

## Adjusting the Trem King®

### A. Adjust Springs for Tension Bar and Tone Block

### B. Adjust Radius and Intonation of Saddles

NOTE: These instructions assume you are using 9-11 gauge and there is one (1) spring on the Tone Block and one (1) spring on the Tension bar.

NOTE: Do not remove foam from inside springs. It is Not packing material. The springs stretch a lot and the foam reduces noise.

### A. Adjust Springs for Tension Bar and Tone Block

1. Screw the middle screw (Tension Bar) in to about 3/4" or less from the body and attach Tension Bar (This will firmly hold the Tension Bar against the two static arms and Tone Block)
2. Screw outside spring (Tone Block) about 1" from the body, or more. Do not attach tone Block spring yet. (this allows the string pressure to push the Tone block firmly against the Tension Bar)
3. String guitar with desired strings. I have the Tension bar screwed in as above mentioned and the tone block spring off for putting on the low strings E, A, D. By the time you put on the G-string, you can attach the Tone Block spring and finish stringing and tuning the pitch. Do not use the Whammy Bar during this process.
4. Insert Vibrato Bar into Tone Block.
5. You should be able to pull up and feel the tone block firmly press against the tension bar after release. Likewise, you should be able to push the bar down and have it pop back to zero. If not, tighten the middle screw more for the Tension Bar. Loosen the Tone block spring for More pressure. Repeat until it does.
6. After it is tight, re-tune to pitch. Make sure Tension Bar and Tone Block are firmly pressed together.
7. Insert Whammy Bar.
8. With back plate removed and looking at the spring cavity, press the Vibrato Bar all the way down to the body with the palm of your hand.
9. SLOWLY let the Vibrato Bar come up until it stops by itself and you can remove your hand without the Vibrato Bar moving any more.
10. **Note the position of the Tension Bar** - it should be pressed firmly against the right and left arms and the Tone Block. Now slowly pull the bar up, the Tension Bar should not move. If it does, Tighten the middle screw. Repeat process until the Tension Bar does not move when you follow through and pull the bar up.
11. Then do the reverse; pulling up from the body and SLOWLY let the bar back down until it comes to rest by itself.
12. **Note position of Tone Block** - it should be firmly against the Tension Bar. Then follow through pushing down the Whammy Bar. The Tone Block and Tension Bar should move as one. If it does not, LOOSEN the screw for the tone block spring and repeat. Loosening this spring lets **more string** pressure pull the Tone Block back to the Tension Bar.
13. After achieving this balance, you can lighten the feel if you like.
14. Loosen middle spring (Tension Bar) a few turns. Tighten screw for Tone Block. Repeat steps 8-15. (The more you loosen the Tension bar, the lighter the feel when you push down. The more you

tighten the Tone Block spring, the less string pressure pulling the tone block back and a lighter feel. Try to balance the feel up and down.

15. Repeat steps 8-12 to make sure it comes back to zero.

## **B. Adjust Radius and Intonation of Saddles**

1. Remove vibrato arm.
2. Make sure tone block and tension bar are resting together with right and left arms.
3. Tune to desired pitch.
4. Remove Harness Bar.
5. Use allen wrench provided to set individual saddles to desired height to match radius of fretboard.
6. Re - Tune guitar to desired pitch.
7. Intonate saddles by adjusting saddle adjustment screws.

**Tip:** make sure all intonation screws are firmly against the bridge plate after finding the correct intonation spot. Use a small hammer to gently tap the screwdriver while it is positioned on the screw.

8. Replace Harness Bar.
9. Re-tune and check intonation.
10. Give the Whammy Bar and few wiggles and then tune each string to the desired pitch. Hit Whammy again to check tuning. I prefer to use the Whammy Bar during tuning on each string as follows: Use the Vibrato Bar during tuning. Tune to the desired pitch on the string, then push the Vibrato Bar down a little and let it come back up, keep tuning to pitch and pushing the bar down until after pushing the bar down, the string is still on pitch. Go to the next string and repeat process. After repeating the process, re-check previously tuned string to make sure it is in tune. Continue until all strings are tuned and stay in tune when using the Vibrato Bar.

### **NOTES:**

- Trem King Highly recommends the use of Big Bends® Nut Sauce on the saddle pins, nut slots and string tree (if any) for the best lubricant.
- In order for the unit to return to the neutral point, you must achieve a balance of string and spring pressure.
- We recommend a good lubricant for the saddles, nut and sting trees. Use with each string change.
- Make sure vibrato arm is all the way down in the hole and the set screw is tight. REF: #9
- If just one or two strings are going out of tune, it is something other than the vibrato. Check tuning gear,  
NUT slot, string tree, neck bolts, and anything else that might be out of alignment.
- Tuning gear are notorious for becoming loosened. Check the screw in the button of the tuner, the screw on the back of the headstock (if there is one) and the nut on the top of the headstock that holds the tuner down.