

Coquette Bass – by Bobby Nelson / Nelson Instruments



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Scale length: 30.5"
Fingerboard radius: is 9.5"
Neck: Quarter sawn hard maple
Body wings: Basswood
Pickups: Nelson "Bass Chief"TM
Fret Count: 21
Pickguard: Anodized aluminum
Tuners: Hipshot Ultra Light, 20:1 ratio
Finish: Nitro Cellulose Lacquer

"This bass has, what has become, my favorite neck I've ever played. It has a lacquer finish (body/headstock are nitro), and a real nice "V" shape around the bottom 3 or 4 frets. It's eerily similar to the v-neck of a Martin - but more subtle/comfortable (IMO).

The pickups are Bobby's own. I don't know if the neck/bridge are wound any differently, nor can I speak for the single-pickup model. What I WILL say is that they are great. Truthfully, I was nervous the first time I used it on a gig - as everything up to that point was practice and woodshedding. But...

I strung it with some DR flats and went for it. The first thing I noticed in a full band setting (drums, synth, keys, 2 electrics, 3 vocalists, and an acoustic) was that it CUT. Somehow everything stuck out where it needed to and sunk in where it should. Plus, with an easy-to-flip pickup selector and oversized knobs - you can easily make tonal changes on the fly."

Construction

The Coquette Bass offers rich, velvety sound in a presentation that embodies style, balance, speed, and comfort. The neck runs the entire length of the body and is constructed of several pieces of quarter sawn maple. This method of construction provides for superior sustain, rigidity, and projection as the entire length of the strings vibrate on this one piece of wood. The “wings” that make up the rest of the body are constructed of carefully selected hardwood. The “wings,” while providing the shape of the body, also serve to reinforce the center neck section, ensuring maximum solidity and longevity.

Fingerboard

The fingerboard is radiused to a comfortable 9.5” and is precision fitted with medium-jumbo frets, highly polished to provide a fast playing response.

Pickups

The Coquette Bass is fitted with a pair of Nelson “Bass Chief” pickups, mounted to a gold-anodized aluminum pickguard. These pickups have been specially designed to faithfully reproduce the bass register yielding balanced, clear, resonant tones. The sound is truly unlike that of anything you’ve heard. The pickups are wax potted so undesirable microphonics are eliminated. The aluminum pickguard affords greater wear resistance and beauty, while blocking unwanted magnetic interference which causes hum.

Configurations

The Coquette bass is offered in either single, or double pickup form. The double pickup model employs standard wiring with a pickup selector switch, and single volume and tone controls. The single pickup model utilizes the exclusive Nelson “Insta-tone” controls. Deep bass, normal, or treble sounds are available to the player effortlessly with the flip of the selector switch. The effect is infinitely variable by using the tone control knob. The Coquette bass is also offered with either 1 11/16” or 1 1/2” nut widths so playing comfort is ensured.

Finish

To round out the beautiful package, the Coquette bass is finished in gleaming, genuine lacquer that is highly polished. Many colors are available; please inquire with your color request.