



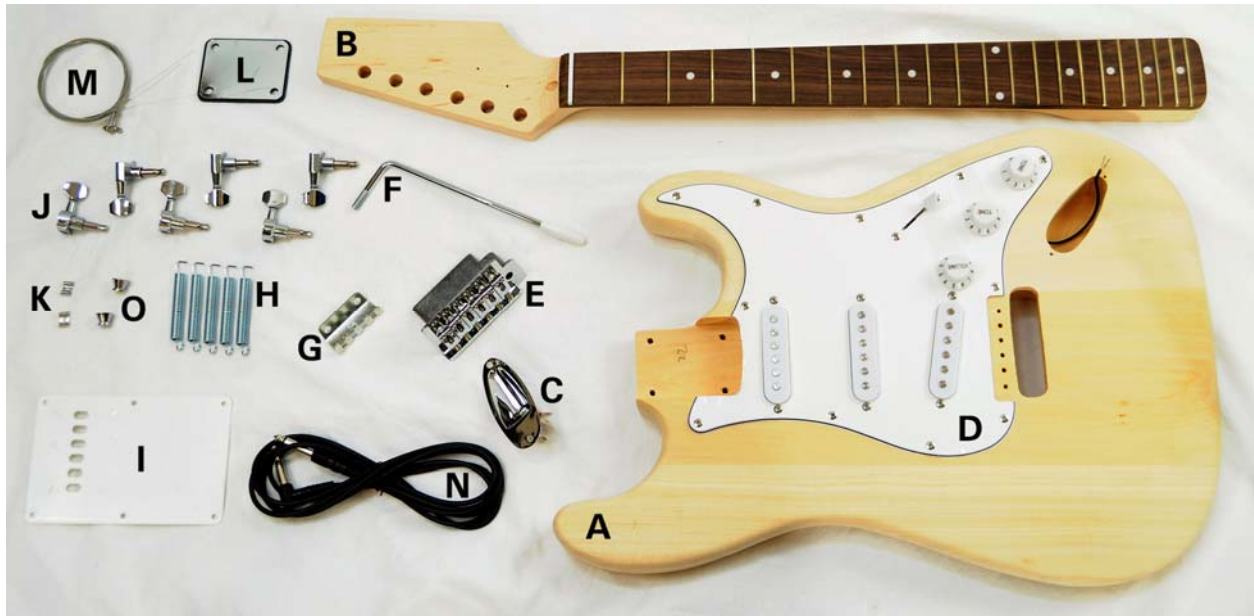
**PGEKT18**  
Unfinished Strat Electric Guitar Kit



[www.pyleaudio.com](http://www.pyleaudio.com)

Thank you for your purchase of the **PGEKT18**. Please follow these instructions to build your new electric guitar. Don't forget to register your product online @ [www.pyleaudio.com](http://www.pyleaudio.com).

## 1. Parts Overview



Letter	Quantity	Description
A	1	Body
B	1	Neck
C	1	Output Jack
D	1	Pickguard Assembly
E	1	Tremolo Unit
F	1	Tremolo Arm
G	1	Spring Claw
H	5	Springs
I	1	Back Plate
J	6	Tuning Machines
K	2	String Holders
L	1	Neck Plate
M	6	Strings
N	1	¼" Guitar Cable
O	2	Strap Buttons

## 2. Finishing the Body and Neck

A high quality, custom finish will let your musical instrument reflect your personality. Though the tone and playing characteristics of the instrument will not be affected, you can take great pride in the look of your guitar. The neck and body of your Pyle Electric Guitar Kit have been sealed, sanded, and are ready for final finishing.

Decide whether or not you want a color coat or a clear coat for a more natural finish.

### **Color Coat**

We recommend using acrylic lacquer spray paint commonly found at automotive parts stores. In addition to coming in a variety of colors, this spray paint is extremely durable and resistant to cracking.

Hang the body safely. Begin each spray stroke in the air on one side of the body and continue until you reach the air on the other side. Overlap each stroke by one half, and every other stroke spray crosswise, then length wise. This technique will provide an even color distribution.

