

# NADY®

## LIGHTNING™

Wireless Guitar Kit



**OWNERS MANUAL**

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# Guitar Kit Contents

**Wireless Electric Guitar**



**Padded Gig Bag**



**WGA-15 Wireless Guitar Amp**



**Instrument Cable**



**Adjustable Black Nylon Strap**



**Vibrato Arm, aka “Whammy Bar”**



**Adjustment Wrenches**



**3 Guitar Picks**

## Introduction

Thank you for choosing the Nady Lightning Guitar and Amp, the world's first totally wireless starter guitar kit, and congratulations on your choice. This manual will show you how to set up your kit and play with the freedom and convenience of wireless operation while you learn to play the guitar. Playing wireless will make this experience even more fun. The Lightning Guitar and WGA-15 Amplifier can also be used by any level of player as both offer top professional features and performance so you will never outgrow this kit, which can serve for years as a perfect practice setup no matter what skill levels you achieve.

The following pages explain the operation of your system's components to enable easy set-up. Please read this manual carefully to get the most out of your Nady Lightning Guitar starter kit.

Date of Purchase \_\_\_\_\_ Dealer's Name \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Model # \_\_\_\_\_ Model # \_\_\_\_\_

Serial # \_\_\_\_\_ Serial # \_\_\_\_\_

## Features

### ***Lightning Guitar***

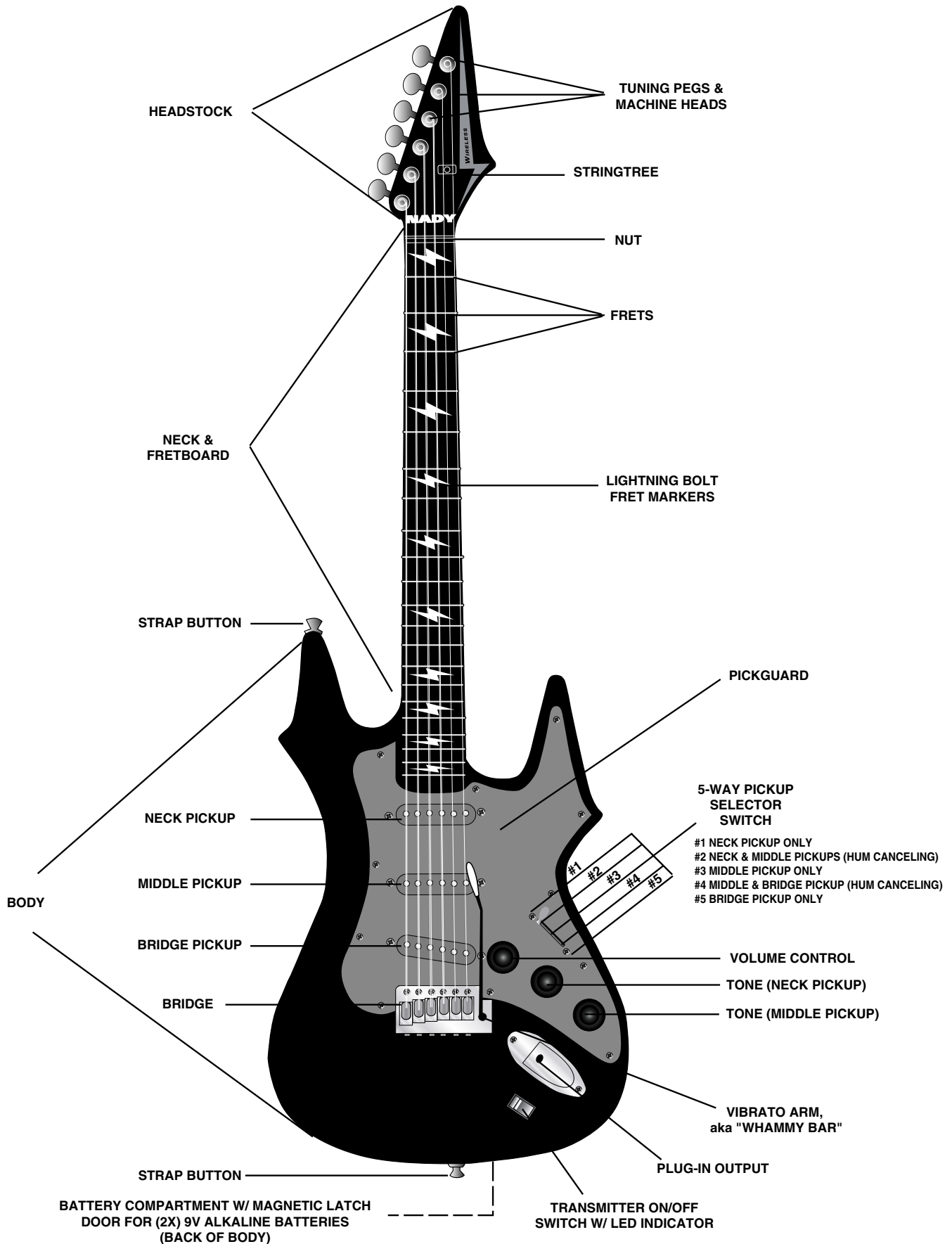
- bolt inlays, easy-access adjustable truss rod, 3 pickups with 5-way selector switch, volume and dual tone controls and vibrato
- Built-in VHF wireless transmitter with internal antenna allows wireless operation up to 200' line-of-sight without cords when used with WGA-15 wireless guitar amp or any Nady VHF Wireless receiver on the same channel
- Easy to operate. Just turn on Lightning guitar transmitter (TX ON LED) and WGA-15 amp and you're ready to play cordless. (Can also be used with a conventional cord connection to amp.)
- Operates on 2 X 9V alkaline batteries (up to 50 hours battery life) in convenient rear battery compartment with unique magnetic latched door (no tools needed to access).

