

THE OVATION STORY

In less than 7 years Ovation Instruments has changed the world of guitar making, added the word "roundback" to the English language, and brought joy to thousands of musical perfectionists.

Ovation is a subsidiary of Kaman Corporation, a Connecticut-based company employing more than 2,700 people. Kaman's President, Charles Kaman, a music lover and particularly a guitar enthusiast, combined engineering technology and "sound" sense to revolutionize guitar making.

In 1966 the first roundback fiberglass guitar was produced. It was acoustically and structurally superior to wood, reflected sound further, and projected the cleanest, brightest sound ever heard.

In 1972 Ovation did it again — producing a brilliant new concept in solid body guitar design. The secret is the circuitry. A tiny FET pre-amplifier coupled with a uniquely designed pick-up create wide-range dynamite sound possibilities and simplified controls.

The application of aerospace know-how and hand craftsmanship lets Ovation bridge the generation gap to give the consumer the guitar of the future with all the careful considerations of the past.



OVATION INSTRUMENTS INC.

SUBSIDIARY OF
KAMAN
CORPORATION

NEW HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06057

DIAL 379-0721 • AREA CODE 203

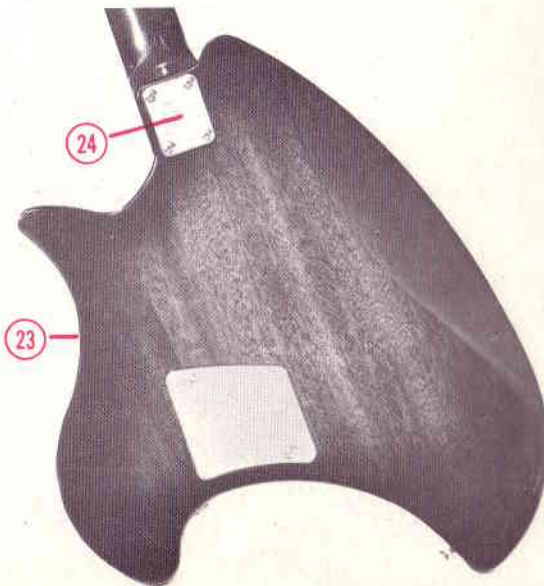
Printed in U. S. A.

**SOLID
BODY
OWNER'S
MANUAL**

FEATURES

1. PEGHEAD
2. MACHINE HEADS
3. TENSION ROD COVER
4. NUT
5. NECK (LAMINATED)
6. NICKEL SILVER FRETS
7. POSITION MARKERS
8. 24 FRETS
9. NECK PICKUP
10. PICKUP ADJUSTMENT SCREW
11. PICK GUARD
12. BRIDGE PICKUP
13. VOLUME CONTROL KNOB

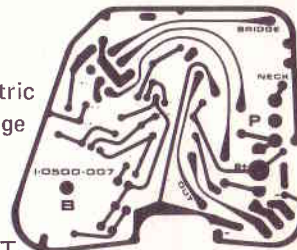
14. 3-WAY SELECTOR SWITCH
15. TONE CONTROL KNOB
16. MID-RANGE SWITCH
17. OUTPUT JACK
18. STRAP KNOB
19. TAILPIECE BRIDGE ASSEMBLY
20. ACTION ADJUSTMENT SCREWS
21. ADJUSTABLE SADDLE
22. SADDLE ADJUSTMENT SCREWS
23. SOLID BODY
24. REMOVABLE NECK



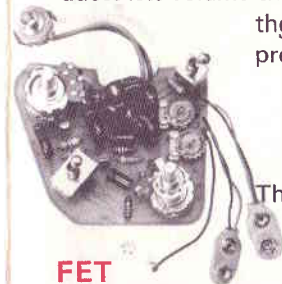
FET PRE-AMPLIFIER

There is no other solid body on the market with a built-in pre-amp. Ovation's solid body is capable of producing unique, original sounds. In addition to heightened performance, the FET pre-amp simplifies the controls. This is accomplished through sophisticated circuitry involving a band rejection filter.

