

## Instructions for using your new Guitar Bridge Vacuum Clamp

Congratulations on acquiring a Guitar Templates Vacuum Bridge Clamp. These clamps work extremely well however please be aware of the following:

- Make sure that when you store the clamp, the soft seal rubber is kept perfectly flat. If it is stored with something that deforms it, it may create a depression that interferes with an effective seal when in use. Generally, it will return to proper shape but it is best to avoid any deformation in the first place. Replacement seals are available from Guitar Templates.
- Always do a dry test run before gluing to make sure that you haven't got any air leaks around the bridge. If you are retro-fitting a bridge where the bridge pin holes have already been drilled through the soundboard, it may be possible to temporarily plug them or tape over them on the inside of the guitar and still get an effective seal.
- Don't use too much glue to avoid excessive squeeze out.
- Apply glue (we recommend Titebond or Hot Hide Glue), apply the clamp and leave for around 5-10 minutes for initial grab. Remove the clamp, clean up any squeeze out with a damp cloth and then re-apply the clamp and leave for a minimum 45 minutes or longer if possible. Be aware that using vacuum does speed up the glue cure time of water-based glues as the water is sucked out of the glue faster in a vacuum.
- We have found that the rubber seal may impress into some finishes on guitars – especially new finishes that are not fully cured. If you are concerned about this, we recommend that you use some low tack masking tape (such as the Scotch purple "Delicate Surface" tape) applied to the top of the guitar where the seal rubber will be in contact. Remove the tape immediately after removing the clamp.
- The maximum air supply pressure required is 60psi (400 kPa) on a continuous basis. More pressure won't increase the vacuum – it just wastes air pressure!

[For a demonstration video of the clamp in action please follow this link:](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nWHQdUKAjWQ>

## Assembly Instructions

[For instructions on how to assemble the parts before use, please follow this link:](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KgvokmA0rKM> (Note that since the video was made, we have included a small "On/Off" ball valve in the assembly as shown in the instructions below)

**1. What's in the box?**

The full Bridge Vacuum Clamp kit consists of

- a. the vacuum clamp body
- b. the compressed air line connection assembly
- c. the vacuum generator
- d. a length of 6mm black tubing



**2. Assemble the Airline Connector and Valve**

The 3 components that make up the airline connector and on/off ball valve are:

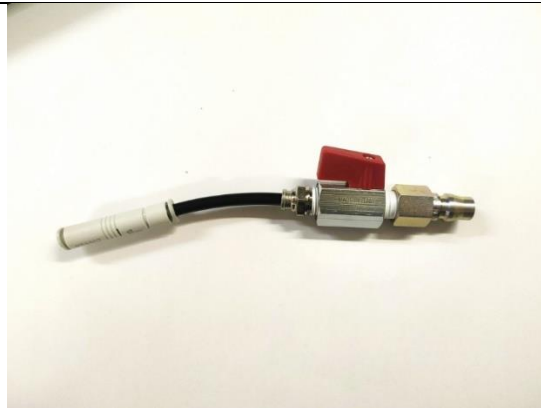
- a. "Nitto" style compressed air quick connect
- b. A small ball valve
- c. 6mm x 1/4" quick connect adaptor

These need to be screwed together. The male threads will require some Teflon thread tape (not supplied).



**3. Assemble the Vacuum Generator to Valve Assembly**

- a. Cut off a short (50 – 80mm) length of the 6mm tube and push one end into the quick connect on the valve assembly.
- b. Push the other end of the tube into the Vacuum Generator being sure to go into the end marked "P"



**4. Assemble the Vacuum Generator to Clamp Body**

- a. The remaining black tube is then connected between the end of the Vacuum Generator marked "V" and the body of the Vacuum Bridge Clamp. The black tube is simply pushed into the hole on the end of the clamp body.



If you have any questions or require parts please call or email:

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***The Guitar Templates Team***