



FENDER'S PLAYER II LINE EXPANDS WITH HOT-RODDED MODIFIED MODELS, SETTING NEW STANDARD FOR ARTIST EXPRESSION

**FEATURING ROCK BAND IDLES, THE PLAYER II MODIFIED DELIVERS
TOP-TIER UPGRADES— LOCKING TUNERS AND NOISELESS PICKUPS
—TO FENDER'S BEST-SELLING SERIES**

HOLLYWOOD, CALIF. (April 15, 2025) — [Fender Musical Instruments Corporation \(FMIC\)](#) today announces the launch of the [Player II Modified](#) — a bold expansion of its Player II series. Featuring select electric guitar and bass models enhanced with performance-driven upgrades, Player II Modified offers modern players refined tone, performance, and style straight out of the box. As an extension of the best-selling guitar series in Fender's nearly 80-year history, Player II Modified builds on this legacy with expanded tonal versatility, elevated playability, and modern enhancements that meet the needs of a new generation of players.

Built to Be Reimagined

Since inception, Fender guitars and basses have been crafted with an inherent adaptability —designed to shape and be shaped by the artists who redefine music with them.

Throughout the decades, musicians from every genre have transformed Fender instruments to suit their unique sound, making them a true canvas for creativity. The ethos of Fender is, in many ways, a history of modification—where each artist's personal touch, whether through altering pickups, adjusting necks, or reworking finishes, has shaped not just the instruments but the songs they are written with.

Performance-Driven Upgrades Straight From the Factory

"From the early days of players hot-rodding their Strat® and Tele® guitars to today's musicians pushing sonic boundaries, Fender has always embraced the art of reinvention," said Justin Norvell, EVP of Product, Fender. "Leo Fender intentionally designed our instruments with modularity in mind—allowing them to evolve alongside the player and enabling more personalization than any other brand. Player II Modified carries that spirit forward, offering modern upgrades like our new Player II Modified noiseless pickups and locking tuners for rock-solid stability. It's about delivering the most in-demand mods straight from the factory while continuing to push the envelope of innovation and support artists in shaping the future of music."

Key features include:

- **New Player II Modified pickups:** Genuine Fender tone from the Player II Modified Humbucker and Player II Noiseless™ pickups.
- **Upgraded hardware and electronics:** From treble bleeds to brass block saddles, the most popular modifications for each model come standard.
- **Rock-solid tuning stability:** Locking tuners and tapered shaft tuners offer next-level reliability.

This spirit of reinvention is deeply embedded in Fender's legacy, championed by trailblazing artists like Jimi Hendrix, who flipped his Stratocaster® upside down to redefine rock guitar, Kurt Cobain, who customized his Jaguar® for raw, grunge-driven power, and Thurston Moore, whose Jazzmaster® modifications fueled Sonic Youth's experimental edge. Today, musicians continue this tradition—Chris Shiflett of Foo Fighters with his Signature Telecaster® Deluxe outfitted with noiseless P-90-style pickups, Julien Baker with her custom-modded American Vintage Thinline, and Brent Mason with his highly versatile '67 Telecaster®. Even bassists like Flea have reshaped their sound through modifications, such as the active circuitry in his Jazz Bass®.

In the Hands of IDLES

As part of the Player II Modified launch campaign, Fender has teamed up with IDLES, — a British band known for their explosive live performances and boundary-pushing take on rock—who are featured prominently in the campaign video. Their involvement in the campaign underscores how the Player II Modified series empowers modern players' need for flexibility, tonal range and sonic exploration, whether on stage or in the studio. Watch IDLES perform "Gift Horse" and see what they have to say about these souped up guitars and basses. "Every guitar that I've ever had, I've modified almost immediately," said Mark Bowen, IDLES guitarist. "Modifications can definitely make a guitar more approachable," added Lee Kiernan, IDLES guitarist. "Because everything is to your taste, and what it is you want it to do."

Fender Mod Shop: A Global Tune-Up Experience

Like the world of automotive design, where customization and performance upgrades are part of the culture, Fender instruments have long been embraced as a canvas for creative expression. From paint colors inspired by classic cars to modding hardware and swapping pickups, musicians across decades and genres have made each instrument their own. Modification isn't just part of the Fender story—it's at the heart of it, fueling a legacy of innovation, individuality, and sonic evolution. Starting this April, Fender will bring the *Mod Shop* experience to players in key markets across London and Melbourne. In each city, Fender will transform a local auto shop into an immersive guitar garage —inviting musicians to get their instruments "tuned up" by a team of Fender mechanics. By night, the space will shift gears into a live venue, where English Teacher (UK) and Hot Machine (AUS) will take the stage with the new Player II Modified series, showcasing the upgraded guitars in action.

