

# Hard Day's Night Gear

## "The Most Authentic Beatles Tribute Band"

### Paul

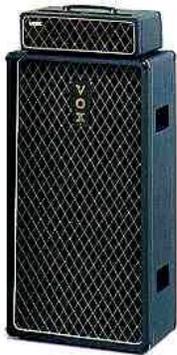
#### Hofner 500/1 Bass



Following Stu Sutcliffe's departure from the group, Paul begrudgingly assumed bass duties. Paul went looking for a suitable instrument and found a Hofner violin shaped bass. He admired it's symmetry, and found that they were more than willing to furnish a left

handed instrument for him. In 1961 Paul took possession of his first bass which he used for only a year before upgrading to the 1963 model that he still plays today. Paul loved the booming bass tones and light slim feel of the guitar and used it on nearly every Beatle album from 1963 to 1969, as well as all of his solo recordings and concert appearances since 1989.

#### Vox T-60 Bass Cabinet



In 1963 as the Beatles played larger and larger venues Vox was constantly creating new amplifier designs for them. The T-60 was a cabinet designed for bass that Paul used from before the Ed Sullivan show until the "Super Beatles" arrived for the 1966 tour. Paul powered the cabinet with various heads, beginning with the T-60 head, which proved to be "remarkably unreliable" and later a guitar AC-100 amp. The cabinet was finished to cosmetically correspond with the AC-30 amps furnished to John and George, then re-finished to match the AC-100 amps on the 1965 tour.

## John

### Rickenbacker 325



This short scaled guitar was first purchased by John in Hamburg, Germany in 1959. The Beatles favored American made instruments, and the short, small neck felt comfortable to John in part due to his first learning to play ukulele. Between 1959 and 1964 John's guitar underwent many changes including a Bigsby tailpiece, new knobs (supplied by Hofner) and a black paint job. It also sustained a beating and

was nearly inoperable by the taping of the Ed Sullivan show in February of 1964. The model had been out of production since 1959, but the onslaught of "Beatlemania" coerced fledgling Rickenbacker to begin producing the 325 model again. Ric gave John several 325s over the next couple of years, but most notably was the black 1964 model given to him before the Ed Sullivan taping, debuted in Miami the following week and used for every public appearance and concert (including both films) until 1966.

### Gibson J160E



As a nod to the Everly Brothers' pair of Gibson J45 acoustic guitars, John and George purchased a matched pair of J160E acoustic/electric guitars in 1963. John's was stolen, and whether by accident or trade Lennon took possession of Harrison's. John favored the feel and sound of the guitar over his

Rickenbacker and used it on many early recordings. The guitar is featured on songs like "I Feel Fine" where the external pick-up and jumbo body began feeding back a open "A" note struck by McCartney to help record the world's first purposefully recorded feedback. The guitar was with John throughout his career, being sanded down and used to record "Give Peace A Chance".

... John continued

### Epiphone Casino



Paul first purchased a Casino during the “Help” sessions and it was so liked by John and George that they each bought one as well. The Casino retired John’s Rickenbacker permanently and became John’s primary guitar for the rest of his

Beatle career and into the 1970’s. This guitar was used in sunburst on the 1966 tour and promotional films, and later sanded for the “Let It Be” film as well as “Revolution” and “Hey Jude” videos.

### Vox AC-30



The AC-30 was designed for the Beatles by Vox/Selmer as a replacement for the underpowered AC-15. Delivered in 1963, they were only briefly powerful enough for the demands of Beatles performance. They were subsequently replaced by AC-50s by the 1964 American tour, then larger AC-100s by the end of the year. Still, the AC-30 remains today one of the well known and sought after guitar

amplifiers ever made.

### Vox Python Strap



This strange chrome on leather strap was designed by John and delivered by Vox in the spring of 1965. He used it with his “Miami” Rickenbacker from the moment he received it until retiring the guitar in 1966.

## George

### Gretsch 6122 “Country Gentleman”



A life long fan of Chet Atkins George had always adored Gretsch guitars. Already using a Gretsch Duo Jet since 1960 George purchased the “Cadillac” of the Gretsch line in the 6122 in 1963 during the “Please Please Me” sessions. The Gent and the nearly identical back up

that George acquired became George’s constant companions in studio and concert until the the “back-up” Gent fell from a car and was destroyed. Following the accident George retired his “prized possession” which remained his favorite guitar for the rest of his days.

### Rickenbacker 360/12



Sensing a golden marketing opportunity, Rickenbacker met the Beatles in New York with a trio of guitars... the new 325 model for John, a bass for Paul (which he refused), and an experimental 12 string guitar for George. George famously used the 12 string on the “Hard Days Night” LP, in the film, on “8 Days a Week”, and on “If I Needed Someone” as well as much of the summer tour. The

Rickenbacker 12 string is still considered the standard for electric 12 string guitars.

### Epiphone Casino



Along with John George purchased a new Casino in 1965. Liking the sound of Paul’s Casino more than his Gretsch Tennessean George used the Casino during the Rubber Soul, Revolver, Sgt. Pepper, and Magical Mystery Tour recording sessions as well as the final Beatles tour in 1966.

### Vox AC-30 (See above)

## Ringo

### Ludwig Super Classic in Black Oyster



The centerpiece of the Beatles backline was always a shiny black-and-pearl four piece Ludwig kit with the now famous “Drop T” Beatles logo. But Ringo did not always smack Ludwig skins. Early in 1963 Ringo sought to upgrade his old Premier kit with a new set from the same brand. Entering Music City in London, Ringo caught sight of a new more expensive Ludwig set and admired it’s finish. Ringo asked if a Premier kit could be painted to match, and was

told that only Ludwig made that finish. For that reason alone, Ringo purchased the Ludwig kit. Ivor Arbiter of Music City at Ringo’s instruction adorned the bass drum head with a larger “Ludwig”- as the manufacturer to this point only placed it’s logo on hardware, not heads- as well as the now infamous “Drop T” Beatles Logo. Ringo owned several nearly-identical sets of Ludwig Black Oyster finished Ludwig kits and played nothing else between 1963 and the “Let It Be” sessions in 1969.