CIRCUIT BOARD



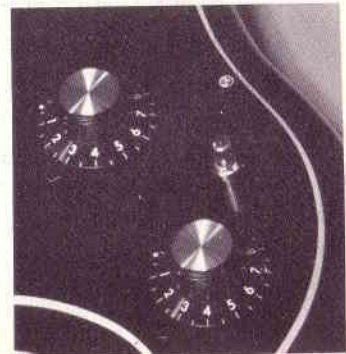
Ovation engineers, through their research on acoustic and acoustic electric guitars, determined that the mid-range of the musical scale (between 400 and 1200 cycles per second) produces less volume than the rest of the scale. The FET pre-amp filter allows the volume in this region to be decreased like an acoustic guitar. All controls are volume compensated and electronically isolated.



The tone control is isolated so that changes in volume or impedance of a particular amplifier will have no effect on the tone control.

FET PRE-AMPLIFIER

In most guitars, the tone control greatly diminishes the volume of the treble strings and causes a slight decrease in the volume of the bass strings. With our FET pre-amplifier, you enjoy a myriad of possible tone and volume change effects with no volume loss when changing from bass to treble.



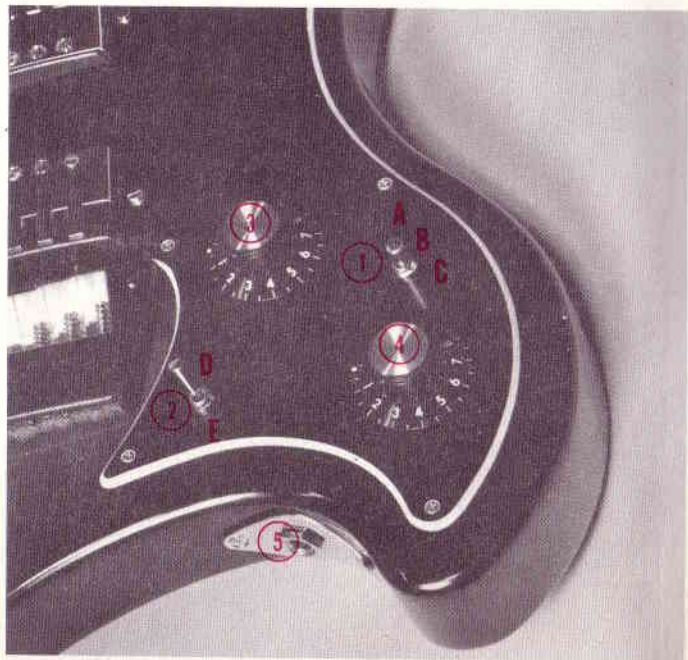
ONE TONE CONTROL ONE VOLUME CONTROL

CONTROLS

1. SELECTOR SWITCH

This three-position selector switch allows you to switch from front to back pick-up or to both pick-ups out-of-phase.

- A. In position "A" the neck pick-up is active and the bridge pick-up is inactive. This usually is the "RHYTHM" position. (To obtain optimum volume in this position, see **TRIM CONTROL**.)
- B. In position "B" the bridge pick-up is active and the neck pick-up is inactive. This is usually the "LEAD" position.
- C. In position "C" both pick-ups are active and out-of-phase. This position will produce a "FUNKY" sound. (To obtain maximum out-of-phase effect see **TRIM CONTROL**.)



2. THE NOTCH SWITCH

The two-position notch switch is an exclusive Ovation feature which, when coupled with the selector switch, gives six separate tonal variations.

To demonstrate this, put the selector switch in position "B" and the notch switch in position "D". Now play a full chord and rapidly switch the notch switch from position "D" to position "E" and listen to the tone change.

