



# THE CUSTOM COLLECTION



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# THE WORLD'S FINEST GUITARS



At Gibson's Custom, Art & Historic Division a select group of artisans carry on the company's century-old tradition of creating exquisite, investment-quality instruments. These guitars boldly reflect the highest standards of imaginative design and masterful craftsmanship.

An instrument of timeless tonal qualities cannot be manufactured in a matter of hours or days, or even weeks. An instrument intended to provide a generation of music must have a full season of growth in the hands of patient craftsmen. This is why a Gibson Custom Division guitar is months in the making. Character building takes time.

The first and foremost component of a Gibson guitar is the wood. "Tone" woods are chosen for their ability to produce and sustain tone. Only the finest hard maple, spruce, mahogany, rosewood and ebony is selected for tightness, consistency of grain and evenness of color.

Gibson Custom Shop instruments receive at least eight coats of hand-applied nitrocellulose lacquer, painstakingly buffed to a high gloss finish. Gibson has been perfecting this process for over a century.

From the design of the electronics to the finishing of the frets, from the methodical hand sanding and buffing through fifty separate quality control checks to the field-tested dependability of Gibson parts, Gibson Custom Shop guitars are a perfect balance of flexibility and stability.

This tradition of excellence dwells in the soul of every Gibson craftsman, and is translated into the character and tone of every instrument produced. The craftsman may never meet the player, but they know each other very well. Neither is willing to compromise. Not now. Not ever.



# CLASS 5 LES PAUL

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## In a Class by Itself

From its historically carved figured maple top to the twin burstbucker pickups and pearl inlaid rosewood fingerboard, the new Custom Shop Class 5 Les Paul is the ultimate player's guitar.

Featuring a 60s-profile neck, weight-relieved back and classic Les Paul styling, the Class 5 is destined to become a favorite among Les Paul fans the world over.

- Construction:** One-piece mahogany back with carved figured maple top and one-piece mahogany neck with long tenon
- Binding:** Cream binding on top and neck
- Hardware:** Nickel
- Bridge / Tailpiece:** ABR-1 bridge with stopbar tailpiece
- Pickups:** Treble Burstbucker #3, Rhythm Burstbucker #2
- Controls:** Two volume / two tone / 3-way selector switch
- Fingerboard:** Rosewood fingerboard with trapezoid inlays

**Available Finishes:**



# LES PAUL ACOUSTIC

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## The Acoustic with Attitude

The Les Paul lover's dream come true! Finally Gibson Custom has taken the world's most popular solid body profile and developed what's sure to become the world's hottest electric/acoustic.

The new Les Paul Acoustic features a carved maple top, a hollowed-out mahogany back and an L.R. Baggs® piezo pickup that combine to create remarkable tone and unmatched playability.

- Construction:** Figured maple top; hollow, one-piece mahogany back
- Hardware:** Nickel
- Bridge / Tailpiece:** Exclusive, relief-carved Custom Pro Shop™ Bridge
- Pickups:** L.R. Baggs® electronic piezo pickup
- Controls:** Top rim-mounted tone and volume
- Fingerboard:** 22-fret rosewood with trapezoid inlays

### Available Finishes:



*Tangerine Burst*



*Translucent Black*

# L5 SIGNATURE



## Big tone in a smaller package

If you love the sweet tone of a classic Gibson carved-top, but have never been comfortable with the large size, then the new L5 Signature is the guitar for you.

This beautiful instrument provides all of the tonal characteristics and appointments of the original L5, in a compact size that's significantly easier to manage — on and off stage.

*The body of the L5 Signature is smaller than that of the original L5, yet it retains the same impeccable tonal properties.*



|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| <b>Construction:</b>       | AAA maple back and rims with spruce top                    |
| <b>Hardware:</b>           | Gold   |
| <b>Binding:</b>            | 7-ply binding top, 3-ply binding on back, neck and peghead |
| <b>Bridge / Tailpiece:</b> | ABR-1 bridge with inlaid ebony base; L-5 tailpiece         |
| <b>Pickups:</b>            | Two '57 Classic Humbuckers                                 |
| <b>Controls:</b>           | Two volume, two tone, 3-way selector switch                |
| <b>Fingerboard:</b>        | Ebony with pearl block inlays                              |

#### Available Finishes:



*Tangerine Burst*



*Vintage Sunburst*

# LES PAUL ELEGANT *Quilt Top*

The Custom Collection's most playable guitar gets even more elegant this year. This year's Elegant features a quilted maple top.

