NJD!!!

by **DasBeef** » 12 Sep 2012, 16:27

After seeing a local Edinburgh band called 'Black International' it made me really want a bound and blocked Jaguar. So today I fixed this jealousy issue.
New Jaguar Day!! 66RI.....

And the triplets.....

DasBeef

Re: NJD!!!

by **natthu** » 12 Sep 2012, 16:37

Nice!...

I have been GASsing for an OTM Jaguar with B&B and matching headstock. I'm not sure if that was ever actually made though...
There are 50th Aniversary Jags, but they've unfortunately moved the trem system closer to the bridge and I don't like how it looks.... yeah, that's fussy, I know (plus, no matching headstock).

I got a JM66RI last week (sadly not B&B though). You gotta love MIJ/CIJ gear... it's excellent quality but at a much

smaller price than similar US examples.

EDIT: I guess I should just finish the 25.5" scale Jag I'm building....

natthu

Re: NJD!!!

by **natthu** » 12 Sep 2012, 16:45

Ever seen one of these Beef?
I think there's a matching Strat and J Bass too... (unfortunately no Jag, shame 'cos that would look killer).

I wish I could afford to drop a pile of cash on one to try it....

natthu

Re: NJD!!!

by **Dirk** » 12 Sep 2012, 17:46

What did the mrs. say?

"What, another...!?"

Dirk

Re: NJD!!!

by **sclitheroe** » 12 Sep 2012, 20:35

Man that yellow trimmed one is to die for.

-Scott

sclitheroe

Re: NJD!!!

by **DasBeef** » 12 Sep 2012, 21:25

natthu - I hadn't noticed that on the 50th anniversary Jags. I was toying with the idea of getting that. Glad I went for the one I did. Had a quick jam at it this afternoon, and I am a very happy man.
Not too keen on the eBay Jazzmaster. Lacks top controls, and the pickguard makes it look weird. I do like the colour though.
I think I will have to give in and Jazzmaster up at some point. Just haven't found the right one. A guy on shortscale (think he's on OSG as well) called HNB built a Jazzmaster version of the KC Jaguar. I was so close to pulling the trigger on it, but was scared of import tax, and it travelling all those miles with rough handlers. Was an impressive build.
I want to change the bridge on this Jag, and get a bridge cover. What would you suggest? I have been offered a set of for £25 which would do the job instead of replacing the whole bridge. Then I should be able to get any old cover.

Dirk - That is exactly what she said. Verbatim.

Scott - Cheers. I do love my Jags!

DasBeef

Re: NJD!!!

by **natthu** » 12 Sep 2012, 22:00

I'd give those TUSQ saddles a try. I haven't done so myself but I reckon they'll do the trick. Failing that, I have used a Mustang bridge to replace the stock JM/Jag one (you can put a standard JM/Jag cover on that), and my Costello JM currently has a Mastery bridge fitted. The Mastery works brilliantly, but it's expensive and you can't put a cover on it (plus there's huge debate over whether it's worth the expense or not). The other option is to shim your neck to increase the break angle and just use the stock bridge. That seems to solve a lot of worries for people...

Yeah, HNB is a good guy. He's the one who makes custom decals for me. His guitar building output is epic, usually interesting pieces too.... Did you see the JM/Mustang hybrid he made?... That was awesome. I could imagine you with something like that.

That Ventures JM isn't for everyone. I like the fact it has a different wiring set up, plus I never use the rhythm circuit anyway. It does look weird, but the longer I stare at it the more I like it... might have to pull the trigger...

natthu

Re: NJD!!!

by **DasBeef** » 04 Oct 2012, 01:42

So new saddles on. Something I have to admit that's embarrassing. I am an intonation/action setting virgin. I have given it a stab, but don't think I've done a good job. I lowered all the saddles to the lowest possible setting so they

didn't touch the bridge at the back. I then raised the entire bridge until at least one string would ring all the way up with no buzz. I then raised the rest of the saddles individually and tried to set the intonation. I don't think I've done a terrible job, but not a terrible job is far from a good job. I have also slapped a bridge cover on this, and have ordered up some 'vintage white' pickup covers. I'm also considering some vintage tortoise shell that some one on the OSG/SS forums is offering. No price yet, but once that's announced I will do the price vs how cool it will look test and see if it passes.

DasBeef

Re: NJD!!!

by **Steam Abacus** » 04 Oct 2012, 10:54

Set-ups are something it takes practice and patience to get a feel for (but ultimately, nobody can set up your guitar better *for you* than ... **you!**).

Just remember to adjust the neck relief first, then the saddle height, then the intonation or you'll end up going round in circles.