Although lacquer dries quickly, attempts to spray too much in one coat can result in runs or bubbles in the finish. Spraying should not be attempted on excessively humid or rainy days. One or two coats of color should be enough -- it should not be necessary to sand between coats unless there are drips or runs to be leveled. All exposed surfaces should be dead level with a satin gloss.

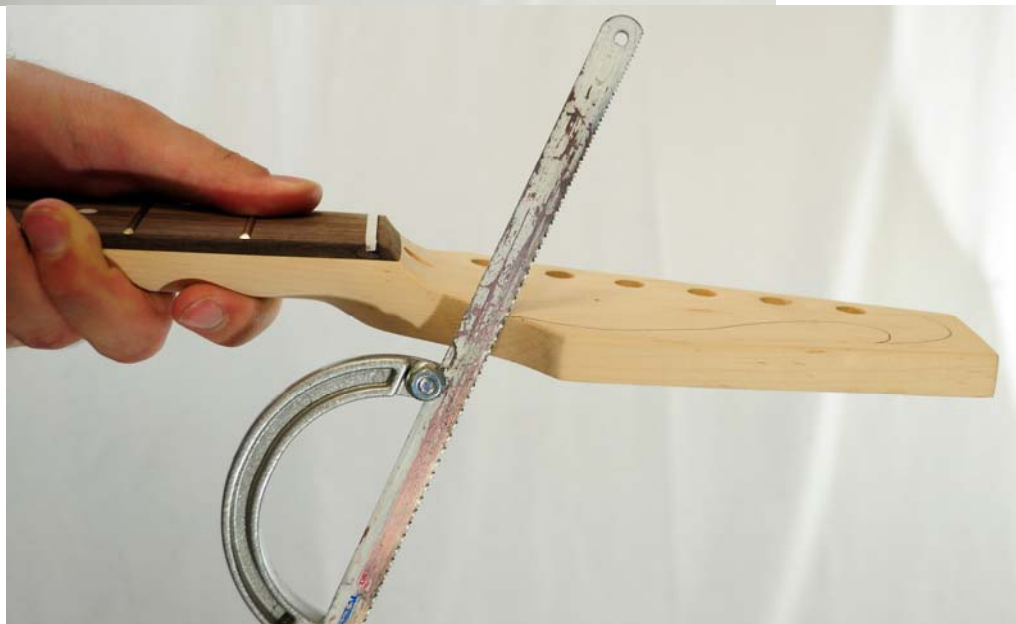
### **Clear Coat**

The clear lacquer topcoat is also available at automotive parts stores. We advise using the same brand of color and clear coat for compatibility. The clear coat should be applied the same way as the color coat -- two or three coats should be adequate. For best results, the body finish should be allowed to harden for one week before the final rubout and polish.

**Note:** To avoid runs and drips, hold the can 6 to 10 inches from the surface. Make sure the area where you spray is well ventilated.

### 3. Shaping the Headstock

The headstock of the PEGKT18 has been left oversized so that you may customize it with your own shape. Take this opportunity to really show off your personal style. We recommend drawing the shape on the headstock using a pencil, then cutting with a bandsaw or simple coping saw. Once completed, use a half round file to level the contoured edge of the peghead. Sand the edge to smooth using #400 fine grit sandpaper.



## 4. Assembling The Body

### i. Output Jack (Part C)

The cavity for the output jack is located on the lower right hand side of the body. A  $\frac{1}{4}$ " hole has been drilled to connect the output jack cavity to the pickup cavity. Run the two wires through this hole and attach the jack to the body using the two provided screws.



### ii. Spring Claw (Part G)

Turn the body over to attach the spring claw. The ground wire that has been soldered to the spring claw should be directed through the hole in the cavity so that it enters the pickup cavity.



### iii. Pickguard Assembly (Part D)

The three wires from the pickguard assembly must be connected to the three wires that you have already fed into the pickup cavity. Each wire has a mini plug in its end. First slide back the shrink tubing and plug white to white, black to black, and blue to blue. Carefully slide the shrink tubing over the connectors. Heat the tubing with a match to seal the connectors. Attach the pickguard assembly to the body with the screws provided.