The Les Paul Elegant also features a compound radius ebony fingerboard for easier fingering and playability, and a chambered body for improved tone and significantly reduced weight. The abalone trapezoid inlays and bound fingerboard and top add a hint of luxury.

- Construction:** One-piece mahogany back with carved quilted maple top and one-piece mahogany neck
- Binding:** Cream binding on top and neck
- Hardware:** Nickel
- Bridge / Tailpiece:** Tune-o-matic bridge with stopbar tailpiece
- Pickups:** Two '57 Classic humbuckers
- Controls:** Two volume / two tone / 3-way selector switch
- Fingerboard:** Compound radius ebony fingerboard with abalone trapezoid inlays
- Other Features:** Dynamic sound chambers

## Available Finishes:



*Antique Natural*



*Peacock*



*Butterscotch*



*Heritage Cherry Sunburst*



# LES PAUL CUSTOM *Figured Top*

With its distinctive style and long list of appointments, the 1968 Les Paul Custom has been a favorite of players and collectors for years. Gibson's Custom Division has taken this already luxurious guitar and added a carved, figured maple top — presenting the '68 Les Paul Custom Figured Top.

Featuring the trademark split-diamond pearl headstock inlay and lavishly bound body, the '68 Les Paul Custom Figured Top is equipped with '57 Classic pickups, an ABR-1 bridge and stopbar tailpiece.

- Construction:** One-piece mahogany back with carved figured maple top and one-piece mahogany neck with long-neck tenon
- Binding:** Multi-ply binding on top, back, neck and peghead
- Hardware:** Gold
- Bridge / Tailpiece:** ABR-1 bridge with stopbar tailpiece
- Pickups:** Two '57 Classic humbuckers
- Controls:** Two volume / two tone / 3-way selector switch
- Fingerboard:** Ebony with pearloid block inlays
- Other Features:** Pearloid split-diamond headstock inlay

