

How to Prepare an Electric Guitar for a Live Gig **by Benjamin Fortier**

Congratulations on your live show! This is an exciting opportunity for you, but to warrant you have a great gig, ensure you have your equipment prepared. We will assume you have the following:

1. Electric guitar with case
2. Guitar stand
3. 1/4" Tip-Ring-Sleeve (TRS) cables of various lengths
4. Amplifier
5. Tuner

First, before arriving, you should practice setting up, rehearsing, and tearing down before the actual gig. Tune the guitar, put any broken or noisy cables aside, and test the amplifier for a clean signal. This will certify your equipment is in proper working order.

To set up your rig, follow these steps:

- Place the amplifier on the "stage." At a gig, the sound engineer may request you place the amp in a particular spot. They may connect your amplifier to the house speakers, either by placing a microphone in front of it or attaching a cable to an output.
- Remove the guitar from the case.
- Attach a working 1/4" TRS cable to the guitar jack and the "INPUT" on the amplifier.
- Rest the guitar on the guitar stand.
- Make any adjustments on the amplifier as necessary, as they may have been changed during travel.
- Power on the amplifier.
- Adjust the volume and tone knobs on the guitar.
- Adjust the gain and volume on the amplifier.
- Check in with the sound engineer to see if there's any further adjustments you need to make on your rig.
- Play the show!

Following these steps will guarantee you have a great show with minimal problems.