

## John's Gear

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As part of the level of detail that goes into what THE BEATELS do, the choice of guitars used by each of our musicians plays a very important role in helping our "John" get the right sound for playing all of the John Lennon guitar parts. In this section, you can read about the guitars our "John" uses to get that sound, along with a bit of historical information on the background of each guitar. {mospagebreak title=Rickenbacker 325} Rickenbacker 325 Just like John Lennon, our John has a late 60's Rickenbacker 325 in JetGlow with an Accent Vibrato and uses Fender Flatwound 12's. This is a three quarter scale guitar, which has a distinctive sound for the pre-1966 Beatles songs. This is the guitar that most fans associate with the early Beatles performances.

{mospagebreak title=Vox Python Strap}

Vox Python Guitar Strap In 1964, John asked Dick Denney at Vox if he could make him a snake-skin guitar strap, and he came up with the Python, which John loved so much, he took 2.

We are proud to be the only Beatle show in Australia with a genuine Vox Python guitar strap.

{mospagebreak title=Epiphone EJ-160e}

Epiphone EJ-160e

In 1963, John and George both purchased Gibson J-160e's from Rushworths in Liverpool and out them to use straight away on the Please Please Me album.

Our John has an Epiphone version of those famed guitars, fitted with a Gibson P-90 pickup, Kluson tuners and updated electronics.

{mospagebreak title=Epiphone Casino}

Epiphone Casino

From Revolver to Let It Be and beyond, this guitar along with the J-160e saw the most use from John out of all his guitars in the Beatle years.

When John purchased this guitar in early 1966, it was originally Sunburst in colour and stayed that way until 1968 when both John and George has both their Casinos stripped back to bare wood on the advice of Donovan while in India, in order to give them more tone. Our Casino has been "Lennonized" to look like John's as it was seen on the rooftop performance in the film Let It Be with one black Gibson volume knob and black pickup switch washer.

{mospagebreak title=Fender Stratocaster - Sonic Blue}

#### Fender Stratocaster - Sonic Blue

In February 1965, Mal Evans was asked by John and George to "go get a strat" for each of them. Brian Epstein said if they matched in colour, he would pay for them. Ever smiling Mal returned with 2 pre-1964 Sonic Blue Stratocasters with the main difference between the two being that George's had a highly figured and flamed maple neck with rosewood fretboard, and John's had a plain maple neck with a rosewood fretboard.

Our John's version is as accurate as you will get to the guitar that was used on such tracks as Ticket To Ride and Nowhere Man.

{mospagebreak title=12-String Acoustic}

#### Framus Hootenanny 12-String Acoustic

Our Framus Hootenanny is similar to the guitar used by John in the movie Help on such tracks as Help, Hide Your Love Away and It's Only Love. Completion of this guitar is due in the near future...keep your eye out for it!

{mospagebreak title=Fender Jaguar Baritone}

#### Fender Jaguar Baritone (Fender VI Bass)

Have a listen to the bass lines on Back In The USSR, Let It Be, The Long And Winding Road, Helter Skelter and Dig It. That's John on a Fender VI Bass, which was also used by George on tracks like Maxwell's Silver Hammer, Honey Pie, Golden Slumbers, Carry That Weight and Rocky

Racoon.

We have a new Fender Jaguar Baritone in sunburst which is close in looks and feel, and sounds exactly the same as a 1960's VI!