"IDLES is the kind of band that pushes boundaries every time they plug in," said Evan Jones, CMO Fender. "Their energy, on-stage presence, experimentation, and refusal to stay in one lane resonates with all of us here at Fender. The Player II Modified series is built for artists like them—musicians who want to evolve their sound, are looking to push boundaries, and make something uniquely their own. We're also excited to bring that spirit of modification & innovation of the Player II Modified Series to life with our upcoming Fender Mod Shop events in London and Melbourne in the coming months. With the Player II Modified series at

its core, we're not just showcasing new gear; we're building on our commitment to continually give players & musicians at all levels the ability to find, adjust and perfect their sound."

High-resolution product images [HERE](#) and lifestyle images with IDLES [HERE](#).

For technical specs, additional information on new Fender products, and to find a retail partner near you, visit www.fender.com. Join the conversation on social media by following @Fender.

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Player II Modified Stratocaster® (\$999.99 USD, £899 GBP, €1,099 EUR, \$1,599.00 AUD, ¥165,000 JPY)

The Player II Modified Stratocaster® is a classic guitar with the modern player in mind. Everything about the neck is designed for fast and fluid playability, from the Modern "C"-profile with silky satin urethane finish on the back to the comfy 9.5"-radius slab rosewood or 1-piece maple fingerboard with smooth rolled edges and 22 medium jumbo frets. The alder body provides classic Fender punch and is available in a variety of exciting new finishes. The Player II Noiseless™ pickups deliver classic Strat® chime and sparkle while eliminating unwanted noise and the push/pull switch on the 2nd tone control provides even more tonal flexibility by adding the neck pickup into switch positions 1 and 2. The 2-point tremolo, short post locking tuners, TUSQ® nut, and modern string tree all combine to keep tuning incredibly stable, while the wider travel of the chamfered tremolo block allows players to coax even more expressive, musical vibrato from their instrument

Player II Modified Stratocaster® HSS (\$1,029.99 USD, £949 GBP, €1,149 EUR, \$1,649.00 AUD, ¥170,500 JPY)

The Player II Modified Stratocaster® HSS is a classic guitar with the modern player in mind. Everything about the neck is designed for fast and fluid playability, from the Modern "C"-profile with silky satin urethane finish on the back to the comfy 9.5"-radius slab rosewood or 1-piece maple fingerboard with smooth rolled edges and 22 medium jumbo frets. The alder body provides classic Fender punch and is available in a variety of exciting new finishes. The Player II Modified humbucker is articulate with plenty of output while the Noiseless™ pickups deliver classic Strat® chime and sparkle while eliminating unwanted noise. For

additional tonal flexibility, the push/pull switch on the 2nd tone control splits the bridge humbucker for classic Strat® single-coil tones. The 2-point tremolo, short post locking tuners, TUSQ® nut, and modern string tree all combine to keep tuning incredibly stable as the wider travel of the chamfered tremolo block allows players to coax even more expressive, musical vibrato from their instrument.

Player II Modified Stratocaster® HSS Floyd Rose® (\$1029.99 USD, £999 GBP, €1,199 EUR, \$1,849.00 AUD, ¥176,000 JPY)

The Player II Modified Stratocaster® HSS Floyd Rose® is a classic guitar with the modern player in mind. Everything about the neck is designed for fast and fluid playability, from the Modern “C”-profile with silky satin urethane finish on the back to the comfy 12”-radius slab rosewood fingerboard with smooth rolled edges and 22 medium jumbo frets. The alder body provides classic Fender punch and is available in a variety of exciting new finishes. The Player II Modified humbucker is articulate with plenty of output and the Noiseless™ pickups deliver classic Strat® chime and sparkle while eliminating unwanted noise. For additional tonal flexibility, the push/pull switch on the 2nd tone control splits the bridge humbucker for classic Strat® single-coil tones. The Floyd Rose® Special tremolo enables subtle-to-wild tremolo action while keeping the guitar perfectly in tune and ready for more.

Player II Modified Telecaster® (\$999.99 USD, £899 GBP, €1,099 EUR, \$1,599.00 AUD, ¥165,000 JPY)

The Player II Modified Telecaster® is a classic guitar with the modern player in mind. Everything about the neck is designed for fast and fluid playability, from the Modern “C”-profile with silky satin urethane finish on the back to the comfy 9.5”-radius slab rosewood or 1-piece maple fingerboard with smooth rolled edges and 22 medium jumbo frets. The alder body provides classic Fender punch and is available in a variety of exciting new finishes. The Player II Noiseless™ pickups deliver classic Tele® twang and bite while eliminating unwanted noise and the push/pull switch on the tone control provides even more tonal flexibility by changing the pickup wiring from parallel to series for fatter tones. The 6-saddle bridge, short post locking tuners, TUSQ® nut, and modern string tree all combine to keep tuning incredibly stable for even the most demanding bends or roaring rock leads.