If you don't have it, I would thoroughly recommend Dan Erlewine's 'How to make your electric guitar play great'.
http://www.amazon.co.uk/Make-Electric-G ... 0879306017

Nice guitar.

Steam Abacus

Re: NJD!!!

by **natthu** » 04 Oct 2012, 12:34

> *DasBeef wrote:*
> *....I'm also considering some vintage tortoise shell that some one on the OSG/SS forums is offering...*

Those guys are obsessed with Tort... it's crazy!... do you not like the pickguard you currently have on your JG66?
I have no idea what is supposed to constitute 'nice tort', but the guard you have looks pretty nice to me.

My Costello JM has a tort PG which I consider to be pretty nice, and since I've never been interested in having a bunch of matched guitars, that's probably enough Tort for me (although my new Jag which is on the way is also adorned with tort)...

I don't think I've ever written "tort" so many times in the one post

natthu

Re: NJD!!!

by **sclitheroe** » 06 Oct 2012, 20:01

> *DasBeef wrote:*
> *Something I have to admit that's embarrassing. I am an intonation/action setting virgin. I have given it a stab, but don't think I've done a good job.*

This was me last year.

The way I approached it was to do a setup to factory specs, so that I developed some feel and technique for performing the actual work, then made decisions on those specs that I felt would be more appropriate for my personal preferences (eg. I like a higher action and some neck relief). I also made a point of writing down all the numbers for each adjustment so I always knew where I was/was going, but that's just me - the idea of adjusting to feel rather than finding a measurement I liked and adjusting to it gives me the creeps. (mostly because I was really, really worried about straying into really whacked out parameters and not realizing it - especially with neck relief)

Intonation is easy, in my opinion, with a good tuner. I don't think I'd ever attempt it with a needle tuner, but a strobe tuner is definitely sensitive enough to do it accurately, and provides the kind of detailed visual feedback you need. Maybe I've just never had a good enough needle tuner, but being able to see the phasing/interference pattern on a strobe seems like a much, much finer level of detail than trying to judge the alignment and subtle movement of a needle. Overall I'd say if you can clearly see, and adjust, the difference in tuning on the tuner when moving your guitar from horizontal to vertical orientation, then it has enough precision to do intonation. Good tuner, go slowly and methodically (de-tuning and re-tuning after each adjustment), and I don't think you can go wrong really.

There are still certain setup related tasks I'd never attempt myself - I have zero confidence I could do anything positive to the nut. I doubt I'd need to any time soon though - one of the nice things about have a decent amount of neck relief, high action, and big strings, is that the tolerances for everything are much less than something with low action and a razor straight neck.

The best part of doing this work yourself, in my opinion, is that even though it might take you 4x longer than the guy in the shop, you can also spend 40x longer if you choose and do a much more careful, thoughtful job. Unless you were dealing with a skilled luthier, I guess. But I'd take doing it myself over the kid at the local shop pretty much any day of the week.

sclitheroe

Re: NJD!!!

by **BearBoy** » 09 Oct 2012, 14:13

Always good to see some Jags

I found this guide really useful for help on how to set up the tremolo. There's a number of other guides on that site with help on intonation, buzzing etc too (go to the "Goodies" section).

BearBoy

Re: NJD!!!

by **71Smallbox** » 27 Oct 2012, 22:24

Nice Jag DasBeef! Greetings fellow shortscaler!

71Smallbox

Re: NJD!!!

by **Pepe** » 27 Oct 2012, 22:41

> *DasBeef wrote:*
> *Something I have to admit that's embarrassing. I am an intonation/action setting virgin. I have given it a stab, but don't think I've done a good job.*

Too bad I'm not located on the island. Otherwise I would gladly do this for you. When I was working in the music shop full-time all the guitars went into the showcase or the stock room only when I was pleased with the action and the intonation. This is a thing that I can do better than actually playing guitar.

Pepe

Re: NJD!!!

by **Mully** » 28 Oct 2012, 10:24

I just found my new guitar tech

Mully

Re: NJD!!!

by **DasBeef** » 02 Nov 2012, 09:13

Cheers for all the replies. I just seem to be hopeless at this. Anyway, I got a bridge cover, and some off white pickup covers (thanks to Zerks). Currently looking like this...

Was quizzing natthu about his hardtail (cheers for the replies), and it's something I might look into in the future. Unfortunately all my finances are being ploughed into a trip I intend to go on next year. Not that an awesome trip is unfortunate, but you know what I mean.

DasBeef

Re: NJD!!!

by **natthu** » 02 Nov 2012, 14:11

If you just want hardtail but don't want to have to buy a new part, try jamming some washers or coins under the spring mechanism in the Jag trem...
...apparently it works quite well...

natthu