### ***WGA-15 — 15W Wireless Guitar Amplifier***

- Versatile, powerful practice amp with 15W RMS output; 6" speaker; Gain, Volume with killer distortion; Treble and Bass controls; Headphone output
- Built-in VHF receiver with Receiver On and Audio Received LED's

# Lightning Guitar Parts

To these terms for a better understanding of your instrument.



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## Taking Proper Care of Your Lightning Guitar

It is best to establish early a habit of taking proper care of your Lightning Guitar. As it will take discipline to learn to play the instrument quickly and as well as your talents can take you, a good place to start is in taking good care of your guitar. This will not only prolong its life and ensure best performance, but also will foster a respect which will serve you best in achieving your goals. The following is a good guide to always keep in mind and practice as you learn to play.

### **a. Cleaning and Maintenance:**

Use a soft, dry cloth to clean the strings of your guitar each time after you play. This prevents hand moisture from rusting your strings and shortening their life.

Polish your guitar every few months using instrument polish available at music stores. These contain small amounts of non-silicon wax and maybe a little lemon oil.

To prevent the fingerboard from developing dry crack marks over time wipe them occasionally with a cloth dipped in lemon oil.

Two adjustment wrenches are included with the Lightning Guitar. The **Truss Rod Wrench** is the large wrench and can be used for the properly adjusting the action of the neck. The neck adjustment is located above the nut. The smaller wrench is the **Bridge Wrench** and is used for adjusting the bridge for both action and intonation. Do not attempt these adjustments on your own. These should only be done by a qualified guitar repairman.

### **b. Handling Care:**

Never lean your guitar against objects or the wall as it can then easily be knocked over and damaged. Also, never leave it lying on the floor or on your bed as it can be severely damaged if inadvertently stepped or sat on. Use guitar stands, such as the Nady GS-1, for proper secure short-term placement every time. If not using for a long time it's best to keep the guitar stored in your supplied carrying case.

Since your strings are under tension, they are sensitive to extreme changes in temperature, which will severely effect your tuning and may even harm the instrument. Never leave your instrument in the trunk of a car when the weather is very hot or extremely cold. If you must store your guitar inside a car, it is best to release the tension from the strings by detuning the guitar and then afterwards allow the instrument temperature to stabilize before retuning to proper pitch.