Player II Modified Telecaster® SH (\$1029.99 USD, £949 GBP, €1,149 EUR, \$1,649.00 AUD, ¥170,500 JPY)

The Player II Modified Telecaster® SH is a classic guitar with the modern player in mind. Everything about the neck is designed for fast and fluid playability, from the Modern “C”-profile with silky satin urethane finish on the back to the comfy 9.5”-radius slab rosewood or 1-piece maple fingerboard with smooth rolled edges and 22 medium jumbo frets. The alder body provides classic Fender punch and is available in a variety of exciting new finishes. The Player II Modified humbucker is articulate with plenty of output and the Noiseless™ pickup delivers classic Tele® twang and bite while eliminating unwanted noise and feedback. For additional tonal flexibility the push/pull tone switch splits the neck humbucker and enables classic Tele® neck single-coil tones. The 6-saddle bridge, short post locking tuners, TUSQ® nut and modern string tree all combine to keep tuning incredibly stable for even the most demanding steel-emulating bends or roaring rock leads.

Player II Modified Active Precision Bass® (\$1,099.99 USD, £999 GBP, €1,199 EUR, \$1,749.00 AUD, ¥176,000 JPY) The Player II Modified Active Precision Bass® is a classic bass with the modern player in mind. Everything about the neck is designed for fast and fluid playability, from the Modern “C”-profile with silky satin urethane finish on the back to the comfy 9.5”-radius slab rosewood or 1-piece maple fingerboard with smooth rolled edges and 20 medium jumbo frets. The alder body provides classic Fender punch and is available in a variety of exciting new finishes. The Player II Noiseless™ PJ pickups deliver classic Fender thump and growl while eliminating unwanted noise and the all-new active preamp with passive tone control and improved EQ section gives players the perfect tool to dial in their favorite tones. The 4-saddle HiMass™ bridge, tapered-shaft tuners, and TUSQ® nut all combine to keep tuning incredibly stable for even the most demanding performances.

Player II Modified Active Jazz Bass® (\$1,099.99 USD, £999 GBP, €1,199 EUR, \$1,749.00 AUD, ¥176,000 JPY) The Player II Modified Active Jazz Bass® is a classic bass with the modern player in mind. Everything about the neck is designed for fast and fluid playability, from the Modern “C”-profile with silky satin urethane finish on the back to the comfy 9.5”-radius slab rosewood or 1-piece maple fingerboard with smooth rolled edges and 20 medium jumbo frets. The alder body provides classic Fender punch and is available in a variety of exciting new finishes. The Player II Noiseless™ pickups deliver classic Jazz Bass® growl while eliminating unwanted noise while the all-new active preamp with passive tone

control and EQ section gives players the perfect tool to dial in their favorite tones. The 4-saddle HiMass™ bridge, tapered-shaft tuners, and TUSQ® nut all combine to keep tuning incredibly stable for even the most demanding performances.

Player II Modified Active Jazz Bass® V (\$1,149.99 USD, £1,049 GBP, €1,249 EUR, \$1,849.00

AUD, ¥181,500 JPY) The Player II Modified Active Jazz Bass® V is a classic bass with the modern player in mind. Everything about the neck is designed for fast and fluid playability, from the Modern “C”-profile with silky satin urethane finish on the back to the comfy 9.5”-radius slab rosewood or 1-piece maple fingerboard with smooth rolled edges and 20 medium jumbo frets. The alder body provides classic Fender punch and is available in a variety of exciting new finishes. The Player II Noiseless™ pickups deliver classic Jazz Bass® growl while eliminating unwanted noise while the all-new active preamp with passive tone control and EQ section gives players the perfect tool to dial in their favorite tones. The 5-saddle HiMass™ bridge, tapered-shaft tuners, and TUSQ® nut all combine to keep tuning incredibly stable for even the most demanding performances.

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ABOUT FENDER

Since 1946, Fender has revolutionized music and culture as one of the world's leading musical instrument manufacturers, marketers, and distributors. Fender Musical Instruments Corporation (FMIC)–whose portfolio of owned and licensed brands includes Fender®, Squier®, Gretsch® guitars, Jackson®, EVH®, Charvel®, Bigsby®, and PreSonus® – follows a player-centric approach to crafting the highest-quality instruments and digital experiences across genres. Since 2015, Fender's digital arm has introduced a new ecosystem of products and interactive experiences to accompany players at every stage of their musical journey. This includes innovative apps and learning platforms designed to complement Fender guitars, amplifiers, effects pedals, accessories, and pro-audio gear, and inspire players through an immersive musical experience. FMIC is dedicated to unlocking the power of musical expression for all players, from beginners to history-making legends. In 2026, Fender celebrates 80 years of giving artists "wings to fly," carrying on the vision of its founder, Leo Fender, and connecting players through a shared love of music.

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