

Gibson Acoustic Guitars 2003



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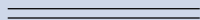


Volume 2, Number 2

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The experience of becoming a Gibson Acoustic Guitar owner is much like other landmark “firsts” in one’s life. It’s a big event. You will probably remember the circumstances surrounding your purchase exactly; how the guitar smells and the wood grain looks, how it feels in your hands, how it sounds as you experiment with different notes and chords. You may experience the thrill that comes when you realize you are among a class of acoustic players that dates back to the early 1900s—you are a Gibsonite.

We want to make sure your experience in purchasing and owning a Gibson Acoustic is the best it can possibly be; that you are as proud of your instrument as we are. Please let us know by contacting us at one of the addresses listed on the back cover (e-mail from our web page or US mail). We look forward to welcoming you to the Gibson family!



*A Gibson Harp
Guitar from the
early 1900s.*

All models in this catalog come with a lifetime warranty, owner’s manual, specially designed case, and added-value humidity care kit.

See your authorized Gibson Dealer for pricing information. Specifications subject to change without notice.

“Give me a Gibson, and I’ll give you the smile . . . and the cares of life will vanish through the heavenly strains of strings.” Naomi Shamper

Gibsonite from the 1920s

With the rebirth of acoustic music and the availability of countless brands of acoustic guitars, many fundamental truths related to the art of fine instrument building have become obscured. Of these truths, the most significant is the meaning of the designation *Handmade*, and how this method of guitar building has a profound relationship with the instrument, its music, and the experience of its player.

The fact is, all guitars have at least some “hands-on” assembly. But, for an acoustic guitar, it is the extent of its hand construction that makes the difference between *handmade*, or just merely *assembled* by hand.

Many modern acoustic guitar makers find ways to build instruments more quickly, cheaper, and in greater numbers. They achieve this by substituting easy bolt-on necks, prefabricated parts, quick-cure finishes, and clone-like guitar designs that work best in an assembly line production.

But legendary builders and players have always known that the “handmade” quality and individual design of an instrument determine its ability to produce a truly beautiful sound. A fine guitar responds to every nuance of a player’s technique, much like a fine car “turns on a dime.”

Consequently, when an instrument can deliver this level of quality, a pleasurable experience occurs for both the player and the listener. And it is for this wonderful effect that music lovers have praised Gibson instruments since the early 1900s, when they gathered throughout society and proudly proclaimed themselves as “Gibsonites” and “Gibsonians.” It is no accident that Gibson instruments have been the “artist’s choice” throughout an entire century of music, art and culture.

Today, this passionate loyalty still reaches deep into society, from stockbrokers to working musicians, from Hollywood stars to young families in the heartland of America.

It is for all these truths and reasons that each Gibson Acoustic Guitar is still *Master Built* in the tradition handed down by a dynasty of Gibson builders, which began with Orville Gibson in 1894.

WHAT DOES MASTER BUILT MEAN?

Dovetail Neck-To-Body Joint

This time-honored technique of attaching a guitar neck to its body creates a cohesive bond between these two vibrating elements of an acoustic guitar, as if they were one solid piece of wood. And unlike other brands, which offer acoustics with “bolt-on” necks to keep their production costs down, the master builders at Gibson know that a superior dovetail neck-to-body joint assures each Gibson Acoustic truly *transforms all of the string vibrations into the beautiful sound of vibrating wood!*

“Violin-Like” Lacquer Finish

Today more than ever, guitar manufacturers find additional ways to “cut corners” in their building time and processes with inferior coatings that shine, but do not sing. Unlike these other companies, Gibson still uses the tried and true “lacquer finish” on all its acoustic guitars. This finish is more complex in nature and will continue to merge with the wood as the years go by. Much like the old master finishes of fine violins, this traditional finish will age like a fine wine and *will continue to sweeten the tone of the instrument as time goes on.*

Carved and Scalloped Bracing

For over 100 years, the Gibson artisans have known the truth that the top of an instrument is not just a “vibrating wall.” Gibson carefully scallops and arches each top brace to focus the sound to the center of the guitar top. This technique is one of the reasons why artists, sound engineers, and listeners have acclaimed the sound of a Gibson as the world’s finest. Close your eyes and listen to a Gibson Acoustic. *The distinctive “Gibson Tone” is like the sound from a fine audio speaker.*

Artistic Craftsmanship and Quality

Each Gibson Acoustic model is full of expression, character, and exquisite beauty. None is ordinary, and no two are alike. *A Gibson Acoustic stands out among the thousands of “look-alike” acoustics flooding the market today.*

A Gibson Acoustic sets you apart from the regular crowd with the finest sound, playability, and appearance, which only a *Master Built* instrument can offer.

Which Gibson Acoustic is Right for You?



Super Jumbo Body

Excellent for creating a giant chordal background for vocal accompaniment.

