

# ***Gibson Dusk Tiger***

## ***Quick Start Manual***



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# Important Safety Instructions

We value you as a customer—and want our products to give you an inspiring, and gratifying, experience. So, to insure your safety and protect your investment in the Gibson Dusk Tiger guitar, please read and follow all safety warnings and operating instructions before using this product, and keep all documentation for future reference.

## Environmental Factors

Heat and moisture can harm your Gibson Dusk Tiger. Please do not install or operate this guitar near sources of moisture, such as sinks, damp basements, leaky roofs, etc. and never store it near heat sources, such as heaters or radiators. Both you and your Dusk Tiger will be much happier if you store and operate this product under safe conditions.

## Power Sources

Use only the power source included in the Dusk Tiger package. Make sure any power supply cords are not located where they are likely to be safety hazards, such as on the floor where people might walk, or in locations where they may receive pressure from items placed upon or against them. Also, be very careful with any power source connections, such as where the AC adapter connects to the wall outlet. If this connection is jostled loose, the RIP audio interface may experience extreme power differentials, which can potentially harm you and the product.

## Service

Please do not attempt to service Dusk Tiger or any of its accessories yourself. Opening the case may expose you to high voltages (besides, there are no user-serviceable parts), so let our expert technicians handle any repairs for you.

Speaking of experts, always send the Dusk Tiger to an authorized service technician if any of the following occurs (contact numbers for service centers are at the end of this section):

- Any foreign object (especially liquid) has gotten inside Dusk Tiger or its accessories
- Dusk Tiger or its accessories have been exposed to water, dropped, or otherwise damaged
- A marked change in Dusk Tiger's performance
- You hear anything rattling around inside if you shake the Dusk Tiger gently

## Warranty Protection

It is *extremely* important to us that you are satisfied with Dusk Tiger. Register it and activate your warranty protection by mailing the warranty card included with Dusk Tiger to Gibson USA, Department W, P.O. Box 100087, Nashville, TN 37210-0087. If you encounter any kind of problem, contact us as soon as possible so we can make things right.

Once your warranty protection is active, Dusk Tiger's electronic components are warranted to be free from defects in materials and workmanship for a period of one (1) year from the date of original purchase. Your warranty covers the cost of both labor and materials on any repair deemed necessary by our Customer Service Representative for the warranty period, subject to the limitations below. Please note that our warranty belongs to the original retail purchaser only, and may not be transferred or assigned to subsequent owners.

If Dusk Tiger malfunctions as a result of faulty materials or workmanship, Gibson will determine whether repair or replacement is more appropriate. In case the original materials are no longer available for repair, Gibson reserves the right to use materials regularly utilized at the time of repair.

If we determine that replacing Dusk Tiger best serves your interests, or in the unlikely event that it is destroyed, lost, or damaged beyond repair while in our possession for repairs, we will replace the product. If it is no longer available, it will be replaced with the most similar product whose value does not exceed your original product's purchase price.

**Remember—as a necessary condition to the warranty coverage described in this section, you must activate your warranty by mailing the warranty card included with Dusk Tiger to Gibson USA, Department W, P.O. Box 100087, Nashville, TN 37210-0087.**

## Warranty Limitations

Unfortunately, it is not possible for your product warranty to cover any of the following:

- Any product that has been altered or modified in any way, or upon which any serial or registration number has been tampered with or altered in any way.
- Any product whose warranty card has been altered or contains false information.
- Any product that has been damaged due to misuse, negligence, accident or improper operation or storage.
- Any product damaged during shipment. Inspect the package immediately upon receipt, and notify the carrier *immediately* if there is damage.
- Any product damaged as a result of extreme temperature, humidity, or the use of an improper power source.
- Any product not purchased through an authorized dealer, or any product that has had repairs, modifications or alterations made by an unauthorized service technician.
- Wear and tear based on normal usage.
- Factory installed electronics after more than one year following the original date of purchase.

**Gibson makes no other express warranty of any kind. All implied warranties, including warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose that exceed the specific provisions of the warranty, are expressly and specifically disclaimed and excluded from the warranty.** Note, however, that some states and/or countries do not allow the exclusion or limitation of implied warranties, so this paragraph may not apply to you. In particular, if you purchased your product outside of the United States, contact your local distributor for the handling and resolution of all warranty issues, as the warranty described here is not always applicable.

