

Fret Level + Dress Deluxe Tool Set Instructions

Checking the neck

Evaluate the neck adjustment. You want the neck to be as straight as possible for this task. Straighten the neck using the Fretbar and the appropriate truss rod wrench. The low E string can be used as a makeshift straightedge in a pinch.

To use the string as a straightedge, follow these steps. Fret the neck at the first fret and the 17th, noting the gap between the top of the frets and the bottom of the string at the 9th fret. Adjust the neck in small increments, checking your work often. The neck is straight when the strings are just lying on the fret tops. The idea is to close this gap without putting the neck into a backbow.



Tape off fretboard (optional).



Leveling the frets

Level frets using 320-grit Stikit sandpaper. Once level, switch to 400-grit and give the frets a few passes to remove the scratches left from the 320-grit sandpaper.



Crowning the frets

Blue the fret tops using a felt-tipped marker. “Blueing” is marking the top of the fret with marker (usually blue) to make it easier to see the top of the crown of the fret. You want the level top of the crown to be as thin as possible. Re-crown frets using the Z-File.



Fret Leveling + Crowning Deluxe Tool Set Instructions

Polishing the frets

Cut the polishing papers in pieces sized to wrap around the edge of the foam sanding block.

Tip! Round one edge of the sanding block for better contact with the frets.



Starting with the 400-grit polishing paper, go over the frets with long even strokes the length of the neck. As scratches start to disappear, work your way through the grits of polishing papers 600 through 1200-grit) until you have achieved a high polish.



You're done!

