



Jean Larrivée Guitars USA Inc.

Shipping Your Instrument

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Shipping Your Instrument

Proper packing is an absolute necessity when shipping your guitar safely. Please do not attempt to ship your guitar without it. We suggest a visit to Ask your nearest music shop for an empty cardboard shipping carton; they always receive guitars in them. Don't forget to ask for the top and bottom inserts that stabilize the guitar once inside. Shipping your guitar this way protects it from damage and theft. When you're ready to ship, you can start by placing crumpled paper on top of and underneath the headstock, enough so that the peg head sits slightly up and off the neck rest. This will help reduce the chances of neck damage by stabilizing it. Please do not overdo it, though some compression should be felt when you close the case lid. Place your case in the cardboard carton you got from the guitar shop with the two inserts, and fill the spaces around the case with more crumpled paper. This will help insulate against a sudden rise or drop in temperature during shipment. You can sticker it fragile, breakable, or handle with care, but we recommend never labeling it "Musical Instrument" or "Guitar".

NEVER take tension off the strings when shipping your guitar. This is a dangerous practice as the machine heads and headstock are the heaviest parts of the guitar, and the string tension from proper tuning counteracts the stresses these parts place on the instrument. Some people on the internet will tell you that loosening the strings is a good idea, but it is NOT.

Always insure your guitar for its full value when shipping. When your instrument is returned, immediately examine it for any damage caused by shipping. When possible, do this while still in the baggage room or in the presence of the delivery person. This will negate the question of whether any damage occurred during shipping.

Here are the packing instructions we include with our RA documents:



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DO



Make sure there is good support beneath the headstock. Newspaper or brown packing paper works well. It should be firm and rigid enough that the headstock sits on it, elevating it slightly above the neck rest. Don't forget to place some more paper on top of the headstock as well. Maintain string tension in your standard tuning.

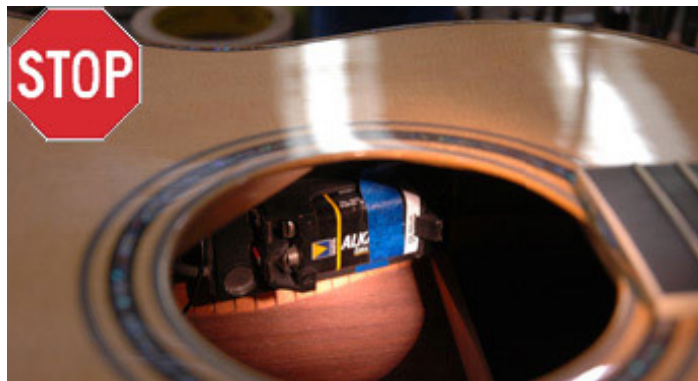
DO NOT



NEVER ship your guitar without support under the headstock. The tuning machines on the guitar weigh a substantial amount, and if the box were to fall over during shipping, the tuners could "snap" backwards, and shear the headstock right off the neck.



If your instrument has a pickup installed, remove the battery and secure it inside your case compartment. This will prevent the battery from coming loose during transit and damaging the inside of your guitar. If you have an aftermarket sound hole pick, remove it and place it in the compartment as well. NEVER have anything loose in your case.



NEVER leave the battery connected to your pickup during transport. Though the battery clip is designed to keep the battery in place during normal conditions, it is not built to withstand the shock of a sudden drop. We are not responsible for these damages.



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When shipping your guitar, you want to make sure that it is placed in a durable cardboard box with top and bottom inserts. Most music stores regularly take delivery of guitars and probably have an extra box they will give you for free. Another benefit of this is that often, the packing materials are still inside the box, providing the instrument with some protection and stability.



Always pack the case inside the box with adequate packing. Cardboard is preferable, but multiple layers of bubble wrap are also effective. If you obtain a used box from a music store, ask them if they have the original packing materials. You want to make sure that the top and bottom of the case are supported and not directly in contact with the outside of the box.

DO NOT



NEVER ship your guitar solely in its case. This method WILL result in damage or theft. Your guitar case is built only for everyday use. Baggage handlers and couriers work in much more aggressive conditions, and your guitar has no protection from the elements in this scenario as well. It is not unusual for freight forwarders to store packages/pallets on the tarmac at an airport for hours. Can you imagine if this black case sat in the sun at 100 degrees?



Foam chips do not protect your instrument. The guitar will settle through the chips to the top or bottom of the box. This method can cause severe impact damage if the box is dropped. Foam chips or "peanuts" are also a major polluter and not eco-friendly.