

Fender FCK-50 Capacitor Kit Installation Guidelines 1994-1997 Vibro King (with EL84 or 6BQ5 Reverb Driver Tube)

Warning: Tube amplifiers contain high voltage which is stored in the filter capacitors even after the amplifier has been turned off. Always unplug the amplifier from commercial power, and discharge all filter capacitors before working on the amplifier circuitry. If you are unsure about this procedure, we strongly recommend that you leave your amplifier in the care of a professional service person.

Polarity: Electrolytic capacitors are polarized. The old capacitors will be marked with + indicators at the positive end, and – indicators at the negative end. It is extremely important that the new capacitors be installed in the same orientation. Look for polarity markers on the PC board. You can also take photos of the old capacitors in place in case there are any questions about placement after they are removed.

Procedure: After unplugging the amplifier from commercial power, removing the chassis from the cabinet, remove the capacitor cover over the “dog house) under the chassis and safely discharge the main filter capacitors. Disconnect the main board from the potentiometer board by unplugging the three ribbon cables. Remove the bias pot from the chassis. Remove the screws from the main board, and lift up carefully, folding the board back toward the rear of the amp. It may be necessary to cut some tie-wraps on the bundled wire around the power transformer. Be very careful to avoid breaking any wires. The board is not to be removed completely from the amplifier ... just work to allow it to be raised up far enough so that the necessary capacitors can be desoldered and resoldered on the printed side of the board. We recommend removing and then replacing each

capacitor one at a time. Do not remove all of the capacitors in the beginning! Use rosin flux and solder wick to remove the old solder and free the old capacitor lead. If you use a solder sucker, be aware that the printed traces on most Fender boards are quite fragile and lift off the board very easily, so proceed with caution. If a trace does lift up, or a pad breaks its connection with a trace, you will need to use wire to patch that connection.

Mounting: A bead of silicone caulk (RTV) or hot glue under each large capacitor in the “dog house” to secure them to the PC board is highly recommended. If the capacitors are mounted using only their leads, vibration will eventually crack the leads and dislodge the capacitor.

Capacitor Inventory: The kit contains six 22uF/500V filter capacitors, two 220uF/300V filter capacitors, two 100uF/100V axial filter capacitors, two 10uF/100V radial filter capacitor, and four 22uF/50V cathode bypass capacitors.

Capacitor	Board location
220uF/300V	C29, C30 (replaces 220uF/285V – Located on Filter Cap PC Board)
22uF/500V	C31, C32, C33, C34, C35, C38 (Located on Filter Cap PC Board)
100uF/100V	C3, C22 (C22 is on Filter Cap PC Board)
10uF/100V	C23, C28
22uF/50V	C4, C24, C25, C41 (replaces 22uF/25V)

Questions? If you have any questions whatsoever about the installation process, please contact us through our website before you proceed with the installation.

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