## Available Finishes:



*Antique Natural*



*Vintage Sunburst*



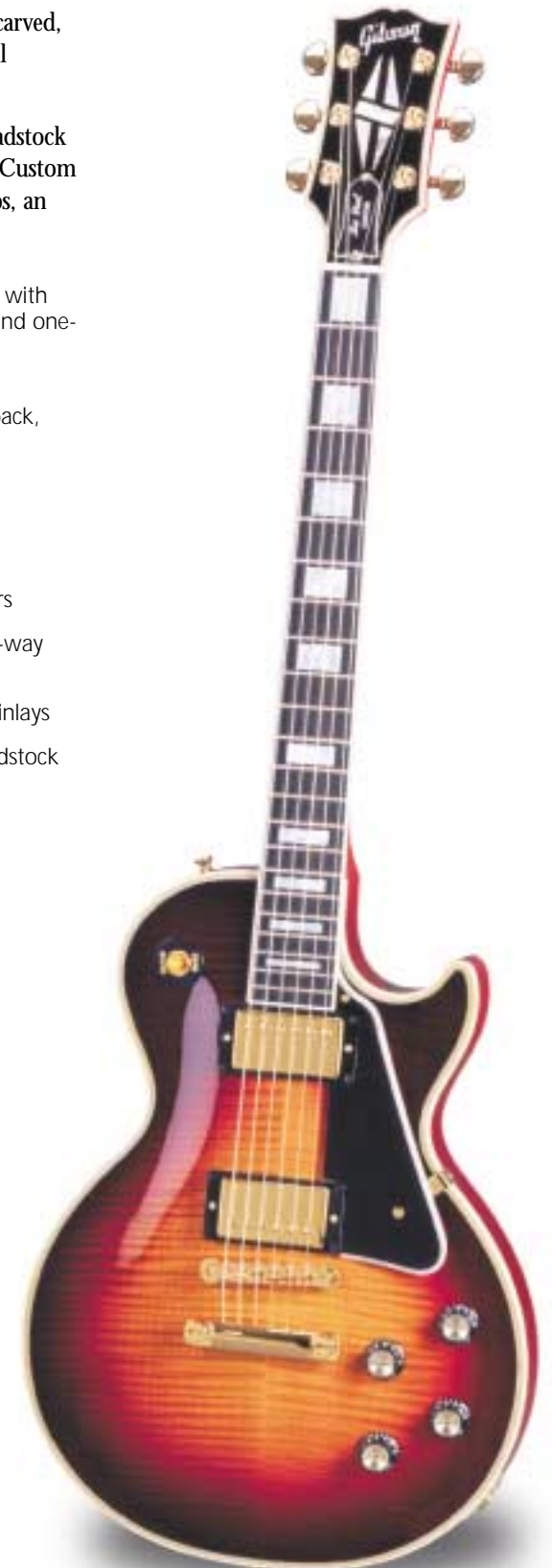
*Butterscotch*



*Tri-burst*



*Heritage Cherry Sunburst*



# LES PAUL CLASSIC *Mahogany*

For years, players have been waiting for the Custom, Art & Historic Division to release its own version of the Les Paul Classic. With the introduction of the Les Paul Classic Mahogany, the wait is finally over.

Featuring the famous slim-taper neck, exposed zebra humbuckers and single-ply cream binding, this version of the Les Paul Classic features a long neck tenon and a stunning mahogany top finished in your choice of traditional colors. The combination of smart looks, classic rock and roll tone and supreme playability makes the Les Paul Classic Mahogany the players' choice.

- Construction:** One-piece mahogany back with carved mahogany top and one-piece mahogany neck with long-neck tenon
- Binding:** Single cream binding on top and neck
- Hardware:** Nickel
- Bridge / Tailpiece:** ABR-1 bridge with stopbar tailpiece
- Pickups:** Two '57 Classic zebra humbuckers
- Controls:** Two volume / two tone / 3-way selector switch
- Fingerboard:** Rosewood with trapezoid inlays

## Available Finishes:



*Antique Natural*



*Translucent Red*



*Vintage Sunburst*



*Heritage Cherry Sunburst*



# PETER FRAMPTON *Signature*

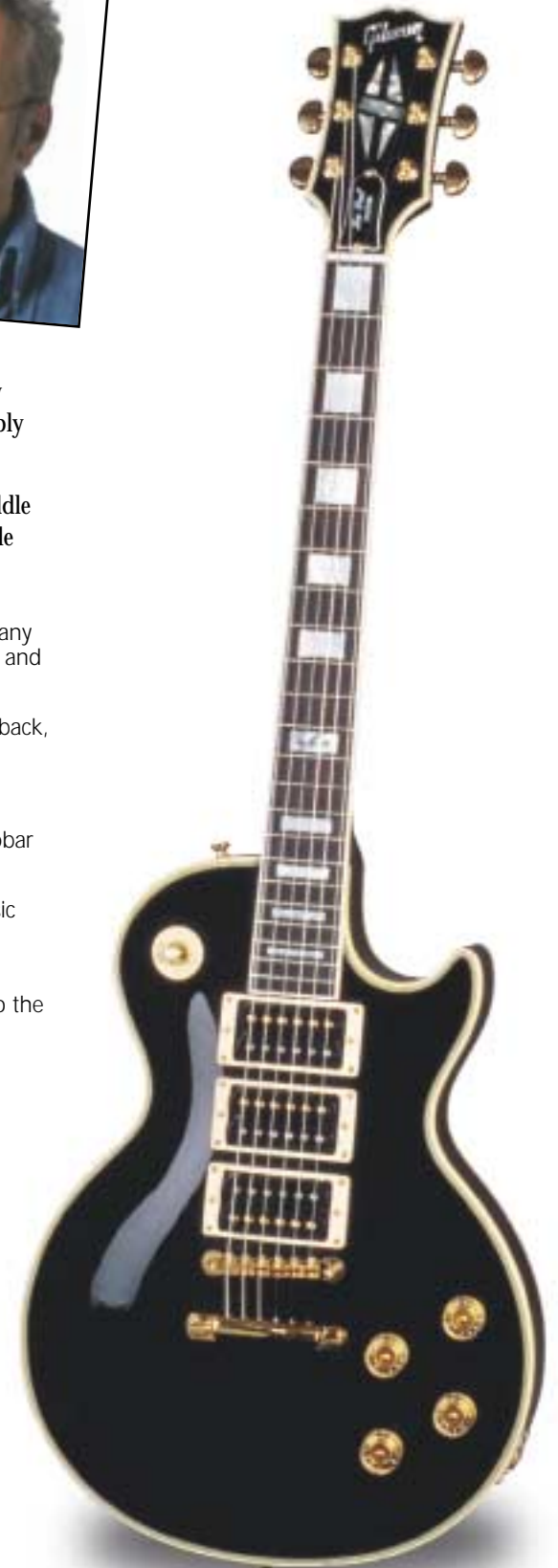
Since the early 1970s, guitarist, singer and songwriter Peter Frampton has been one of rock music's most influential artists. Best known for his #1 album, *Frampton Comes Alive*, the world's best-selling live album, his music has been heard by millions all over the world.



