

duncan|turner acoustic research

SoundSpots™

DPU-4 Piezo Acoustic Pickup



Seymour Duncan and Rick Turner. Two legends who spent years working with musicians, perfecting their tone. Now working together to create innovative products for acoustic musicians. "With respect to acoustic tone." D-TAR.

YOU MADE THE RIGHT CHOICE.

Congratulations on your purchase of a D-TAR SoundSpot™ piezo crystal pickup. All SoundSpots™ are handcrafted to fill the needs of the acoustic musician. They were carefully designed to impart a warm, natural sound of the highest quality.

INSTALLATION TECHNIQUES.

Every instrument has unique tonal characteristics, but there are certain principles that apply to all instruments regarding the installation of piezo crystal pickups. Correct pickup placement is vital to achieving the best possible tone. Each individual instrument has a location that is best for a pickup and your task at hand is to locate that spot. This can easily be accomplished with a little experimentation.

Proper gluing is very important for achieving the highest quality sound. The general principle is this: the thinner the adhesive, the closer the contact between the pickup and the instrument, and the greater output and frequency response. Most SoundSpots come with double-sided adhesive tape (3M #467MP Hi Performance). This is the recommended tape that allows for cleanup of the adhesive should the user remove the pickup from his instrument. After a period of around one year, the tape may leave some residual adhesive on the instrument which can be removed with ethyl alcohol.

Super Glue® (cyanoacrylate) yields a very thin connection and hence provides a very loud, high output connection. However, with some SoundSpots, e.g., BIG and TWIN NTX, double-sided adhesive provides the best, most dynamic sound. Do not use gum or putty to secure the pickup (Shadow® and Barcus Berry® recommend this) because the adhesive material is too thick and the output will be substantially lower. During the placement process, use Gaffer's Tape to make a

temporary connection. Gaffer's Tape will not harm a lacquered finish and can be used for a permanent attachment. However, Gaffer's Tape is not UV resistant and will eventually break down and become greasy, at which time it will have to be replaced. If the instrument has a non-lacquered, nitro-cellulose finish, Gaffer's Tape could damage it if it is on longer than four hours. Most residual Gaffer's Tape adhesive cleans up with ethyl alcohol.

NON-PERMANENT INSTALLATION.

You can use a thin, double-sided tape (such as Scotch® clear double-sided tape) to temporarily adhere the pickup to your instrument. Make sure the tape you use is the thin variety, not the permanent adhesive, foam variety. Double-sided foam tape can cause permanent damage to your instrument and the pickup should you wish to remove it later. Also, it can alter the pickup's tone by interfering with vibration transmission from the instrument to the SoundSpot.

EXPERIMENT WITH PLACEMENT.

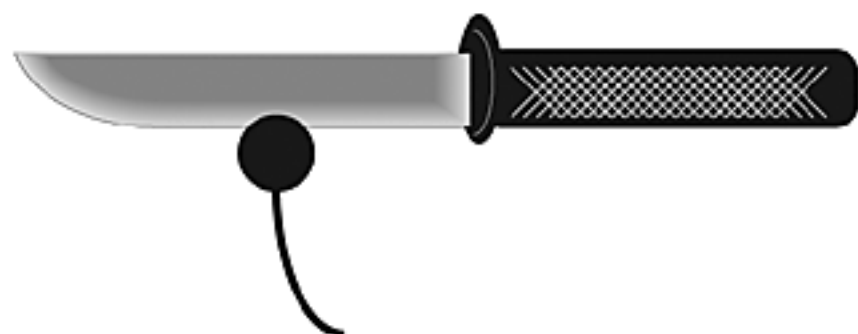
To get the best possible tone, move the pickups around a little bit at a time. Listen for sound quality, keeping in mind output strength and tonality. Listening to the amplified signal through a quality P.A. or studio monitor will provide the most transparent amplification. Once you've achieved the best pickup location, it's advisable to "live with it" for a period of time before you attach the pickup permanently. For some pickups, double-sided tape will suffice as a permanent mounting substance. However, if you desire a stronger adhesive bond, you can use gaffer's tape or Super Glue® (cyanoacrylate). Before applying gaffer's tape or Super Glue® to your instrument, please check with a qualified instrument repair shop or with our pickup hotline if you have any installation questions.

REMOVING PICKUPS ATTACHED WITH SUPER GLUE® (CYANOACRYLATE).

Place the pickup as shown in the diagram with its cable leading away from you. Place the blade of a thin-bladed, very sharp knife at the upper edge of the pickup disc, with the blade lying on the instrument's surface. The blade should be absolutely parallel with the pickup disc. Squeeze the knife blade between the pickup and instrument, and press the blade slowly away from you.

Caution: Be careful when handling the knife. Never place your fingers in front of the cutting blade.

Once the pickup disc is removed, the remaining super glue (cyanoacrylate) on the disc's metal side can be removed. Use the knife and scratch it off CAREFULLY, without bending the pickup disc; or, lightly rub the metal side of the pickup on a piece of fine sandpaper lying flat on a table. Do this slowly, because too much friction can overheat the pickup, possibly damaging it.



SECURING THE CABLE.

The wire can transmit noise and vibrations to the transducer. SoundSpots do not use low noise wires because the solder joint would have to be much bigger, which would decrease the pickup's sensitivity. Therefore, the full length of the wire should be secure to the body of the instrument using tape. Clear Scotch® tape is recommended both for strength of adhesion, ease of removal and esthetics. However, it is sensitive to UV rays and will have to be replaced after a year or so.

WE'RE HERE FOR YOU.

If you have questions, comments or suggestions, you are encouraged to call our Pickup Hotline where our pickup experts will assist you in every way possible.

We hope that you enjoy your new SoundSpot. The natural sound of an acoustic instrument is an enjoyable and thriving part of our musical tradition. Thank you for selecting our product to complement your instrument. Let us know if you have any questions or suggestions.

We'd love to hear from you.

LIMITED WARRANTY

D-TAR offers the original purchaser a one-year limited warranty on both labor and materials starting from the day this product is purchased from an Authorized D-TAR Dealer or as original equipment in an instrument, provided that a qualified, professional repairperson or luthier performed the installation. D-TAR will repair or replace this product, at its option, if it fails due to faulty workmanship or materials during this period. Defective products should be returned to your USA dealer, international distributor, or sent direct to our postage prepaid along with dated proof of purchase (e.g., original store receipt) and a RMA number clearly written on the outside of the box. Please call our factory for issuance of an RMA number.

This warranty does not apply to damage to this product or an instrument caused by misuse, mishandling, accident, abuse, alteration, faulty installation or installation by a non-qualified repairperson. Product appearance and normal wear and tear (worn pain, scratches, etc.) are not covered by this warranty. D-TAR reserves the right to be the sole arbiter as to the misuse or abuse of this product. D-TAR assumes no liability for any incidental or consequential damages, which may result from the failure of this product. Any warranties implied in fact or by law are limited to the duration of this express limited warranty.

P/N 501055-105

Date of Purchase:

Dealer:

Please Keep Your Bill of Sale in a Safe Place.

Duncan-Turner Acoustic Research
5427 Hollister Ave.
Santa Barbara, CA 93111.2345
Phone 805.964.9610 Fax 805.964.9749
www.dtar.com