- A. In position "D" the notch or band rejection filter is in action. This means that the mid-range frequencies have been reduced in volume thus producing rich mellow sounds.
- B. In position "E" the filter is inactive and the guitar will have a flat response as in conventional guitars.

The notch switch can be used with the selector switch in any position — Notch in "D" — Selector in "A" "B" or "C" — Notch in "E" — Selector in "A" "B" or "C". In any one of these positions you may further vary the sound by experimenting with the tone control from maximum bass to maximum treble.

3. VOLUME CONTROL

The volume control regulates the loudness of the guitar. When the volume control is set on zero, the guitar is on standby. At maximum setting 10, the guitar puts out the greatest volume increase on the market. Ovation's exclusive design prevents the distortion of clear tone found when other guitars are used at maximum volume level. Our tone remains constant no matter what the volume setting.

4. TONE CONTROL

Ovation's exclusively designed tone control is volume compensated so that the volume remains the same as you change from one tone setting to another.

Other standard tone controls lose volume when tone changes are made.

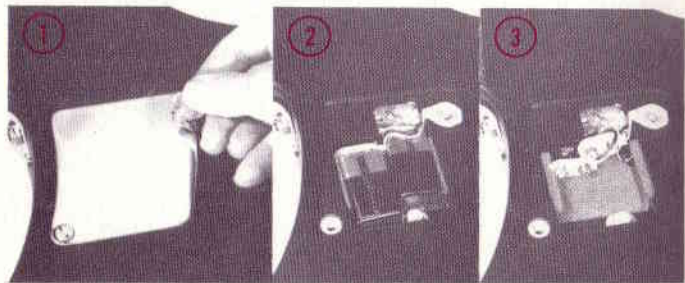
Ovation's tone control is engineer tested and proven to possess the greatest tone variation range without resultant volume loss, that is common to other guitars.

5. OUTPUT JACK

Ovation's Output Jack has a built-in switch that activates the FET pre-amplifier whenever a plug is in the jack. The jack is made for all standard 1/4" plugs. To prolong battery life, always disconnect the cord when the guitar is not in use. Allow a few seconds "warm-up" when plugging the guitar back in to achieve full-powered volume.

BATTERIES

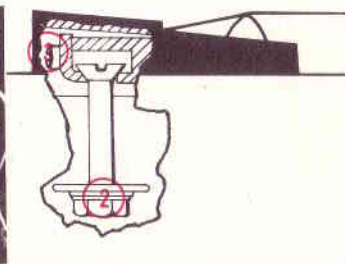
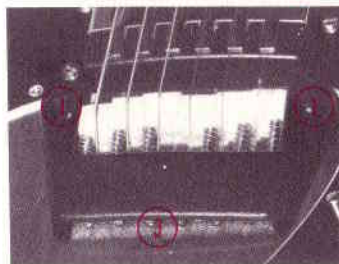
The Ovation Guitar uses two standard 9-Volt transistor radio-type batteries to operate the pre-amplifier in the guitar. Any battery of this size which is marked 8.4 or 9 volts will work, however, we request that you use Mallory 1604 or its equivalent. This is an alkaline battery and will maintain its voltage longer than the others. The current drain on the battery is so low that, if you get a new battery, it could last for a year. When the voltage in the battery drops below 6 volts, the guitar will start to distort. When this happens, it is time to replace the battery.



BATTERY REPLACEMENT

1. To replace the battery, insert a dime or a penny into each screw on the battery door, giving them a 1/4 turn counter-clockwise. The battery door can now be removed.
2. Carefully remove the batteries out of their compartment and unsnap the metal connectors being careful not to damage the battery connectors.
3. Replace the new batteries in their respective places and replace the battery door, giving the screws 1/4 turn clockwise.

TAILPIECE



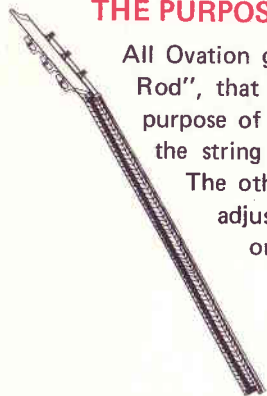
The tailpiece has two primary adjustments. One for action and one for proper intonation when the strings are fretted.

ACTION ADJUSTMENT. The action is adjusted only after the tension rod adjustment has been made. The action is determined by measuring the distance between the top of the 12th fret and the bottom of the string. The Ovation Standard Action pre-set at the factory is 5/64" for Bass E and 4/64" for Treble E. To adjust action, use the two recessed screws (1) on either side of the tailpiece. Note: If the action is not in the adjustment range, remove battery door, raise or lower adjustment nut (2) at the rear edge of tailpiece. Normal adjustment may now be made.

INTONATION ADJUSTMENT. The intonation is adjusted by the screws (3) under the rear of the tailpiece as follows: Play a harmonic above the 12th fret. Listen to the tone for a few seconds and then carefully press the string down at the 12th fret. If the two tones are the same, no adjustment is required. If the sounds differ, stretch the string sideways after it has been fretted at the 12th fret. If the pitch is flat, turn the screw counter-clockwise; if sharp, turn the screw clockwise until the tones match. There will always be a slight tone difference between the harmonic and the fretted note, so it is important to let the harmonic ring for a few seconds before comparing its pitch to the fretted note.

TENSION ROD

THE PURPOSE OF THE TENSION ROD



All Ovation guitars are equipped with a "Tension Rod", that is adjustable at the peghead. One purpose of the tension rod is to counterbalance the string tension being applied on the neck.

The other reason is to make the neck fully adjustable for removing any "Warps" or "Bows" brought about by weather conditions, restringing with different gauge strings, or the movement in the wood imposed by steady string pull.

Check the neck for warp and bow. This must be done before adjusting the tension rod.

ADJUSTING THE TENSION ROD

Hold the low "E" string down between the nut and first fret with your left hand. With your right hand hold the "E" string against the fingerboard at the 17th fret.

Check the clearance between the bottom of the string and the top of the 7th fret.

The clearance should be a minimum of .005" to .020". But, it should not be more than .032 (1/32") or the neck is "WARPED."

Check clearance of high "E" string in the same manner.

If either "E" string touches the 7th fret, the neck is "BOWED."

"BOWED" NECK



This will cause the strings to buzz when played at the first few frets. To correct this condition, loosen the nut on the tension rod by turning it counter-clockwise, until a slight clearance can be seen at the 5th fret.

"WARPED" NECK



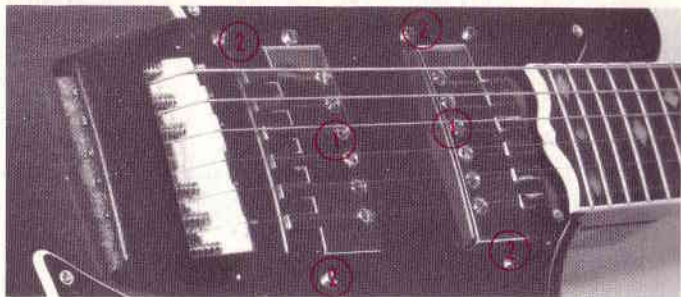
If the clearance is greater than .030", the neck is warped and the tension rod nut should be tightened by turning it clockwise. Make sure that you do not completely lose the clearance for either string. A little extra clearance will help if the strings are buzzing when played.

NOTE:

For adjustment of the tension rod nut, use a 1/4" hex nut wrench.

When replacing the tension rod cover, be careful not to strip the screw holes.

PICK-UPS



Ovation's Solid Body features two extraordinary pick-ups. Extraordinary because four years of research, into all phases of pick-up construction, went into the development of these pick-ups to achieve the widest frequency range pick-up possible. Both shock-mounted pick-ups combine to give you clean, bright highs with maximum sustain and rich full-bodied bass. The out-of-phase volume loss common to most guitars is eliminated through use of Ovation's exclusive FET pre-amplifier which also solves the problem of conflicting amplifier impedances to give you full pick-up performance with simple controls.

