

# Dusty Strings

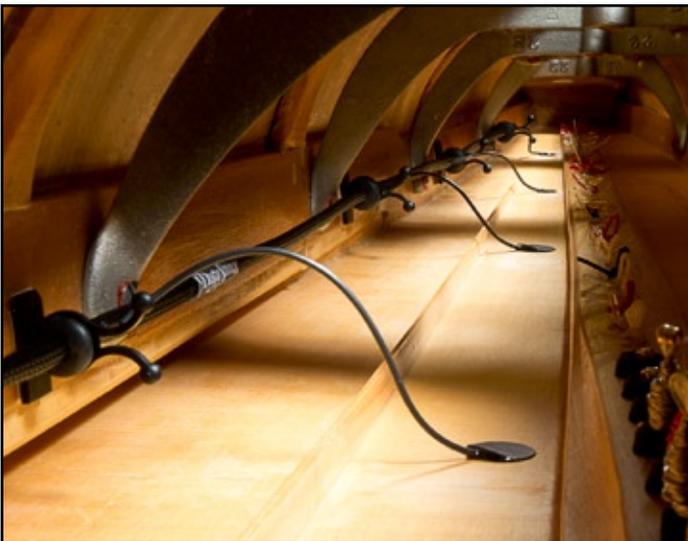
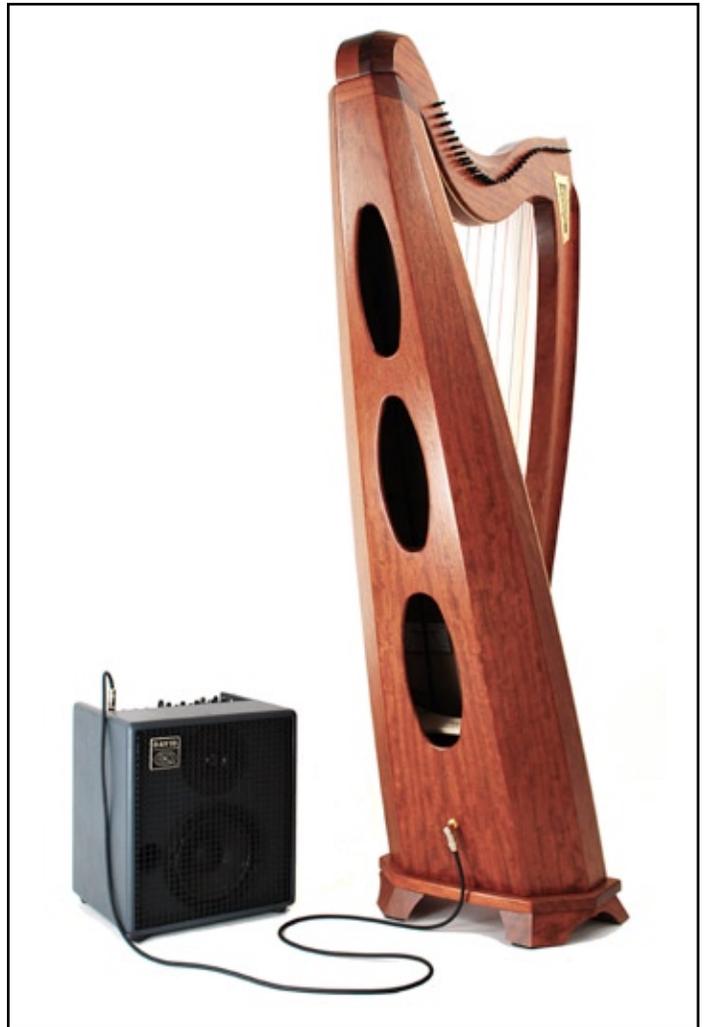
## The Dusty Harp Pickup™

## The Dusty Pedal Harp Pickup™

Most harp players who perform decide at some point that they need to amplify their instruments, so they go shopping for a pickup. They soon discover a confusing array of options that can make it daunting to decide what will work best. We spent a lot of time testing various pickups on the market. Not entirely satisfied with what we found, we took on the project of developing a pickup system specifically for harps. We call it the Dusty Harp Pickup. Originally designed for Dusty Strings harps, it is also compatible with a wide array of harps built by other harp makers.

By customer request, we then designed the Dusty Pedal Harp Pickup, with pickup elements optimized for pedal harps. It has generated rave reviews. It makes amplification easy, and sound technicians love it.

Using four carefully placed piezo pickup elements, our pickups achieve a clean, focused, natural and lush sound. The rich, full bass notes balance with the clear, musical mids and high notes. It's simply the sound of the harp, only bigger. This pickup works at any volume level without feedback.



*“I was amazed hearing the new internal pickups when amplified. After I play, the sound guys are always first to rush up and find out what I’m using to get such great sound. These guys are the ones that know and give the system the highest of marks. Thank you again for making quality your priority. It shows in every aspect of my beautiful harp.”*

*—Jeannie Page,  
Albuquerque harpist*



The pickup is discreetly mounted inside the soundbox of the harp, invisible to the audience. A single jack mounted on the back of the harp makes for “plug and play” ease of use. An instrument cable connects your harp directly to any amplifier and most PA systems.

In most situations a preamplifier is not needed, but if the gig requires very high volumes, adding a preamp to the system will help. In addition to boosting your signal, it will give you direct control over your volume and tone if you aren't near your amplifier. With some amplifiers it can also sweeten and smooth out your sound. Please refer to [dustystrings.com](http://dustystrings.com) for recommendations on amplifiers and preamps.

Using the detailed instructions, installation is easy for any handy person or instrument technician. Templates show exact pickup element locations for Dusty lever harps and for pedal harps. For other makes of lever harp, the installer may want to experiment to confirm the best-sounding element locations. The lever harp pickups come in two sizes; the small pickup is designed for 24-30 string harps and the large pickup is for 32-40 string harps.

Drilling a hole for the jack in the back of the harp or in the pedal box gives the most professional results, and we offer a 1/2” brad point drill bit (sold separately) for this purpose. Mounting hardware is also included with the Dusty Pedal Harp Pickup for the harp owner who prefers to surface-mount the jack inside the lowest soundhole or on the bottom of the pedal box.

Everyone we've heard from loves the sound of their Dusty Harp Pickup and is glad they made the investment. With one of our pickups installed in your harp, you can be confident that you are sounding your best!

*“I had time to test out the new Dusty Strings pick-up in my Lyon and Healy Style 23 last night. I love it! It is very natural sounding and gets a very “real” warm sound from the instrument. It also is very even and balanced throughout the full range of the harp. It is by far the best pick-up I have ever used. Having it permanently installed is a real plus also, so I don't have to deal with sticking it on every time I need to use it and then worrying if it will stay stuck on when I need it! Peter [Wiley] installed it very quickly. Please thank the Dusty folks for me and let them know I really, really like the sound and balance of the product! I would recommend it to anyone without hesitation!”*

*– Paul Baker,  
Los Angeles*