### **c. Changing Strings:**

It is good practice to replace the strings periodically, as they will lose their brilliance and tone after a while. How often you need to do this is dependant on the type of strings and their diameter. Generally the thinner strings will need to be replaced most often and they are also the most likely to break while you are playing if they've not been changed for some time. Generally it is best that when the strings start sounding dull, replace them.

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## Learning How to Play Your Lightning Guitar

As with learning any new skill, it is best to develop good technique and understanding of your instrument right from the start as that will make the journey to proficiency faster and more enjoyable. Learning on your own with little guidance can be a daunting task and slow your progress considerably. There is simply no reason to "rediscover the wheel" when there are so many guitar instruction books, in virtually any style which interests you, so readily available. These will help you quickly develop a good foundation from which you can then more easily "discover your own voice" on the guitar. Depending on your interest and preferred musical styles, a visit to your music store or a search on the internet before you even start trying to play anything on your guitar will help you find the best learning aids to speed you on your musical journey. We have not included any rudimentary guitar instruction with this kit as such are necessarily usually too sketchy and not as effective as one of the many well respected guitar teaching aids readily available which would serve you, the beginning student, better in the long run. For even better results faster, find a good teacher or guitar instruction program as there is no substitute for expert guidance right from the start when learning new skills.

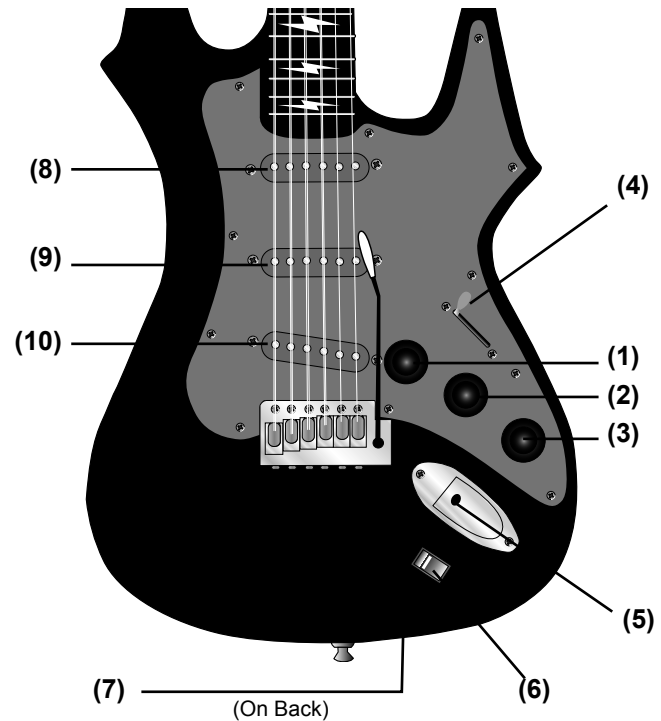
Learning to quickly and accurately tune your guitar is a skill you must master first. Since there are many alternate tunings used in popular music, depending on the style you choose to play, we recommend a good chromatic tuner, which will give you more choices for training your ear to accurately tune your instrument for alternate popular tunings than just the standard E-A-D-G-B-E, which is most common. Check with your local music store or on-line guitar accessories provider for a good quality tuner, preferably a chromatic electronic model, although standard tuning pitch pipes can also be a useful start.

## Lightning Wireless Guitar Operation

Your Lightning Guitar can be operated either as a conventional guitar with the supplied cord or completely wireless, utilizing its built-in transmitter and the wireless receiver built into the WGA-15 Guitar Amplifier. Cord operation is possible with the WGA-15 or any guitar amp and is sometimes convenient and preferred.

Before playing your guitar, either wired or wireless, you should familiarize yourself with its controls and understand their operation.