## 4. Assembling The Body (cont'd)

### iv. Tremolo Unit (Part E)

Attach the tremolo unit using the six screws provided; do not overtighten. Attach springs between the spring claw and the tremolo block -- most players use 3 springs only. Finally, screw the tremolo arm into the tremolo unit.

### v. Backplate (Part I)

Attach the backplate to cover the spring cavity. This step is optional -- many players leave this plate off in order to easily access the tremolo block, especially for changing strings.

### vi. Strap buttons (Part O)

Screw the two strap buttons onto the butt of the guitar and the other onto the left horn of the body.

## 5. Assembling the Neck

### i. Tuners (Part J)

Push the six bushings into the holes in the face of the headstock and then attach the 6 tuners using the 12 screws provided.



### ii. String Tree (Part K)

The string tree is now attached to the peg head. Locate the small hole in the face of the peghead about 3 inches above the string nut. Slip the string notches onto the screw followed by the round cylindrical spacer. The string tree pulls the first and second strings of the guitar downward. That downward pressure will keep the strings from popping out of the nut slots while you are playing.

### iii. Neck/Body Attachment

Attach the neck to the body using the four large screws. The neck plate acts as a large washer and covers the locator hole on the back of the body.

## 6. Set Up

- i. **Strings and tuning:** Put the strings on and tune to pitch.
- ii. **Tremolo adjustment:** If the tremolo leans forward and rests against the body, adjust the spring plate using the two screws holding it to the body to increase or decrease tension on the springs. This floating tremolo system should be parallel to the body at rest.
- iii. **Truss rod adjustment:** The adjustable truss rod in the neck of your guitar has been shop adjusted and should not require and change. If the neck should develop a dip or hollow spot over time, it can be removed by tightening the truss rod adjustment nut that protrudes from the base of the headstock just above the nut.

A "back bow" or "hog back" can be removed by loosening the nut. Be careful adjusting the truss rod -- as little as 1/4 of a turn can greatly alter the shape of the neck.

- iv. **Action at the nut:** Setting the string action that is right for you starts at the string nut. The slots at the string nut should already be close to perfect -- but you might want to make some adjustment.

To do so, push the sixth string down between the second and third fret. The space between the top of the first fret and the bottom of the string should be about .006", or just about the thickness of paper. If the gap is wider, you should deepen the slot with a small needle file until it is correct -- but do not file too deep. (If the slot is too deep, you can fill it with a mixture of white plastic sanding dust and crazy glue to rehspace the slot.) Repeat this process for the 5 other strings. Remember that the action at the nut is right or wrong, not a matter of personal preference.

- v. **Adjusting the height of the strings over the 12<sup>th</sup> fret:** Minor adjustments in the string action can be made by raising or lowering the individual saddles on the tremolo bridge with the small hex key that has been provided with your kit. Use the chart to assist you; this action adjustment *is* a matter of personal preference.

	First String	Sixth String
Low Action	1/32"	1/16"
Medium Action	1/16"	3/32"
High Action	3/32"	1/8"

## 6. Set Up (cont'd)

- vi. **Intonation:** The saddles on the tremolo bridge can be adjusted to compensate for the pitch modification that occurs when the string is stretched as it is fretted. This adjustment is made by tightening or loosening the set screws at the rear of the tremolo bridge.

Start by tuning your guitar and sounding a harmonic chime directly above the twelfth fret on the sixth string. Now fret the sixth string at the twelfth fret and compare that pitch to the harmonic. If the fretted note is higher than the harmonic pitch, tighten the set screw to lengthen the string. If the fretted note is lower than the harmonic, loosen the set screw to shorten the string length. When the harmonic and the fretted note sound the same, the saddle is at the correct position. Repeat this procedure for the other five strings.

- vii. **Pickup height:** Each single coil pickup is adjustable on the bass and treble sides. Finding the best combination of tone and volume will require some experimentation. A good place to start is to adjust the pickup height so that the first string is about 1/8" over the pickup pole and the sixth string is about 3/16" over its pole.