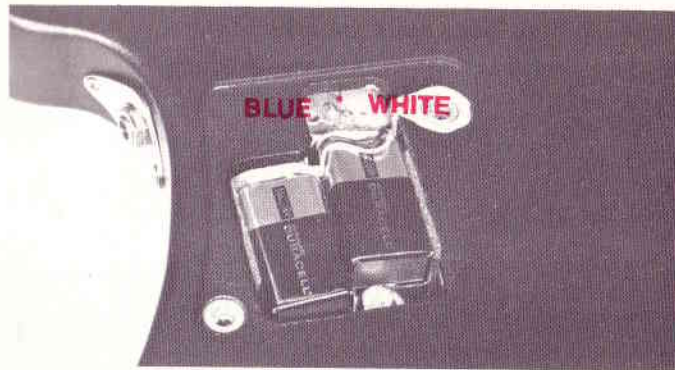
PICK-UP ADJUSTMENT

There are two separate sets of adjustments in the pick-up.

1. The first is six individual adjustment screws, one under each string. By raising or lowering these screws, a degree of volume regulation for individual strings can be achieved. The closer the screw is to its corresponding string, the greater volume for that string. **Your screw adjustments have been pre-set at the factory for best performance.**
2. The three screws in the pick-guard enable you to raise, lower, or tilt the pick-up. When raising or lowering the pick-up, adjust the two-screw side

first to insure that your pick-up remains parallel with the strings. In general, it is best to keep the pick-up at 1/8" away from the strings. Adjustment is made by holding the first and sixth strings down at the 24th fret and turning the screws until there is 1/8" clearance between the strings and the pick-up.

TRIM CONTROLS



*On serial no's. E00021 through E001137 your colors are black instead of white and red instead of blue.

Two volume trim controls are supplied to maintain maximum performance. Both controls have been pre-set at the factory for correct balance in volume between the neck pick-up and the bridge pick-up.

The trim controls, located in the circuit board in the battery chamber, may be adjusted to personal preference when switching from playing rhythm to playing lead.

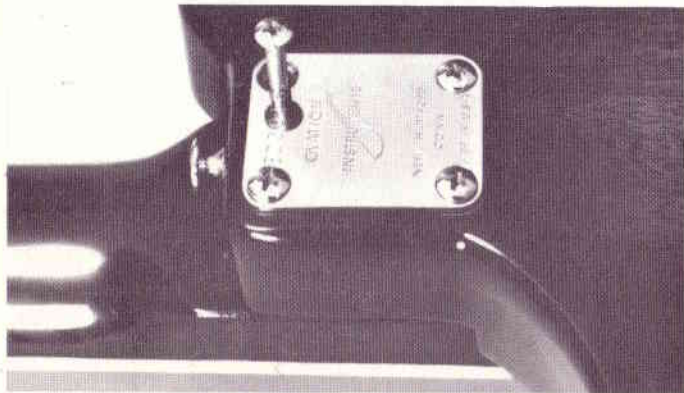
The white control adjusts the volume of the neck pick-up, which is normally louder because the string moves more over that pick-up. This control simply lowers the volume of the neck pick-up. If the neck pick-up is used for rhythm only, it would be desirable to adjust the volumes equal when playing lead notes on the bridge pick-up and full chords on the neck pick-up.

The blue trim control adjusts for maximum out-of-phase effect when the selector switch is in position "C". By turning the blue control with a small screwdriver, you will achieve minimum volume when the strings are strummed. It is important that you find the minimum volume or else you will not achieve maximum out-of-phase effect.

The trim controls enable you to use the selector switch with maximum performance and effect.