And of course, Gibson shall not be liable for any special, indirect, consequential, incidental or other similar damages to you or to any third party, including, without limitation, damages for loss of profits or business, or damages resulting from use or performance of the product, whether in contract or tort, even if Gibson or its authorized representative has been advised of the possibility of such damages, and Gibson shall not be liable for any expenses, claims or suits arising from or relating to any of the foregoing.

To obtain warranty service, contact the service center nearest you:

US (Toll Free) 1-800-4GIBSON  
US (Local) 1-615-871-4500  
Email - [service@gibson.com](mailto:service@gibson.com)

Europe 00800-4GIBSON1  
Email - [service.europe@gibson.com](mailto:service.europe@gibson.com)

Japan  
Email - [service.japan@gibson.com](mailto:service.japan@gibson.com)

China 800-820-8841 (in China only)  
Email - [service.china@gibson.com](mailto:service.china@gibson.com)

**Please do not send a unit in for repair before contacting your customer service center.** They will advise you of the proper procedure for a quick and efficient repair, as well as provide information on where and how to send your Dusk Tiger.

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## If You Own Dark Fire and Dusk Tiger Guitars

The Dark Fire charger/splitter box works with Dusk Tiger *only* as a splitter. *The splitter should not be powered up with Dusk Tiger, as damage to the LP-Z circuit may occur.*

*Also, use Dusk Tiger only with the RIP supplied with Dusk Tiger. Do not use Dusk Tiger with the Dark Fire RIP.* The Dark Fire RIP also acts as a charger, while the Dusk Tiger RIP does not. If charging is turned on with the Dark Fire RIP while connected to Dusk Tiger, damage to the LP-Z circuit may occur.

The Dusk Tiger RIP unit has a circular blue sticker on the bottom to help you to distinguish between the two. For more information on installing RIP Console software and using the RIP interface, please refer to the separate RIP manual available at [www.gibson.com/dusktigersoftware](http://www.gibson.com/dusktigersoftware).

## Dusk Tiger Prep

1. In the Dusk Tiger accessory pack, locate the card with the Dusk Tiger Customer Code and be very careful not to lose it. This code is required to run the various accessory software.
2. Charge the battery prior to playing Dusk Tiger. To do this, remove the battery from Dusk Tiger's back, place the battery in the external charger (supplied), and plug the supplied AC adapter into the charger (the adapter is an international type—100-240V, 50/60Hz).. The charger's LED will shine red when charging, and green when the battery is charged. An additional battery is supplied in the Dusk Tiger accessory pack; if you need more batteries, they are available from stores such as Radio Shack (part #55029788).
3. Turn down your monitor system's levels as you make the audio connections in steps 3 and 4.
4. Dusk Tiger's output jack is a “combo” type that provides a standard 1/4” guitar output or Gibson's exclusive low-impedance, balanced output LP-Z circuit. To activate the LP-Z output, set the switch (to the left of the output jack) in the down position. The green LED next to the switch will illuminate.



5. Plug the appropriate connector into Dusk Tiger's output. For driving a standard amp, use a 1/4" stereo or mono guitar cable. For the LP-Z output, you will need either a custom length XLR male-to-XLR male cable, or use two standard XLR male-XLR-female mic cables in conjunction with an XLR male-to-male adapter (e.g. Radio Shack part #274-015). **Caution:** *When plugging the LP-Z output into a mic input, never turn on the input's phantom power. This will **not** charge the battery, and may damage the Dusk Tiger output.*
6. While holding the guitar as you would normally, pull up on the MCK (Master Control knob). Do *not* strum Dusk Tiger just yet.
7. **Caution:** *Although you can tune the RoboHeads manually, never use a manual or mechanical string winding tool on the RoboHead tuners, as this can damage them. Also, never attempt to tune the RoboHeads manually while they are operating robotically—this can damage the RoboHeads permanently.*

## Get Tuned

1. When Dusk Tiger is turned on for the first time, the MCK center will show **S** (for **Standard** tuning - EADGB<sub>e</sub>), and the MCK's ring of letters that correspond to string names will be lit **red**.



2. Strum Dusk Tiger slowly, so you hit each string with a constant, medium amount of force. The Robot tuners will tune the strings automatically. During the tuning process, the string letters change color from **red** through other colors, and remain **green** when tuned. Wait for them to all turn **green**. If a string doesn't turn **green**, pluck it again.
3. When you end your session with Dusk Tiger and push the MCK back in, Dusk Tiger will remember the last tuning you used. When you turn on Dusk Tiger again, it will load this tuning automatically.