The Peter Frampton Signature Les Paul is constructed with a maple top and a mahogany back and neck. The back is chambered making for an instrument that not only possesses superb resonance and tone, but is incredibly lightweight.

The three-pickup configuration is wired so the middle pickup can be "faded in" with the rhythm and treble pickups.

- Construction:** One-piece chambered mahogany back with a carved maple top and one-piece mahogany neck
- Binding:** Multi-ply binding on the top, back, neck and peghead
- Hardware:** Gold
- Bridge:** Tune-o-matic bridge with stopbar tailpiece
- Pickups:** '57 Classic (rhythm), '57 Classic Plus (middle), 500T (Treble)
- Controls:** Two volume / two tone / 3-way selector switch wired to the artist's specifications
- Fingerboard:** Ebony with pearl block inlays
- Other Features:** Peter Frampton signature inscribed in the twelfth fret inlay; strap-locking end pins; "Custom-style" pearloid split-diamond headstock inlay
- Available Finishes:** Ebony only



# ZAKK WYLDE *Signature*

With his scorching riffs and remarkable stage presence, Zakk Wylde has earned a reputation as one of heavy metal's premier lead guitarists. Gibson's Custom, Art & Historic Division has teamed up with Zakk, gone "Wylde" and created the Zakk Wylde Signature Bullseye Les Paul.



Each guitar features Wylde's trademark black and antique white bullseye graphics, powerful EMG humbucking pickups and a raw maple neck.

- Construction:** One-piece mahogany back with carved maple top and a raw maple neck
- Binding:** Multi-ply binding on the top, back, neck and peghead
- Hardware:** Gold
- Bridge:** Tune-o-matic bridge with stopbar tailpiece
- Pickups:** EMG-81 / EMG-85
- Controls:** Two volume / two tone / 3-way selector switch
- Fingerboard:** Ebony with pearl block inlays
- Other Features:** Engraved gold truss rod cover, Zakk Wylde logo decal
- Available Finishes:** Antique white with black bullseye only



Rear view



# TONY IOMMI *Signature*

As a founding member and lead guitarist for Black Sabbath, Tony Iommi is renowned for his high-powered playing style and driving riffs. Undoubtedly one of heavy metal music's greatest influences, Iommi has deeply inspired succeeding generations of guitarists.



The Tony Iommi signature model is constructed to the musician's specifications using the patented, ultra-thin, double-cutaway 1961 Les Paul SG body style, featuring the "slim taper" neck. The 24-fret ebony fingerboard is inlaid with stunning sterling silver accents, echoing Iommi's trademark cross insignia.

- Construction:** Sculpted, one-piece, solid mahogany body with original style 1961 neck joint, slim-taper mahogany neck
- Binding:** White binding on fingerboard
- Hardware:** Chrome, with satin chrome Sperzel tuners
- Bridge:** ABR-1 bridge with stopbar tailpiece
- Pickups:** Two Tony Iommi Signature humbucking pickups
- Controls:** Two volume / two tone / 3-way selector switch
- Fingerboard:** Ebony with sterling silver cross inlays
- Other Features:** Graphite nut, Tony Iommi signature on peghead, concealed rim jack, also available left-handed

Available Finishes:



*Ebony*



*Wine Red*



# PAT MARTINO *Signature*

Long known as one of the world's greatest jazz guitarists, Pat Martino creates distinctive sounds that embody thoughtful energy and soul. As a musician, philosopher and artist, Martino has influenced jazz musicians throughout the world with his pioneering spirit.



That same spirit has inspired the Pat Martino Signature Model.

Featuring appointments aimed at playability and remarkable tone, this instrument reflects the exciting combination of Gibson's legendary design with the soulful style of Pat Martino.

