The Switch Board

The jumpers on the switch board determine how the switch closest to the 2 white connectors functions. In these diagrams it’s on the left. By default this used to be a kill switch. It can now be either a kill, midrange frequency select, bass frequency select, or a combined bass and midrange frequency select switch.

Please note that the kill switch and midrange switch functions can not be used at the same time. If one is enabled, the other MUST be defeated. You'll never have 4 vertical jumpers installed at the same time on this board.

**MID SWITCH SELECT JUMPERS**
These are for the mid switch.

Up and down means enable

Side to side on the bottom two means defeat with mid FIXED DOWN

no jumper means defeat with mid FIXED UP
KILL SELECT JUMPERS
These are for the kill switch.
Up and down means enable

Side to side on the bottom two means defeat

With jumper installed, bass frequency shifts LOW when external mid switch is switched DOWN.

Please note, this jumper only affects the operation of the mid switch when the mid switch is enabled AND when the bass select jumper on the active board is NOT installed.

BASS SHIFT JUMPER
This one is for the bass frequency shift
Sample Settings

Active/Passive switch
Kill switch
Mid set low
No bass shift

Active/Passive switch
Kill switch
Mid set high
No bass shift

Active/Passive switch
Mid select switch
No bass shift

Active/Passive switch
Combined Mid/Bass select switch

Active/Passive switch
Mid FIXED low
Bass select switch

Active/Passive switch
Mid FIXED high
Bass select switch
The Active Board

The Active Board is where the EQ is located as well as the ground driver, cable driver, and analog switch for midrange switching. The jumper block on this board is where most of the frequency selection is done.

There are a total of 3 possible midrange frequencies from which to choose. We’ll refer to the mid frequencies as “LOW”, “MEDIUM”, and “HIGH”. Any two of the 3 can be assigned to the external midrange switch. When setting mid frequencies, you are always selecting one frequency for the “UP” position of the switch, and one for the “DOWN” position of the switch. If you enable the midrange switch on the switch board the player can freely switch between them. If you defeat the midrange switch on the switch board, you use a jumper to select whether the midrange control is fixed at the “UP” setting, or at the “DOWN” setting. The Bass select jumper on this board OVERRIDES the bass shift jumper on the switch board, fixing it LOW regardless of the switch position. The jumper located between the treble and midrange controls is the Treble select jumper. Jumper ON is low, jumper OFF is high. The high setting is subtle. If you like very pronounced highs, and depending on your rig, you may prefer the low setting.

Switch UP = HIGH mid
Switch DOWN = MEDIUM mid
Bass Fc is determined by switch board
Treble is fixed low

Switch UP = HIGH mid
Switch DOWN = LOW mid
Bass Fc is determined by switch board
Treble is fixed low

Switch UP = MEDIUM mid
Switch DOWN = LOW mid
Bass Fc is determined by switch board
Treble is fixed low

Switch UP = MEDIUM mid
Switch DOWN = LOW mid
Bass frequency is FIXED LOW
Treble is fixed high

Switch UP = HIGH mid
Switch DOWN = LOW mid
Bass frequency is FIXED LOW
Treble is fixed high
Wiring the pickups to the preamp

The Fodera preamp now uses convenient screw terminals for the connection of the pickups and shields. The screw terminal block can be unplugged after the wires are inserted into the terminals for easy removal of the preamp in the event the bass needs to be disassembled for maintenance. Integrated coil tap switching is available and configurable for either series or parallel operation.

PU connections

**Active Pwr:** Attach power wires for active pickups (like EMG’s) here.

**Hot:** Connect hot wire from pickup here.

**To tap:** See NOTE

**Ground:** Connect PU ground(s) here. Do NOT connect PU drain wires here.

**Shields:** Attach PU drain wires and shield wires here.

**NOTE ABOUT COIL TAP WIRING:** For parallel and split operation connect the hot of the second coil to the “To tap” terminal and place jumpers on the “Neck tap” and “Bridge tap” positions on the jumper block.

For series and split operation, connect the hot of the second coil AND the ground of the first coil to the “To tap” terminal and do NOT install jumpers on the “Neck tap” and “Bridge tap” positions on the jumper block.

**A NOTE ON SHIELDING AND GROUNDING:** The fact that a shield and a ground are supposed to be at the same potential (0V) does not mean they can be treated as the same signal. We’ve gone to great lengths to insure that the ground/shield treatment in this preamp is cutting edge and maximizes the benefits of a true, low impedance, driven ground. Therefore, a few steps need to be taken in installation.

1) The output jack should NOT be mounted to the foil shield in the control cavity. Cut the foil away around the mounting hole. The only electrical connections to that jack should be the 3 wires that go to the switch board.

2) If your pickups have a “drain” or braided wire in addition to the hot and ground wires, it should be connected to the Shields terminal on the terminal block. This DOES NOT APPLY TO EMG PICKUPS or pickups with a single conductor and a shield. In this case, the shield wire IS in fact ground.

2) All shield wires including the bridge ground wire, any wires coming from the pickup cavities, and wires attached to the backs of pots should be connected at ONE POINT on the foil cavity shield. From that point, one wire should be run to the Shields terminal on the terminal block.

**Tone control selection** - You may choose from two standard vintage passive tone control frequencies by placing a jumper on either the .022µF position (for a more nearly "J" bass setting) or the .047µF (position for a more nearly "P" bass setting).

You may also choose to use both if you like a very deep setting. Pickups with lower impedances with benefit from a deeper setting.

**Active pickup impedance control** - these jumpers should all be installed when using active pickups like EMG

**Balance adjust** - these jumpers should both be installed to even the taper of the balancer with certain pickups