NECK REMOVAL

Normally there would be no reason to ever remove the neck from your guitar. However, if repair work or replacement is required, simply loosen the strings and remove them from the peghead. Using a phillips head screwdriver, loosen the four screws on the rear of the body and remove the neck.



When replacing the neck, tighten the screws tightly, but do not use excessive force. Alignment should be automatic. If the neck is to be left off the instrument for more than a few days, remove the rod cover and loosen the tension rod adjusting nut. If a new neck has been used for replacement, re-check action and pick-up adjustment. After a week, check the tension rod adjustment.

TONE SETTINGS

FULL TONAL RANGE OF INSTRUMENT

TYPE OF TONE	STONE SETTING	SELECTOR SWITCH	NOTCH SWITCH
1. Very Deep	0	A	D
2. Deep	10	A	E
3. Mellow	0	B	D
4. Driving	10	B	E
5. Sharp	10	C	D

The above settings give you the complete gamut of electric guitar sounds. Ovation's Solid Body is like several guitars locked up in one. You can duplicate any sound available on the market today from far-out funky to warm, deep and mellow with the full range of new possibilities in between to create your own personal sound.

Because of our advanced circuitry, Ovation's full sound range is made with only one volume and one tone control so that sound changes may be effected quickly and dramatically.

All of the above sound possibilities are set off by Ovation's exclusive driving, power-packed performance through use of our FET pre-amplifier.

MAINTAINING YOUR GUITAR

Keep the instrument tuned to concert pitch. Leave it tuned to pitch in the case, during normal periods of storage. If the instrument is being stored for a long period of time, release the tension slightly on the strings by turning the machine heads two turns.

Your instrument performs at its best when it is clean. Dust and other foreign matter will collect on the fret board and the tuning pegs thus reducing the efficiency. Develop a systematic routine for cleaning the instrument, using a soft cloth, and a light coat of Johnson's Pledge.

Keep the strings clean. Deposits of foreign matter will accumulate in the windings of the strings causing them to sound dead. Perspiration from your hands on the strings will cause rust and corrosion thus causing excessive fret wear. It is important to wipe the strings clean on the instrument before storing it.

STANDARD PITCH FOR 6-STRING

The tonal range of your Ovation guitar was designed assuming that it would be tuned to "Concert Pitch." "Standard" or "Concert Pitch" is when the unfretted strings are tuned to the frequencies listed below:

The 6th string E — 82.4 cycles per second

The 5th string A — 110.0 cycles per second

The 4th string D — 146.8 cycles per second

The 3rd string G — 196.0 cycles per second

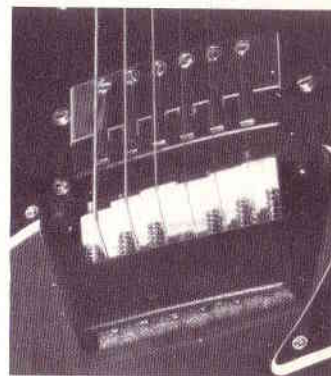
The 2nd string B — 246.9 cycles per second

The 1st string E — 329.6 cycles per second

CHANGING STRINGS

AT THE TAILPIECE

Before removing your old strings, look to see how they are attached at the tailpiece. Now, cut all 6 strings and remove. Before installing the new set of strings, clean the fingerboard and peghead. In replacing the strings, begin with the outside strings first and finish with the middle strings.

