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### **VVG Tele Blade pickups**

“The choice of Tele neck pickups is still limited today, but there are plenty of options for the bridge that can coax sounds from your T-type that you never knew were there.

You can get Charlie Christian Tele neck pickups from Lollar and others, but they'll all require some routing work and scratchplate cutting to fit. The scatter-wound **Vintage Vibe VT-N-BL** shares many features, like the blade and large magnet assembly, and it fits without requiring any mods. There's a matching bridge pickup too, the **VT-B-BL** (cost \$155 per set).

These pickups are fitted with Alnico V bar magnets. They really pack a punch, and dramatically changed the sound of our test guitar. The neck unit gave just about the fattest and loudest neck sound I have ever heard from a T-type, but it's also clear, exceptionally smooth and jazzy. Although the bridge version, the **VT-B-BL**, has an output commensurate with a regular Tele bridge pickup, it sounds warmer, smoother and richer. It would balance up just fine with a stock T-type neck pickup, but I swapped over to the ceramic magnets for a bit of extra raunch, brightness and output. They're hot pickups, but not in the conventional sense. These have a clear, almost hi-fi quality that's massive but also very balanced, refined and quack-free.”

### **VVG SP 90 pickups**

“The Vintage Vibe set was graded from 9.9K to 8.3, which is far closer to a set of stock P90s, and they sound much closer to the real thing – but the real shock is just how close they get. They're chewy and thick and dripping with harmonics, but still gritty and aggressive enough to retain that all-important bite. Imagine a revved-up Strat tone with a clear, woody texture and all the sharp edges knocked off. These pickups will turn your S-type into a killer bottleneck axe. Pure class, and you can swap the magnets to customize them, too.”

To purchase a digital copy of Guitar and Bass Magazine August 2008 Issue and read the complete pickup review, please go to:

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