NGD... Jazzmaster XII (12 string)

by **natthu** » 24 Oct 2012, 11:56

Warmoth Neck finally arrived, Fender MIJ Body I've had sitting around for a while:

natthu

Re: NGD... Jazzmaster XII (12 string)

by **The_Doc** » 24 Oct 2012, 15:08

That's a really cool guitar natthu

Are you keeping it or selling it on?

The_Doc

Re: NGD... Jazzmaster XII (12 string)

by **natthu** » 24 Oct 2012, 21:10

Cheers

I'm keeping it. It's replacing my Stratocaster XII, which I just couldn't get along with.
(Strats and I have come to a mutual understanding in which we acknowledge we don't get along and agree not to bother each other).

I wouldn't make something like this to sell. Putting aside obvious legal issues, due to the logo, I have found that odd guitars are really hard to sell.

natthu

Re: NGD... Jazzmaster XII (12 string)

by **DasBeef** » 24 Oct 2012, 23:25

Love that hockey stick! Well played sir. I approve.

DasBeef

Re: NGD... Jazzmaster XII (12 string)

by **DB Cooper** » 25 Oct 2012, 01:10

> *natthu wrote:*
> *I'm keeping it. It's replacing my Stratocaster XII, which I just couldn't get along with.*
> *(Strats and I have come to a mutual undersatnding in which we acknowledge we don't get along and agree not to bother each other).*
>
> *I wouldn't make something like this to sell. Putting aside obvious legal issues, due to the logo, I have found that odd guitars are really hard to sell.*

I want to buy it...NOW!

DB Cooper

Re: NGD... Jazzmaster XII (12 string)

by **natthu** » 25 Oct 2012, 07:31

You could very easily make one of these (I did)..... The new Squier Vintage Modified Jazzmasters are supposedly very good (and affordable), and Warmoth usually has stock of basic necks (like this one) ready to go.... You wouldn't need to use a hard tail faux-trem like I have, a standard Jazzmaster Trem will facilitate 12 strings (although best to get a locking one - the new Squiers don't have the lock)

natthu

Re: NGD... Jazzmaster XII (12 string)

by **natthu** » 25 Oct 2012, 07:38

> *DasBeef wrote:*
> *Love that hockey stick! Well played sir. I approve.*

I know the Hockey stick receives a lot of hate, but I think they look killer on offsets... it took a while for them to grow on me, but I am definitely in the love camp now
I wouldn't even consider a straight 12 headstock for this guitar.

natthu

Re: NGD... Jazzmaster XII (12 string)

by **Arpeggiator** » 25 Oct 2012, 22:32

Yeah, I've come to like the hockey sticks as well.

I'd fancy a Fender Custom

Arpeggiator

Re: NGD... Jazzmaster XII (12 string)

by **natthu** » 26 Oct 2012, 07:24

A Fender Custom is a rather rare bird... you have expensive taste Arpeggiator.
It's also one of the more unusual guitars Fender produced, which is cool.
I really like that they were basically just made to use up left over bits of other guitars... like an official Partscaster

natthu

Re: NGD... Jazzmaster XII (12 string)

by **BearBoy** » 26 Oct 2012, 10:04

That looks fantastic Natthu

Did you use a standard Jazzmaster/Jaguar bridge? Are the pickups/switching standard for a JM?

I used to think the hockey stick headstock was ugly but it has grown on me over the years and it really suits the offset body shape.

I satisifed my 12 string GAS when I got my Venus XII but your idea about using one of the new VM Squiers as a base has got me thinking about baritones again...

BearBoy

Re: NGD... Jazzmaster XII (12 string)

by **natthu** » 26 Oct 2012, 10:13

> BearBoy wrote:
> Did you use a standard Jazzmaster/Jaguar bridge? Are the pickups/switching standard for a JM?

Yes, the pics show the bridge that was on my Costello JM (basically an AVRI), but I have swapped that out for a Bigsby JM bridge, which is the same thing, just a bit smoother.
Switching and all electronics are stock, exactly the way the body came from the factory...

> *BearBoy wrote:*
> *I satisifed my 12 string GAS when I got my Venus XII but your idea about using one of the new VM Squiers as a base has got me thinking about baritones again...*

I am on the lookout for a good deal on a Venus XII, they are annoyingly rare.... as soon as I see one I'll snap it up

I have a Fender Blacktop Tele Baritone neck on my Esquire at the moment. I think it's about 27" scale... if you want to go baritone properly, I'd recommend a Warmoth 28 5/8" neck... they are just that little bit more a Baritone...

natthu

Re: NGD... Jazzmaster XII (12 string)

by **BearBoy** » 26 Oct 2012, 10:54

> *natthu wrote:*
> *I am on the lookout for a good deal on a Venus XII, they are annoyingly rare.... as soon as I see one I'll snap it up*

I was on the look out for one for ages but they do come up on eBay (in the UK) occasionally. When one came up in the right colour/condition I jumped on it. Not sure how many are knocking around in Australia but they certainly seem to be fairly rare. Fortunately because they are Squiers, although the Vistas are pretty much the same as MIJ Fenders in quality from my experience, the prices don't tend to get *too* high.