- Construction:** Carved out mahogany body, mahogany neck, figured maple top
- Binding:** White binding on top, back and neck
- Hardware:** Gold
- Bridge:** Tune-o-matic bridge with stopbar tailpiece
- Pickups:** Two '57 Classic humbuckers
- Controls:** Two volume / two tone / 3-way selector switch
- Fingerboard:** Ebony compound radius
- Other Features:** *f*-holes in top, bound pickguard, straight-pull peghead

#### Available Finishes:



*Caramel Brown*



*Heritage Cherry Sunburst*



# ES-446S

When you pick up the new hollow-bodied ES-446S, the first thing you'll notice is how incredibly light the instrument is. With an average weight of just under 7 1/2 pounds, the ES-446S can get you through long sets with little or no fatigue.

The other thing you'll notice is how great it sounds. The contoured spruce top features *f*holes and braces that are carved into the top — not glued. This makes for an instrument with marvelous tone and remarkable resonance. Finally, the ES-446S is topped off with a graceful Florentine cutaway and traditional-style headstock giving it a strikingly classic look.

- Construction:** One-piece mahogany carved-out body with carved spruce top (body braces are carved into top)
- Binding:** White binding on top
- Hardware:** Nickel with Schaller tuners
- Bridge / Tailpiece:** Tune-o-matic bridge with bail tailpiece
- Pickups:** Two '57 Classic humbuckers
- Controls:** Two volume / two tone / 3-way selector switch
- Fingerboard:** Rosewood fingerboard with pearl dot inlays

#### Available Finishes:



*Antique Natural*



*Faded Cherry*



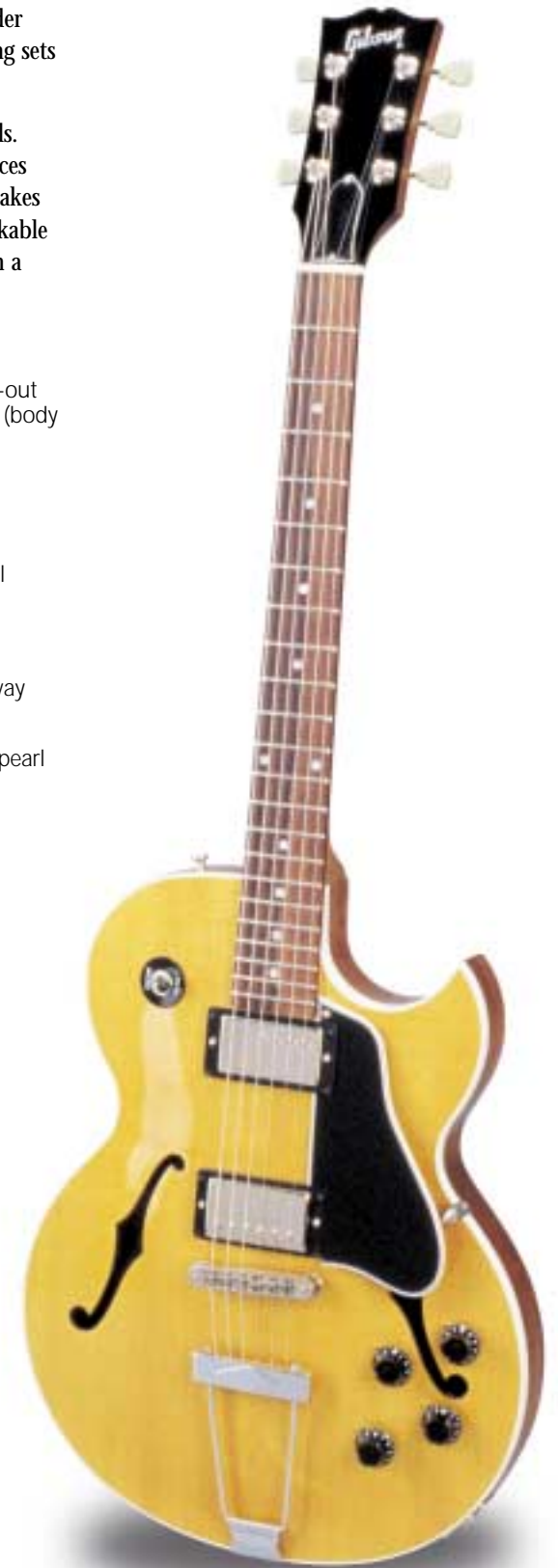
*Vintage Sunburst*



*Honeyburst*



*Emberglow*



# L-4 CES

Equipped with two humbuckers, ample binding and capable of deep, rich tone, the L-4 CES is truly a player's instrument. Add in numerous appointments such as traditional parallelogram inlays, gold hardware and a Florentine-style cutaway and the L-4 CES becomes an instrument to be cherished.

