function.
2. When using the TRI-AX2 in passive mode it is not necessary to have a battery installed. An installed battery will not be drained in passive mode.



BATTERY CHECK & REPLACEMENT

Press this button to check battery life (see figure1). A full battery will light up all 4 lights and should give you approximately 300 hours of playing time.

When only two lights are lit, you have about 50 hours of normal playing time left. If only one light is lit, replace the battery (see figure2). Make sure the "+" sign is facing outwards. Be sure to unplug your instrument cable from the guitar when not in use to maximize battery life. The battery check will work even when there is no cable plugged in.



figure1

Press down on this tab to remove the battery
Battery type: CR2032 3V lithium coin cell



figure2

VOLUME

The volume control works in the "active" setting only.

POLE PIECE ADJUSTMENTS

The pole pieces on the TRI-AX2 are factory set for bronze acoustic strings, but this is just a starting place. They are adjustable with the 3/32" Allen wrench to obtain the optimum balance and tone. Raising the pole pieces will increase the output of the strings; lowering them will decrease the output. We have provided two additional 3/4" pole pieces for use in the B and little E string positions with nickel or electric guitar strings, and one spare 3/8" pole piece for acoustic strings that have an unwound "G".