## Get Tone

After Dusk Tiger has tuned all the strings, it will exit tuning mode automatically and let you choose one of 10 **Instant Access** sounds from the **Green** Bank (there is also a **Yellow** Bank with 8 banks of 11 presets each, as described in the main manual).

The first time you turn on Dusk Tiger, it will load tone #1. When you end your session with Dusk Tiger and push the MCK back in, Dusk Tiger will remember the last tone you selected. When you turn on Dusk Tiger again, it will load this tone automatically.

Rotating the MCK selects different sounds; if the MCK stays in one position for over 1/3 second, the sound loads automatically. The following chart describes the sounds (as indicated by the symbol in the MCK's center), the tone name, and recommended pickup switch position.

| MCK shows | Name                         | Pickup Switch    |
|-----------|------------------------------|------------------|
| 1         | 58 Les Paul                  | Neck             |
| 2         | 1955 Les Paul                | Neck             |
| 3         | 1955 Les Paul                | Bridge or Middle |
| 4         | 1960 Les Paul (heavy rhythm) | Bridge           |
| 5         | ES-335                       | Neck             |
| 6         | Funky Neck sound             | Neck             |
| 7         | Funky Bridge sound           | Bridge           |
| 8         | Twangy Bridge sound          | Bridge           |
| 9         | Twangy Neck sound            | Neck             |
| A         | Acoustic*                    | Neck             |
| Dots      | Battery level                | not applicable   |

\*Rotate the **pickup switch toggle** to blend the piezo (acoustic) and magnetic pickup (electric) sound.

## Try Alternate Tunings

Dusk Tiger offers several modes of operation, each in its own Bank. You just met two Banks: **Blue** for tuning, and **Green** for sound selection. To switch from the Blue to Green bank or vice-versa, push briefly on the MCK's center. Push just far enough until you feel some resistance; if you push too hard, you'll push the MCK back in until it clicks, which deactivate the electronics.

To try out alternate tunings:

1. Switch from the Green Bank to the Blue Bank by pushing briefly on the MCK's center.
2. Once in the Blue Bank, rotate the MCK to the number that corresponds to the desired tuning. Do not strum the strings until you have selected the desired tuning number, and the string LEDs around the outside of the MCK are red.
3. **Instant Access** tunings are identified by the blue symbol in the MCK's center; starting with the MCK rotated fully clockwise. The following chart shows the available Instant Access tunings.

| MCK shows     | Name                    | Tuning (low string to high) |
|---------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>S</b>      | <b>Standard Tuning</b>  | <b>E A D G B e</b>          |
| <b>i</b>      | <b>Dropped D</b>        | <b>D A D G B e</b>          |
| <b>C</b>      | <b>Double Dropped D</b> | <b>D A D G B D</b>          |
| <b>E</b>      | <b>Open E Major</b>     | <b>E B E G# B e</b>         |
| <b>A</b>      | <b>Open A Major</b>     | <b>E A E A C# e</b>         |
| <b>D</b>      | <b>Open D Major</b>     | <b>D A D F# A D</b>         |
| <b>G</b>      | <b>Open G Major</b>     | <b>D G D G B D</b>          |
| <b>B</b>      | <b>E Flat Tuning</b>    | <b>Eb Ab Db Gb Bb eb</b>    |
| <b>e</b>      | <b>Open E Minor</b>     | <b>E B E G B E</b>          |
| <b>Arrow</b>  | <b>Low D</b>            | <b>D G C F A D</b>          |
| <b>Circle</b> | <b>DADGAD</b>           | <b>D A D G A D</b>          |

## ***Dusk Tiger Tuning/Tone "Cheat Sheet"***

On the back of the battery cover, there's a small chart that indicates the default Tones and Tunings, with the switch symbols that represent them.

## ***Manual RoboHead Tuning***

You can also tune Dusk Tiger's RoboHeads by hand. Unlike conventional tuning keys, RoboHeads all turn in the same direction. The RoboHead tuner posts have locking nuts to secure the end of each string during tuning operations.

Remember—*never* use any kind of string winding tool, or turn the RoboHeads manually while they're being turned robotically. Robot technology includes special options for changing strings, as this is much faster than changing strings manually.

## ***There's So Much More...***

You've just experienced the smallest hint of what Dusk Tiger can do. Please read the full manual to understand what this powerful instrument can do for you and your music.