The **Volume Control (1)** adjusts the overall audio level of your guitar, as produced by the pickup(s) selected. The audio output is routed to both the **Plug-In Output Jack (5)** for cord operation and to the internal Transmitter for wireless operation. There are 2 tone controls for shaping the frequency response of the audio produced by the pickup selected. The upper **Tone Control (2)** effects only the **Neck Pickup (8)** when that is selected by itself or in combination with the **Middle Pickup (9)**. Similarly, the lower **Tone Control (3)** effects only the **Middle Pickup (9)** when that is selected by itself or in combination with the **Neck Pickup (8)**. There is no tone control for the **Bridge Pickup (10)**, which is usually selected for its bright output, rich in treble harmonics, when that type of sound is desired. Use the 5-way **Pickup Selector Switch (4)** to select pickups as noted in the illustration on page 4 for the desired sound. Note that generally the bassiest tones are achieved with the **Neck Pickup (8)** and that the **Middle Pickup (9)** produces more treble and mid range tones, but not as many higher tones as the **Bridge Pickup (10)**. Also note that Positions #2 and #4 offer pickup combinations that result in the least hum pickup, as can be caused by nearby AC wiring and lighting. Depending on whether you are playing lead or doing rhythm chording, or a combination, you will find these controls to be very versatile in offering a wide range of sounds.



On the back panel of the guitar is the **Battery Compartment (7)**. It can be opened by pulling up the plastic cover at the finger notch. Two fresh 9V alkaline batteries should be inserted observing the correct polarity. Close the compartment. It will magnetically snap shut.

Turn on the transmitter by pressing the **Transmitter OFF/ON Switch (6)**. The LED internal to the switch will turn on red indicating the transmitter is on. The **Plug-In Output Jack (5)** overrides the transmitter so that the transmitter audio will be bypassed if a cord is plugged in. When the cord is removed the audio will be transmitted. Turn off the transmitter when using a guitar cord to preserve your battery strength.

The LED indicator will become dim or turn off to indicate the battery is weak or dead, at which point, the batteries should be replaced with fresh ones.

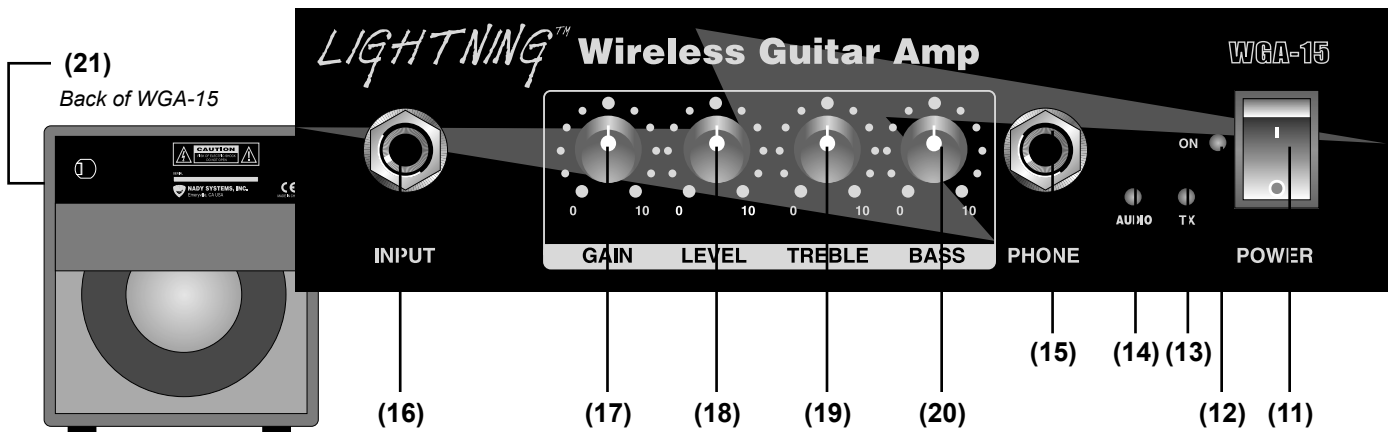
Plug in and turn on the WGA-15 Wireless Guitar Amp. The **TX LED (13)** on the WGA-15 amp should now be lit. The guitar is now ready to play.

*(Note: Turning down the guitar volume too much can compromise the signal-to-noise ratio and is not recommended. Set the guitar volume for higher gain to reduce noise if encountered).*

## Installing the Vibrato Arm, aka “Whammy Bar”

Carefully insert the threaded end of the vibrato arm/ whammy bar into the socket in the bridge. Rotate the arm clockwise until it is firmly attached. If you prefer a loose arm which swings do not turn all the way. Turn in tighter if you wish arm to hold preferred position, but do not overtighten. While playing, depress the arm to lower pitch and pull up on it to raise the pitch. You will find this a very useful feature that will allow more expression in your playing.

