

	Model	Type	Magnet Material	# Conductors	Score	Comments
Aero	MP-181	Single-coil	Alnico 5	Two	Warmth: 5 Clarity: 3.5 Output: 4 Amplified Sound: 5 Recorded Sound: 4 Value: 4.5	Heavy lows, distinct upper mids, and round top that's cool for fingerstyle rock, blues, and country. (And '70s-style funk.) Broken-in vibe that's fun to play. On tape, pickups have big bottom for a J, although the tone can get a bit thick.
AGI	Lace Transensor TSJ-500	Transensor single-coil	Ceramic	Two	Warmth: 3 Clarity: 2 Output: 2 Amplified Sound: 2 Recorded Sound: 2 Value: 2	Quiet, hum-free operation with low output. Decent punch with subdued top end. Rather small sounding in the track. (For better lows, AGI's Jeff Lace recommends 100 kohm volume pots instead of 250k.)
Bartolini	9J#1	Split-coil humbucker	Ceramic and iron	Two	Warmth: 4 Clarity: 4 Output: 2 Amplified Sound: 4 Recorded Sound: 3 Value: 3.5	Super-deep fundamentals with pro-sounding sheen. Vintage-like character with modern appeal. Could use some preamping, though, as output is very low. More neutral-sounding in studio. "Not a bad sound, but it kind of disappears in the mix."
Bartolini	9J#4	Split-coil humbucker	Ceramic and iron	Two	Warmth: 4 Clarity: 4.5 Output: 2 Amplified Sound: 4 Recorded Sound: 4 Value: 3.5	Similar to above, but a dash more top-end openness. (And it could also benefit from a preamp.) Records well with lots of oomph.
Bartolini	9K#1	Split-coil humbucker	Ceramic and iron	Two	Warmth: 4 Clarity: 4 Output: 3 Amplified Sound: 4.5 Recorded Sound: 4 Value: 4	Slightly more output than 9J series. Early-J warmth with a blend of brilliance and a harmonics. A bit one-dimensional in the the studio, although the top-end clarity really cuts.
Bartolini	9U	Single-coil	Ceramic and iron	Two	Warmth: 4 Clarity: 4 Output: 3.5 Amplified Sound: 4 Recorded Sound: 3 Value: 3.5	Sounds like a Jazz, but you have to really dig in. A bit muffled sounding on tape. "Refined." "Would kill with a good preamp."

Bartolini	9W4	Quadracoil	Ceramic and iron	Two	Warmth: 5 Clarity: 2 Output: 4 Amplified Sound: 4 Recorded Sound: 3 Value: 3.5	Nice & beefy with good string separation. Top end is smooth but a bit tame. Sounded compressed and chorused recorded against track.
Bartolini	9W4J	Quadracoil	Ceramic and iron	Two	Warmth: 5 Clarity: 3 Output: 4 Amplified Sound: 5 Recorded Sound: 4 Value: 4	Similar to 9W4s, but more bark and a bit more bite. Good mid emphasis and upper-end attack in the studio.
Basslines Antiquity	Antiquity Jazz Bass	"Pre-aged" single-coil	Aged & Distressed Alnico II	Two	Warmth: 5 Clarity: 3 Output: 3 Amplified Sound: 5 Recorded Sound: 4.5 Value: 4	Old-school look, old-school tone. Vintage-like top is very '65-ish, but with no harshness. Warm and musical with pleasing low mids.
Basslines Antiquity	Antiquity II Jazz Bass	"Pre-aged" single-coil	Distressed Alnico 5	Two	Warmth: 4 Clarity: 3.5 Output: 4 Amplified Sound: 5 Recorded Sound: 5 Value: 4.5	Similar to Antiquity but more punch and a ton of bottom. Top end voiced slightly lower for cut. "Lows have a real feeling of support."
Basslines	Custom Shop J - Stack	Stacked humbucker	Alnico 5	Four	Warmth: 4 Clarity: 3.5 Output: 4 Amplified Sound: 2.5 Recorded Sound: 2.5 Value: 3.5	More open-sounding than Hot Stacks (below) with better dynamics. Mellow low end added up to blurry bottom on ADAT. Not exactly vintage but in the ballpark. (And without the noise.)
Basslines	Custom Shop KB Specials	Single-coil	Alnico 5	Two	Warmth: 4 Clarity: 2 Output: 2.5 Amplified Sound: 4 Recorded Sound: 4 Value: 3.5	Has presence and growl that sit well in the track. Tight fundamentals and mids with a dash of sweetness. "Focused."