> *natthu wrote:*
> *I have a Fender Blacktop Tele Baritone neck on my Esquire at the moment. I think it's about 27" scale... if you want to go baritone properly, I'd recommend a Warmoth 28 5/8" neck... they are just that little bit more a Baritone...*

Do you know if the Warmoth / Allparts baritone necks just fit on any standard scale (25.5") Fender body? My guitar building skills are non-existent so I would not fancy having to move bridges etc around. The other thing I was not too sure about is what the string tension would be like with the Squier JM tremolo.

BearBoy

Re: NGD... Jazzmaster XII (12 string)

by **natthu** » 27 Oct 2012, 07:47

> *BearBoy wrote:*
> *...Not sure how many are knocking around in Australia...*

Not many at all. Most of my guitars come from Japan or the US. Australia sucks for gear

> *BearBoy wrote:*
> *Do you know if the Warmoth / Allparts baritone necks just fit on any standard scale (25.5") Fender body?*

They are a straight conversion neck. The entire point of them is so that you don't have to mod your guitar for them to work (aside from maybe a setup for intonation)

Just like any normal 25.5" scale fender strat neck, Warmoth strat bari necks fit any 25.5" scale guitar with a standard Strat four hole neck pocket. They will also fit a standard Tele pocket (although there will be a gap at the heel due to the shape difference). Tele bari necks will fit Tele pockets only.

Basically what they have done is just add extra neck length to the neck end of the scale to accomodate two extra frets. So your neck will be two semitones deeper with the same string tension (so you'll get D out of normal strings). I think the Fender 27(ish)" scale Tele neck on the blacktop is one extra fret... so same thing just one less semitone deeper (E flat).

Obviously if you want a proper baritone guitar you can put purpose made baritone strings on the longer neck, making it even deeper (most baritone string sets will give you about a low B at normal tension).

natthu

Re: NGD... Jazzmaster XII (12 string)

by **71Smallbox** » 27 Oct 2012, 20:27

That looks awesome, nice work! A guy was selling a Venus 12 on another forum awhile back, needless to say it went quick.

71Smallbox

Re: NGD... Jazzmaster XII (12 string)

by **Mully** » 28 Oct 2012, 10:15

NICE...

I'm liking those hard-tail bridges you use....

Mully

Re: NGD... Jazzmaster XII (12 string)

by **natthu** » 28 Oct 2012, 13:22

Yep... a guy on another forum makes them to order.
They are expensive but look like a part you'd expect to be made by Fender themselves.
Plus it's nice for stability if you aren't looking to use the tremolo.

natthu

Re: NGD... Jazzmaster XII (12 string)

by **Laurie** » 28 Oct 2012, 15:04

Nice. Very nice indeed.

Laurie

Re: NGD... Jazzmaster XII (12 string)

by **Cavefish34** » 28 Oct 2012, 23:11

Natthu

Very nice job there..... might be a dumb question but they made 12 string Jazzmasters in the 60's? Just familiar with the 6 string which seem like nice instruments. I have always fancied a 12 string Rickenbaker for some reason....

she's a beauty though with the job you've done..... very nice, you should be proud and I bet it plays nice.

Cavey

Cavefish34

Re: NGD... Jazzmaster XII (12 string)

by **natthu** » 29 Oct 2012, 08:51

Cheers Guys,

Cavey: To the best of my knowledge Fender has never made a 12 string Jazzmaster. That's partly why I wanted to

build one.
They certainly weren't a standard model in any case (maybe custom shop?)

The late 60's saw the appearance of the Fende Electric XII, which is basically a Fender Offset (Jazzmaster body) with the same hockeystick headstock. I think they were only made for a few years.
They had a split pick up arrangement and a fully intonatable bridge hard tail (so unlike a Jazzmaster no strings behind the bridge).
A good example all original usually sells for around $3,500 (USD). I almost bought a beat up one recently for $2,000.... but decided to build this Jazzmaster XII instead.... a decision I am very happy I made.

The only other Fender 12 strings I know of are the Stratocaster XII's which were made in Japan in the 80's and 90's. I have one of these and they are nice, but I'm not a Strat guy so I'm in the process of selling mine:

Oh, there's also the Coronado XII (a large hollow body 12 stringversion of the normal Coronado) and I have also seen Custom Shop Tele XII guitars.
Squier also made the Venus XII, which I think may have been designed by Courtney Love... it's her signature guitar of sorts.

natthu

Re: NGD... Jazzmaster XII (12 string)

by **natthu** » 04 Feb 2013, 14:20

Minor update: Added a string tree and bridge cover..

natthu