

SDGR

A Trio of Artist Inspired Basses

Ibanez Signature Bass Catalog

Ibanez



The first Ibanez Soundgear bass was introduced in 1987. Since that time, the role of the electric bass has changed considerably. Bassists have grown immeasurably in skill and stature. And musicians with diverse playing styles from all genres of music have picked up the instrument.

Although many new trends have come and gone in the last twelve years, bassists still rely on Soundgear basses to lay down the groove in today's music ... from jazz to funk, to aggressive hard rock.

In keeping with a firm commitment to listen to player's needs, Ibanez proudly introduces the first artist signature basses in our history: three flagship Soundgear basses ... inspired by the genuine love for the bass, shared by three respected artists and the Ibanez design team.

SDGR

VERDINE WHITE

Signature Model



"My new signature series bass is a wonderful instrument. I haven't had this much fun playing a bass in a long time."

Verdine White

Verdine White began playing the bass at the age of ten, taking lessons from Chess Records session man Louis Satterfield and later gigging in local jazz and blues clubs around his native Chicago. When his older brother Maurice asked him to come out to Los Angeles in 1970 to start a new group, Earth, Wind and Fire was born. White has been a member of Earth, Wind and Fire for the last twenty-eight years, helping to write a number of their hits including "Mighty Mighty," "That's The Way Of The World," "Fantasy" and "Serpentine Fire"—just to name a few. During this incredible twenty-eight-year span, White has also produced several artists including Level 42 and Pockets. White's unmistakable playing can also be heard on recordings by Babyface, Wyetle Jean and Seal.

"One of the greatest finger players of all time."

Bass Player Magazine

The Master of Funk. That's what Verdine White of Earth, Wind & Fire has been called by music writers since the mid-seventies when the band broke out with their seminal "That's The Way Of The World" album. Verdine's classic sound immortalized on numerous gold and platinum albums have influenced countless numbers of future funksters with his melodic finger-funk bass lines. This year, Ibanez is proud to introduce the legendary funk master's signature VWB1 bass.

The concept of the VWB1 is to meld traditional construction and look, with modern active electronics. The hard-contoured solid alder body matched with a thick, round neck gives the bass a solid feel and a rich bass tone with excellent sustain. The neck is complemented with a gorgeous twenty-four fret ebony fingerboard with abalone dot inlays. The pearloid front pickguard and black buckle guard on the back provide protection to the finish during a raucous Earth, Wind & Fire show. The active Ibanez AFE PJ pickup combination along with a custom designed three-band EQ provide a warm but focused tone that can only be described as funky. Simply pulling up the volume knob can activate additional gain boost.



Hard contour body

The hard contour gives the body a traditional look and feel.



Custom neck shape

The classic round / thick storage style neck shape provides for a solid feel and rich bass tone with excellent sustain.



AFE Active Neck Joint and buckle guard

The AFE Active Neck Joint tightly secures the neck to the body while allowing for easy access to the upper registers. A specially designed buckle guard protects the finish from damage in any situation.



Electronics

The Ibanez VWB1 active band EQ features a specially voiced midrange control allows for reduced tone shaping. Pulling on the volume control knob in a gain boost circuit for additional volume and punch. A trim pot inside the control cavity can adjust the amount of gain.



VWB1

"Doug Wimbish laid the foundation for all hip-hop to come."

Bass Player Magazine...

Being a first call bassist in the busy NYC studio scene isn't easy. Neither is designing a bass that would meet all of needs of a bassist in such high demand. With a resume that includes performing bass duties on the original Sugarhill Records, experimental funk group Tackhead and hard rock act Living Colour, Doug Wimbish has a very good idea of what he needs from a bass. Over the past two years, Doug and the Bueser design team have created the first bass that Doug can truly call his "everything bass." Whether he's a gigging at the Bottom Line with his own band Jungle Funk, or laying down bass grooves for a Rolling Stones record, the DWB1 and DWB2 simply get the job done.

The ergonomically designed, three-dimensional curved maple body allows the bass to comfortably hug the curves of the player's body while the extended lower horn provides the bass with perfect weight balance when strapped on or placed on the thigh. Behind each of the horns are carved scoops, which allow true access to the upper registers. The neck combines the traditional feel of a vintage bass from the sixties with a modern, double setare rosewood fingerboard, which is adorned with pearl and abalone oval inlays. The Bueser AFR PJ pickups and a specially designed single, but powerful active two-band EQB-DW EQ are paired to offer the versatility that a player like Doug demands from his bass, day in and day out.



DWB1 / Neck through construction
Five limitations of maple and bindings are used to ensure maximum neck stability and to provide a full spectrum of sound and powerful sustain. The neck-through construction allows for unlimited upper fret access.



