

# *Rodgers Tuning Machines.*



VAT REG. NO. GB 316 1346 86

*Manufacturers of Tuning Machines  
For Classical & Acoustic Guitars.  
David & Robert Rodgers*

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## *Overview*

Good quality Machine Heads are more than just accessories to your instrument. They are an integral part of the instrument's overall performance and beauty.

Rodgers Machine Heads are hand built to a high degree of engineering precision; great attention is paid to every aspect of both the design and the manufacture. We pride ourselves on ensuring that the finished Machine Head is both mechanically and artistically of the highest possible quality.

Our main market comprises of Machine Heads for Classical Guitars, but we also produce high quality Machine Heads for Steel String Guitars, Stauffer and Lacôte Style Guitars and Mandolins. For full details of our Rodgers Lacôte - principle machines, please refer to our web site or special brochure.

Although most of the Machine Heads we produce are to our standard specifications, we also specialise in producing reproductions of early tuners, such as the Baker style and the Panormo style.

*Our method of manufacture is highly flexible, allowing us to customise tuners for particular requirements. We can cater for sets with any number of mechanisms, from single units to twelve or more strings.*

*Many other aspects of the design can also be altered for various applications.*

*Our customers range from professionals to amateurs, makers to players and dealers to enthusiasts. We sell throughout the world and have, over the past 20 years, achieved a reputation for producing the highest quality Machine Heads on the market. It is our aim and ambition to keep this reputation and, if possible, to improve upon it.*

*Our Machine Heads are constantly evolving as new ideas for improvements (where possible) in design and manufacture, come to light. The engraved designs we use on the side-plates, for example, are constantly being updated with new patterns to help keep the variety available to a maximum. We also have a wide range of materials available for the tuning buttons.*

*It is **our** aim to produce the Machine Head, you require, for **your** instrument.*

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## *Specifications*

*A range of specifications is available to suit each customer's requirements, although the mechanical details remain the same for all specifications.*

***SIDE-PLATES** are engraved to a high quality in our own workshop. There are many artistic designs and the range is being continually extended. Standard side-plate dimensions are shown in the drawings on page 6, or plates can be made to a customer's special dimensions. We can also work to a customer's drawing to produce plates with special engraved designs and/or profiles. All plates have decorative ends, but as an optional extra, decorative edge plates can be supplied.*

*The standard material for side-plates is brass, but other materials are also available. Machine Heads can be made with nickel silver (German Silver) side-plates and bearing brackets or, for that extra-special instrument, hallmarked solid Sterling Silver side-plates and silver bearing brackets can also be supplied.*

***WORM-WHEELS** are in brass, have fifteen teeth and are 12mm outside diameter. They have precision-cut teeth of rounded profile which mesh deeply with steel worms and give a very pleasing appearance.*

***BEARING BRACKETS** are fully machined and riveted in position, leaving a perfectly smooth surface on the back of the plate.*

***SLEEVES and TOP and BOTTOM END PIPS** are of polished brass.*

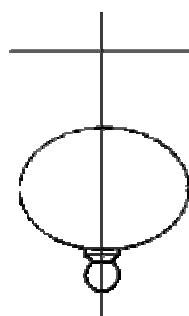
## BUTTONS

The standard Machine Heads are fitted with oval pattern real Mother of Pearl or Black Horn buttons. The Mother-of-Pearl is available both light and dark shades. It is a natural composite material which gives it a translucent effect that reflects differently depending upon the angle of the light. The dark Mother of Pearl gives the buttons a 'Smokey' effect which again seems to shimmer as the button is moved. MOP buttons can currently only be supplied in the Oval pattern.

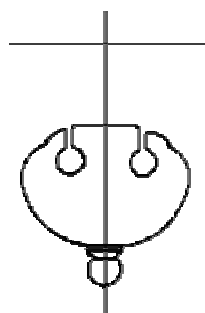
Wooden buttons can be supplied in both Oval and Kidney pattern and there is a wide variety of wood available. If a customer is making a guitar using special or unusual woods, we can also make buttons specially for that guitar, using wood supplied by the customer. The buttons are sanded, grain filled, and wax polished to produce a surface similar to that of the guitar.

Synthetic Ivory buttons are available in Oval, Kidney and Traditional patterns. It is a cast polymer material which looks very much like real Ivory, having both the correct colour and a fine graining within its structure. These buttons are very popular, especially in the Traditional pattern.

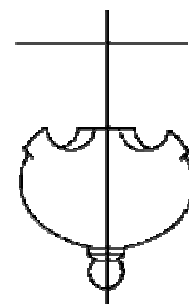
Tulip and Mitre buttons are the same button shape fitted one or the other way up. They are smaller than the standard buttons and are not normally fitted to the standard machine Head. We generally use these buttons when the centres between each mechanism have been reduced too much to fit standard sized buttons. These buttons are currently only available in Mother of Pearl and the price for these buttons is the same as the Oval MOP buttons.



Oval



Kidney



Traditional

## STRING ROLLERS

### *For Classical Guitars:*

*Steel spindles are bonded and pinned to polished 10mm diameter string rollers. String holes have brass bushings and are normally positioned at 15mm from the back of the side-plate, but can be positioned to suit a customer's special requirements. Standard string rollers are light cream in colour.*

*Polished Black Rollers (10mm diameter) are also available as an option.*

### *For Steel String Guitars:*

*Slotted Head guitar: These rollers are 6.3mm diameter (.25 inch) with string holes 15mm from the back face of the side-plate. Steel strings can exert heavy pulling loads, which can cause the string rollers to wear and elongate the holes in the guitar head. To avoid this and also ensure smooth operation of the machine head, Bearing Bushes made from a nylon-type material are available. These bushes fit into 10mm diameter holes and should be retained with a suitable adhesive.*

*Solid Head Guitar: Solid Metal String Rollers of polished or chromed brass, suitable for machine heads fitted from the under-side of the guitars headstock (i.e. string rollers vertical) are also available. Brass bushes, polished or chromed, are supplied with these rollers, for inserting into the top surface of the wood.*

*The standard pitch of string rollers is 35mm, but any other pitch can be supplied.*

*STEEL WORMS and WORM-WHEEL FIXING SCREWS are of chemically blacked steel.*

*SINGLE GEAR UNITS to any of the listed specification options can be supplied.*

*Machine Heads can also be made for instruments having other than the usual six strings. Any of the listed specification options can be supplied.*