# WGA-15 Wireless Guitar Amp Operation



## Front Panel

(11) **POWER SWITCH** — Turns on power to the amplifier. Make sure unit is plugged into AC and the Level control is turned down before turning on the amp.

(12) **POWER LED** — Lights red to indicate the power is on.

(13) **TX LED** — Lights green to indicate the guitar transmitter is on, within range, and the RF signal is being received.

(14) **AUDIO LED** — Lights amber to indicate audio is present.

(15) **PHONE JACK** — This jack should be used for headphones. When plugging into this jack, the internal speaker is disabled.

*Note: This jack is meant to receive a stereo headphone 1/4" TRS plug. Do not plug a mono 1/4" TS plug into this jack*

(16) **INPUT JACK** — Use this jack to plug in the guitar cord when not in wireless operation. Plugging into this jack will automatically disable the wireless receiver capability.

(17) **GAIN CONTROL** — This control adjusts the input gain of the guitar audio. Turn this control to minimum for clean sounding guitar. Turn it to maximum for heavy distortion. Blues style distortion can be achieved by setting this control to mid.

(18) **LEVEL CONTROL** — This control adjusts the final master volume of the audio.

(19) **TREBLE CONTROL** — This control adjusts the treble frequencies (approx 5K Hz) to increase high cut, presence, and add definition to your sound.

(20) **BASS CONTROL** — This control adjusts the bass frequencies (approx 120 Hz) for warmer sound and stronger low end.

(21) **ANTENNA** — The antenna wire is dressed inside the amp cabinet. Do not remove or reposition this wire.

## Specifications

### Built-In Wireless System

**RF Transmission Frequency:** 171.90MHz (Ch A)

**Frequency Response:** 40-20,000 Hz, +/-3dB

**Dynamic Range:** 100dB

**Total Harmonic Distortion:** <0.65%

**Operating Range:** up to 200+ ft. line-of-sight

**Transmitter Batteries:** Two 9V alkaline, 26mA drain, up to 30 hours battery life

### Controls and Indicators:

**Lightning Guitar (transmitter):** Transmitter ON/OFF rocker switch with integrated LED "ON" indicator (LED dims below 6.9V indicating need for battery change). Transmitter not operational if cord is plugged into guitar OUTPUT jack

**WGA-15 (receiver):** Amp power/Receiver ON/OFF rocker switch LED indicators: Power ON, TX ON (transmitter signal received), and AUDIO ON (audio signal from guitar received)

Receiver not operational if cord is plugged into amp INPUT jack  
**Transmitter and Receiver Antennas:** Both internal to guitar and amp respectively

### WGA-15 Guitar Amp

**Power Output:** 15 Watts RMS @ 4Ω

**Speaker:** 5" full-range guitar speaker

**Impedance:** 4Ω

**Power handling:** 20 Watts

**Guitar Input Connector:** 1/4" TS mono connector

**Input Impedance:** 200KΩ

**Headphone Output Connector:** 1/4" TRS stereo connector

**Bass Control:** +/- 12dB @ 120Hz

**Treble Control:** +/- 12dB @ 5KHz

**Power Requirements:** 115VAC 60Hz

**Internal Fuse:** 0.5A 250V

**Dimensions HWL:** 11.8" x 5.7" x 7.4"

**Weight:** 10.5 lbs

## **SERVICE FOR YOUR NADY AUDIO PRODUCT**

**(U.S.)** Should your NADY LIGHTNING WIRELESS GUITAR product require service, please contact the Nady Service Department via telephone at (510) 652-2411, or e-mail at [service@nady.com](mailto:service@nady.com).

**(International)** For service, please contact the NADY AUDIO distributor in your country through the dealer from whom you purchased this product.

DO NOT ATTEMPT TO SERVICE THIS UNIT  
YOURSELF AS IT CAN BE DANGEROUS AND  
WILL ALSO VOID THE WARRANTY.