Basslines	Classic Stack STK-J1	Stacked humbucker	Alnico 5	Four	Warmth: 3 Clarity: 3.5 Output: 3.5 Amplified Sound: 4 Recorded Sound: 3 Value: 3.5	1960s-like tone without the hum. A bit compressed, although highs have good snap without brittleness. "Tone's in there it just takes some work to get it out."
Basslines	Hot SJB-2	Single-coil	Alnico 5	Two	Warmth: 4.5 Clarity: 2 Output: 5 Amplified Sound: 4 Recorded Sound: 5 Value: 4	Cool in the mix; more gain equals less highs, but the Hot loves loud guitars. "Farkin' loud." "Loads o' nuts." "Nice blend of crunch and punch."
Basslines	Hot Stack STK-J2	Stacked humbucker	Alnico 5	Four	Warmth: 3.5 Clarity: 3 Output: 4 Amplified Sound: 3 Recorded Sound: 3 Value: 3.5	Overall compressed-feeling and sounding. You have to really dig in to make lows open up. Soloed bridge is dead quiet, though. Hot lows sounded a bit unbalanced on tape.
Basslines	Quarter SJB-3	Single-coil	Alnico 5	Two	Warmth: 4 Clarity: 1.5 Output: 4 Amplified Sound: 3 Recorded Sound: 5 Value: 3.5	Humbucker-like highs from a single coil. Most testers thought the thick lows lacked detail or clarity. "Pretty damn big and punchy on tape." "Loud but a bit on the bland side." "Rules in the studio."
Basslines	Vintage SJB-1	Single-coil	Alnico 5	Two	Warmth: 4 Clarity: 2 Output: 3 Amplified Sound: 4 Recorded Sound: 3 Value: 3	Mellow top, average mids, shy bottom. Overall very ear-friendly with a round-sounding bridge pickup. Studio report: Highs have peaky, vintage rawness.
Carvin	H50	Stacked humbucker	Alnico	Two	Warmth: 3.5 Clarity: 4 Output: 2.5 Amplified Sound: 3 Recorded Sound: 2 Value: 3	Nice detail up top but missing low-mid impact. Cool choice for snappy funk, but would really shine with a preamp. Sounded great soloed in studio, but was a bit contained in the mix.

DiMarzio	Model J DP123	Split humbucker	Ceramic	Four	Warmth: 4 Clarity: 2.5 Output: 4.5 Amplified Sound: 3.5 Recorded Sound: 5 Value: 4	Boatloads of punch. Rolled off top with thick bass. Pickups sounded great recorded. Ballsy growl sounds a bit ugly when soloed but is smooth and filling in the track. "The Marshall killer." "Loud & proud."
DiMarzio	Ultra Jazz DP149	Split humbucker	Alnico 5 rods loaded w/ceramic bars	Four	Warmth: 4 Clarity: 4 Output: 4 Amplified Sound: 4.5 Recorded Sound: 4.5 Value: 4	Very alive-sounding for a split humbucker. Crisp highs and strong low mids beg to be slapped or plucked. Stays punchy in the studio even down low.
Fender	Custom Shop '60s Jazz Bass	Single-coil	Alnico 5	Two	Warmth: 4 Clarity: 4 Output: 4 Amplified Sound: 5 Recorded Sound: 5 Value: 4.5	Made the American Standard J think it was 20 to 30 years older than it is. Slightly more output and top than our stock '65. "Potent punch from bridge pickup." "Very classic sounding." "Lows a bit boomy on tape, but that's a J-Bass."
Lane Poor	Jazz Classic	Horizontal Axis Bilateral Twin Coil	Ceramic	Two	Warmth: 4 Clarity: 5 Output: 2 Amplified Sound: 4 Recorded Sound: 4 Value: 4	Hi-fi blend of ringing highs and buttery, tube-like bottom. Has a character all its own. Output is low; would be deadly with a preamp. (And we're told LP has finally finished his active onboard preamp.)
Lindy Fralin	Jazz Bass	Single-coil	Alnico 5	Two	Warmth: 5 Clarity: 4 Output: 3 Amplified Sound: 5 Recorded Sound: 4 Value: 4	Glassy top sounds cool when soloed, but needs EQ to compete with distorted guitars. An authentic tone." "Not a hair on its head out of place." "Very sounding vintage replacement, though. "Musical J together."
Razor	JB	Single-coil	Alnico 5	Two	Warmth: 3 Clarity: 2 Output: 3 Amplified Sound: 4 Recorded Sound: 4 Value: 3	Aggressive upper mids that sound close to the '65 Fender's. Soft lows, average mids, and snarly top. "Rock guy with a pick tone."