Capable of a rich, full sound with a deep bass and crystal clear highs.

Has been the “Artist’s Choice” for all styles of music, from rock to country.

The world’s ultimate acoustic in its appearance and tone.



Round Shoulder Body

Well known as the “Workhorse” acoustic that is ideal for group ensemble performances.

Delivers a sound with incredible dynamic range, warm mids, and a tight and punchy bass.

Great for blues, folk, and bluegrass.

A powerful, traditional body design with the cutting power needed for professional performance.



Square Shoulder Body

A finer quality and beauty than other square shoulders on the market today.

Very wide range of sound, from gutsy and loud to soft and sweet. Famous warm wood tone.

Superb for all contemporary styles, whether just for chording, or for intricate solo music.

Gibson Square Shoulders are distinctive, artistic, finest in craftsmanship, and superior in sound.



J-180 Jumbo Body

A more compact Jumbo with all the beauty and style Gibson has to offer.

Unsurpassed balance of lows, mids, and highs, with equal response to every note on the fretboard.

Perfect for powerful rhythm guitar, studio recording, and live acoustic-electric performance (for those models with pickups).

Acclaimed as the most “perfect” body size and shape for large, small, male or female players.



Small Body

The most unique and artistic small-body acoustics of this century.

A very vibrant sound in the midrange, combined with finely balanced bass and highs.

A top choice for blues and fingerstyle guitar performance.

World class acoustic suitable for home, studio, live stage, or high level professional performance.

J-200 Super Jumbo Line

~King of the Flat-tops~

The Gibson Super Jumbo 200 is the world's most famous acoustic guitar and has earned its designation as the "King of the Flat-tops." Since its release in 1937, its wide use by American artists of this century has made the Super Jumbo 200 (SJ-200 for short) the most widely played acoustic guitar of our time. So much so, that this magnificent acoustic has truly become an icon for players of all musical styles including blues, folk and country, as well as for the world's most legendary rock and pop performers from Elvis to the Rolling Stones.

The most striking features of today's SJ-200 Reissue (pictured at right) include its carved Moustache® bridge, with its double bar Mother-of-Pearl inlays; its engraved, multicolor SJ-200 pickguard; its Mother-of-Pearl crown fretboard and headstock inlays; and its exquisite flamed maple back and sides.

Bearing nothing in common to all the ordinary, "look-alike" acoustics in today's guitar market, the Gibson SJ-200 remains superior in its unique look, quality craftsmanship, and powerful sound.

In the words of superstar Emmylou Harris: *"It is simply a thing of beauty—an American original with its shape and appearance. Nothing else even comes close."*

Gibson is proud to offer this ultimate acoustic along with a full line-up of other fine Gibson Super Jumbos, each with their own specific design and features. These guitars are offered in a wide range of prices suitable for any walk of life.



*The "King of The Flat-tops,"
The SJ-200 Reissue.*

Ray Whitley—The Envy of His Peers

The first appearance of this original Gibson Super Jumbo was in 1937, when it was presented to Hollywood singing star Ray Whitley as the world's biggest and fanciest acoustic guitar. Ray became the envy of his peers, and other Hollywood singing celebrities of the era soon obtained their very own Super Jumbos, including cowboy legends Roy Rogers and Gene Autrey.

The style and features of the 1937 Ray Whitley Model have been incorporated in Gibson's Custom Shop Western Classic (see photo at left). Note its rosewood back and sides; classic L-5 fretboard and headstock inlay; multiple bindings on the body, fretboard, top, and rosette; and its bound celluloid pickguard borrowed from Gibson's legendary Super 400.

In 1938, the Gibson SJ-200—with its classic crown inlays and multi-flowered pickguard—went into production, and it was promoted as the world's premier flat-top acoustic guitar.

Over 60 years later, this guitar has made its mark on history with its rich, full tone, its powerful bottom end and crystal clear highs, and its highly distinctive and majestic appearance.

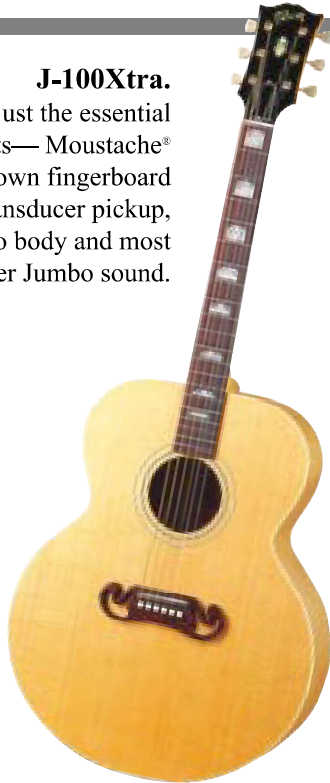
The Custom Shop Western Classic SJ-200 was designed after Gibson's original 1937 Ray Whitley Super Jumbo model.

