

STETSBAR TREMOLO SYSTEM



£259, MADISON AND FIFTH 01858 446782/
WWW.MADISONANDFIFTH.CO.UK

Back in the 1980s, widdling and dive-bombing were fashionable and overnight you had to have a tremolo on your guitar. Unfortunately, this sudden wobbling frenzy meant that many great axes were drilled and chopped to bits, often irreversibly, to force a trem unit where it didn't belong. The main victim of this senseless carnage was the Gibson Les Paul. It's enough to reduce a grown man to tears...

Now here's a tremolo – yes, we know vibrato is the correct term, so don't write in – that fits a Les Paul and ES-335 guitar perfectly. It's a chunky old thing, and beautifully made with lots of nice shiny moving parts. But, best of all, it actually works. Operation is smooth and it stays in tune really well.

This Stetsbar will fit any guitar with a Gibson-style tune-o-matic/stopbar tailpiece set-up, so Epiphone owners should be interested in this cool gadget too. They also produce a model for Fender Telecasters and, ahem, most similar-looking guitars. There's even a choice of finishes: chrome and gold bodies with the option of a black, cream, gold or chrome base. Pretty damn cool, we reckon.

At £259 the Stetsbar isn't cheap, and not quite as beautiful as a classic Bigsby, but it's perfect for those of you that love your Les Pauls, SGs, ES-335s and Telecasters, but need the extra dimension of a trem. Don't change your axe... Get a Stetsbar. (EM)

FOR: Easy to fit; works well; doesn't damage your guitar

AGAINST: Not as pretty as a Bigsby; it's a bit pricey

TG RATING:

