

Some words about cables inside guitars

You can often find guitars with a very lousy inside-wiring and cheap parts - crappy soldering spots, weak cables, ultracheap caps and other things seems to be common these days. All this can affect your sound and the reliability of your guitar in a very negative way, so it's worth the time to take care of this. First of all I would like to point out some facts:

1. It's not necessary to use heavy gauged wire inside a guitar
2. It's not necessary to use shielded wire running to the output jack
3. It's not necessary to use high-fidelity cable inside a guitar
4. It's not necessary to use silver-solder
5. It's not necessary to use teflon insulated silver cable inside a guitar

Back in the good old days Fender and Gibson used what was available at this time and they don't had any silver solder, ultra shielded cables and other twaddle but they had a killer sound to die for !

Try to get a good quality cable in a senseful gauge, I suggest to buy the military grade stranded (pre-bonded) cable from Steve Daniels (www.smallbearelec.com). It's available in different colors, not too expensive and works perfectly for guitar wiring.

First of all investigate your existing wiring and make yourself a drawing of it. Desolder all the crappy wires and throw them away ! If you want to replace the jack, pots, pickup selector switch etc. this is a good point to do it. I have very good experiences with Switchcraft jacks and CTS pots and switches. While you are in there, you can also replace the caps from the tone control with a type and value you like. You can also do all kinds of mods you want to. After installing all the new hardware (if you decide to do so) simply rewire everything point to point with the new high-quality wire from SMALLBEAR and you are done. Take care of the soldering spots and for a good connection. Don't forget the ground connections from pot to pot and coming from the Strat's tremolo or from underneath a Tele's bridge construction. Your guitar will thank you with an enhanced reliability and a more open, breathing tone - enjoy !