- Construction:** Solid carved spruce top, laminated maple rim and back, and one-piece mahogany neck
- Binding:** Multi-ply binding on top, single white binding on back and neck
- Hardware:** Gold
- Bridge / Tailpiece:** ABR-1 bridge with gold-plated brass tailpiece
- Pickups:** Two '57 Classic humbuckers
- Controls:** Two volume / two tone / 3-way selector switch
- Fingerboard:** 20-fret ebony with parallelogram inlays
- Other Features:** Florentine-style cutaway, ebony bridge base with pearl inlays

## Available Finishes:



*Ebony*



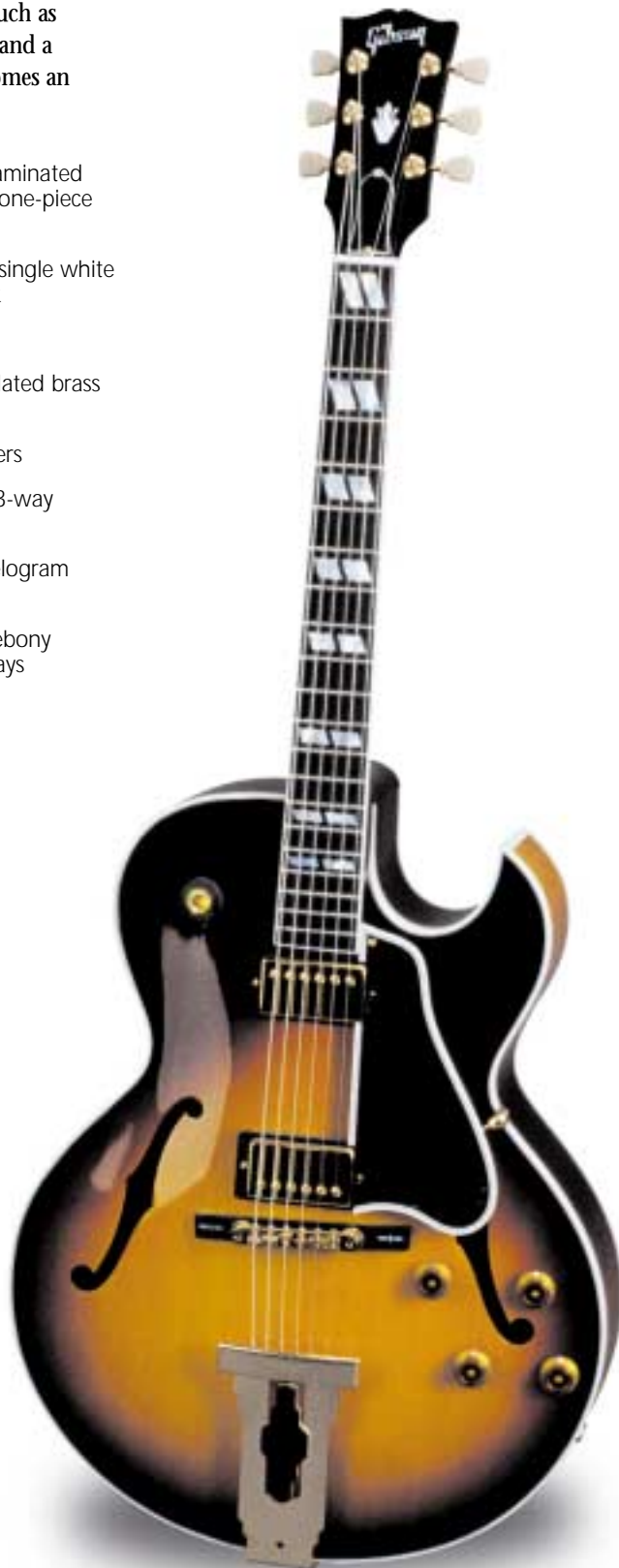
*Wine Red*



*Vintage Sunburst*



*Natural*



# LEGRANDE

From its graceful Venetian cutaway to its abalone-enhanced inlays, the Gibson LeGrande is truly a sight to behold. Appointments include a gold plated, individually fingered jazz tailpiece and a fully adjustable saddle with a pearl-inlaid ebony bridge base.