Curved body shape
The three-dimensional, curved maple body provides superior playability and comfort. The extended lower horn provides the bass with perfect weight balance when strapped on or placed on your thigh.



Electronics
The combination of the AFR PJ pickups with the EQB-DW active two-band EQ affords versatility with easy access to the upper registers.



DWB2 / All Access Neck Joint
The All Access Neck Joint tightly secures the neck to the body while allowing for easy access to the upper registers.

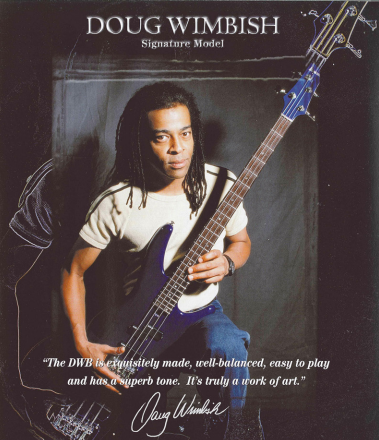


DWB1

DWB2

DOUG WIMBISH

Signature Model



"The DWB is exquisitely made, well-balanced, easy to play and has a superb tone. It's truly a work of art."

Doug Wimbish

Doug Wimbish began his musical career fresh out of high school, playing in a band called Wood Brass and Steel who released an album entitled "Welcome To The Party" in 1976. Soon after, Wimbish joined the rhythm section of The Sugarhill Band who released "The Message" and "White Lines" in 1983, both of which are considered early hip-hop classics. The following year, Wimbish became a part of Tackhead, who made their mark as funk-metal pioneers. Wimbish garnered acclaim as a rock bassist during his tenure with Living Colour, recording two successful albums, "Stain" and "Freaky" in the early nineties. In addition to being an in-demand session bassist, having recently recorded with The Rolling Stones, Lionel Richie and Depeche Mode among others, Wimbish is also a co-leader of the tribal/funk group Jungle Funk and bass and drums duo Headbake. Wimbish has also completed a solo album, which will be released this year.

GARY WILLIS

Signature Model



"Ibanez begged me for years to let them make this bass.

I finally said OK."

G. Willis

Gary Willis has been the co-leader of Tribal Tech with guitarist Scott Henderson for the past fifteen years, releasing eight records during that time as well as a ninth entitled "Thuck" to be released this year. In addition, Willis has also been busy with a solo career, with two records to his credit including his most recent, "Bent" from 1998. Willis has also won many fans through the years as a guest musician, playing on records by Wayne Shorter, Allan Holdsworth, Hubert Laws, Joe Dpavi and Robben Ford. Willis is also known as an accomplished bass instructor, having taught at Musicians Institute in Hollywood and at the prestigious California Institute of Arts in Valencia, California.

"One of the most vital bass voices of the '90's."

Bass Player Magazine...

Gary Willis' playing has inspired countless bass players with his seemingly effortless command of the fretless bass. Whether it's with Tribal Tech or on his solo records, Gary has laid down some of the most memorable moments of fretless mastery on his custom shop Soundgear bass. Gary has said for years that his Ibanez custom shop Soundgear was the ultimate bass. Now, with Gary's help, we are making this very same model available to all bass players.

The lightly finished light-weight ash body responds accurately to string vibrations for an extremely open sound. This sound is then transmitted through a custom Bartolini seaplane pickup and a Bartolini NTBT active two-band EQ for a truly pure tone. A special oval shaped maple neck combined with a select ebony fingerboard allows the player to maneuver around the neck with unrestricted speed and agility. As with Gary's custom shop bass, the lower horn has been cut away lower than other Soundgear basses to allow accessibility to the upper frets on the double octave neck. Another unique feature of the GWB basses is the custom shaped detachable ramp which allows players to fine tune their right hand technique.



Sure Grip tuning knobs
The newly designed Sure Grip tuning knobs allow the player to fine tune more easily during the heat of a gig.



Bartolini electronics
A custom designed pickup features separate coils for each string to allow more precise string to string volume balance. The pickup curve curvature is perfectly aligned with the fingerboard radius to allow maximum proximity to each string. The NTBT EQ allows for natural tone shaping. EQ by-pass can be achieved by simply pulling up the volume control knob.



Control cavity and battery box
The NTBT EQ comes equipped with an adjustable gain trim pot which allows for output matching to any amplification system. A flip-top battery box allows for quick battery changes.



Ramp
The detachable finger-out / ramp was designed by Gary Willis for fine-tuning right hand playing technique.

SPECIFICATION CHART

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