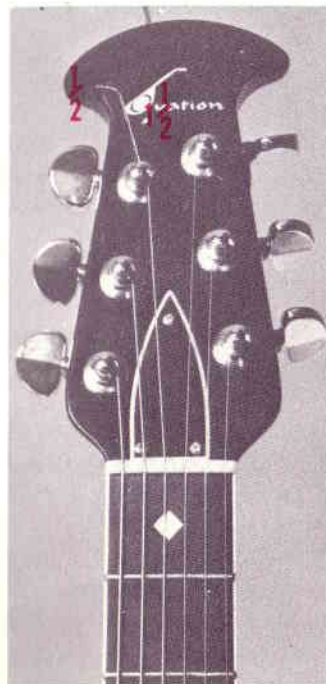


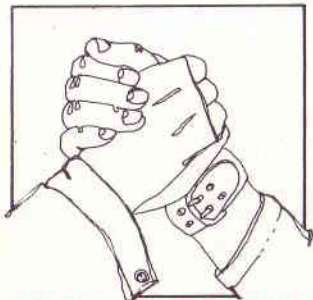
AT THE PEGHEAD

After you have threaded the string through the hole in the end of the tailpiece and over the top of the saddle, make a 90° angle bend about 1-1/2" past the appropriate peg. Cut the string 1/2" beyond the bend and insert it from the top or side of the tuning peg, making sure that the string was inserted in the peg from the center of the peghead.

With the right hand, hold the string down in the appropriate nut slot.

With the left hand, wind string until it is up to pitch. Continue this procedure for the other five strings.





OVATION LIFE TIME WARRANTY

The original retail purchaser of this Ovation Instrument enjoys the full protection of this Lifetime Warranty against defects in material and workmanship.

Ovation will repair or replace, at its option, any Ovation Instrument or part thereof which is found by Ovation to be defective. However, this Warranty shall not apply to defects resulting from neglect, abuse, accident or alteration nor does it apply to service parts such as strings, tuning-pegs, and normal wear of frets.

In order for this Warranty to be effective, the original retail purchaser must:

- Complete and return to Ovation the attached registration card within ten (10) days of purchase;
- If any such defect shall appear, return the instrument to an authorized Ovation dealer or service center together with a report of the trouble;
- Be responsible for all transportation charges.

MODEL 1251-6 To assure that this guarantee is in effect, please complete the attached registration card and return within ten (10) days of purchase.

SERIAL # E00463

REGISTRATION CARD: Please complete and mail within ten (10) days.

Date of Purchase: _____ Model: 1251-6 Serial No. E00463

Purchaser's Name: _____

Purchaser's Address: _____

Purchased From: Dealer: _____

Dealer's Address: _____

Age of Purchaser: _____ Sex: _____ Occupation: _____ Yrs. Played Guitar: _____

Do you play: Professionally: _____ As a hobby: _____ Solo: _____ With Group: _____

What most influenced you to choose an Ovation: A Friend: _____

A teacher: _____ A professional: _____ Tone or Projection: _____ Ease of Playing: _____

Where did you see Ovation first: Friend: _____ Newspaper ad: _____

Magazine Ad: _____ Radio Ad: _____ Dealer Store: _____ Television: _____

What type of music do you play: Folk Rock: _____ Country: _____ Western: _____ Jazz: _____

Rock'n Roll: _____ Rhythm & Blues: _____ Other: _____

What type of Amp. do you use? _____

Reasons for choosing Ovation: _____

No
Postage Stamp
Necessary
If Mailed in the
United States

BUSINESS REPLY CARD
FIRST CLASS PERMIT NO. 10 NEW HARTFORD, CT.

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY:

Ovation Instruments Inc.

NEW HARTFORD INDUSTRIAL PARK
GREENWOOD RD.

NEW HARTFORD, CONN. 06057

Postage
Will be Paid
by
Addressee

SERVICE

Your Ovation dealer is equipped to adjust the tension rod and set the action in the event such adjustments are required. We recommend that within ninety (90) days from the date of purchase, the instrument be returned to the dealer for a tension rod adjustment. This is very important to avoid neck warpage.

**FOR SERVICE SEE YOUR LOCAL AUTHORIZED
DEALER ORWRITE TO:**

Service Department Manager
Ovation Instruments Inc.
Greenwoods Road
New Hartford, Conn. 06057
Tel. (203) 379-0721

For your personal records, in case of theft, loss, resale, or correspondence to Ovation Instruments.

Model #: _____ Serial #: _____

Date Purchased: _____

Dealer: _____

Price: _____