The pickup has been mounted to the pickguard rather than the neck, producing a smooth, mellow tone without any feedback. The sleek, lightweight peghead design results in a remarkably well-balanced instrument. These appointments along with its remarkable tone are why many consider the LeGrande the finest carved-top value on the market today.

- Construction:** Carved Sitka spruce top, solid figured maple back and rims, three-piece figured maple neck
- Binding:** Multi-ply binding on top, back, neck and peghead
- Hardware:** Gold
- Bridge / Tailpiece:** ABR-1 bridge with pearl inlaid ebony bridge base / fingered tailpiece
- Pickups:** BJB floating pickup with gold cover
- Controls:** Single volume control
- Fingerboard:** 20-fret ebony with pearl and abalone inlays
- Other Features:** Smooth venetian cutaway, tortoise shell pickguard

## Available Finishes



*Vintage Sunburst*



*Dark Wineburst*



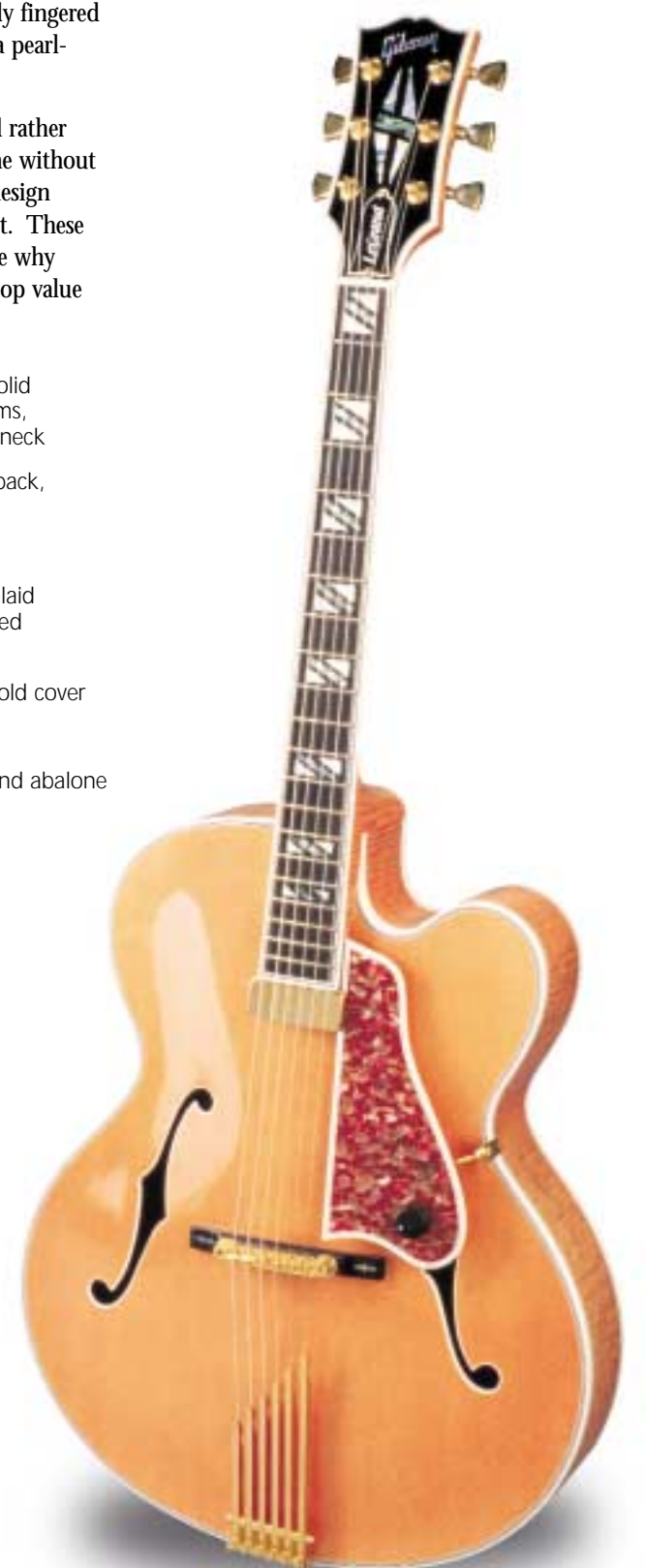
*Natural*



*Trans-Amber*



*Chablis*





*The World's Finest Guitars*

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