J-200 Super Jumbo Line

The “King of the Flat-tops” is available in seven special model offerings, which include four Custom Shop Super Jumbos (two of which are pictured below). See the Custom Shop section on pages 17 and 18 for information on the Super 200 Cutaway Custom and the SJ-200 Custom Vine.

J-100Xtra.

No frills, just the essential elements— Moustache® Bridge, crown fingerboard inlays, transducer pickup, Super Jumbo body and most important, Super Jumbo sound.



J-150.

More affordable J-200, for the performer who desires a “King of the Flat-tops.” Equipped with transducer pickup. Antique Natural Finish.



SJ-200 Reissue.

Best-seller! Historic 1950s details and the most popular jumbo, known as the “King of the Flat-tops.” Antique Natural or Vintage Sunburst Finish.



SJ-200 Elite Custom.

Custom Shop SJ-200 with upgraded woods and features. Antique Natural or Vintage Sunburst Finish.



Western Classic SJ-200.

Custom Shop pre-war replica fashioned after the 1937 Ray Whitley Model. Classic Vintage Sunburst Finish.



J-45 Round Shoulder Line

~The American Workhorse~

When you listen to a Gibson Round Shoulder Acoustic, you will notice that it responds exactly to the player's style and technique—powerful one moment, and soft and mellow the next. This characteristic of these guitars is certainly one of the main attractions that players have to the famous J-45 model, which over the years has been affectionately called “The Workhorse.”

Like the Gibson Super Jumbos, the Gibson Round Shoulder Acoustic body design is an original Gibson innovation, which first appeared in Gibson's 1934 catalog, and was promoted for its incredible sound.

It is interesting to note that if you review the evolving culture and music in America since the 1930s, Gibson Round Shoulder Acoustics seem to appear in the hands of the celebrities and artists that have significantly represented the times. Imagine a historic photo archive, marching frame by frame in silent effigy to the last 60 years of music: young Woody Guthrie on the street corner singing of America; Hank Williams Sr.'s music echoing in a large concert hall with Chet Atkins as his backup; a smoky blues honky tonk guitar in the hands of Lightnin' Hopkins; the screaming crowd as the Beatles perform at Candlestick Park in 1966, and later John and Yoko at their historic “Bed-Ins”; and today, all over the world, and way out in front with artists such as rock diva Sheryl Crow—all playing Gibson Acoustics.

The beloved Gibson Round Shoulder Acoustics, simple in nature, have continually lured semi-professionals and amateurs with their playing comfort, punchy bass and warm, rich tonality.

This user-friendly Gibson guitar design is widely seen in its traditional 1940's Vintage Sunburst finish (another Gibson innovation), mahogany back and sides, '40s-style tuners, teardrop tortoise pickguard, and rosewood reverse belly bridge. These features are represented today in the J-45 model (pictured above right). This best-selling model originated in 1942, and has remained a cornerstone Gibson Acoustic for the past five decades.

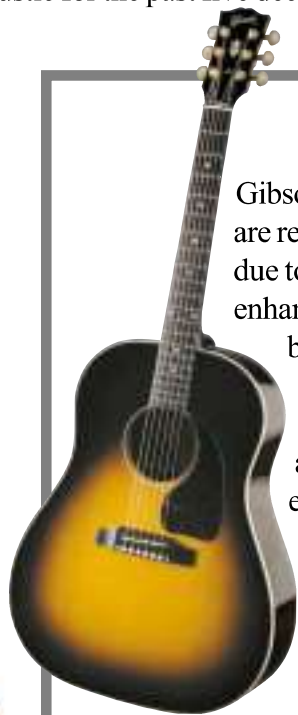


The popular Gibson J-45.

New Rosewood Wonder

Gibson's current Round Shoulder Line includes new variations in woods and features which are reflected in models like the new J-45 Rosewood (pictured left). This model bears its title due to its premium rosewood back and sides, made to please J-45 lovers who desire the enhanced tone and look of a rosewood guitar. This model is handmade with an ebony fingerboard and bridge, and gold tuners.

Be sure to play a Gibson Round Shoulder during your next visit to your nearest authorized Gibson Acoustic Dealer. When you do, listen to it carefully and you will experience a sound that not only reminds you of our most memorable musical moments in history, but also reflects the music of countless players around the world today.



The New J-45 Rosewood.

J-45 Round Shoulder Line

There are seven Gibson Round Shoulder models, including two Custom Shop Round Shoulders. See the Custom Shop section on page 18 for information on the J-45 Rosewood Vine.

Working Man 45.

Simplified round-shoulder for the songwriter and working musician. Antique Natural finish.



J-45.

Best-seller since the 1940s and nicknamed by artists as “The Workhorse.” Equipped with transducer pickup. Vintage Sunburst finish.



J-50.

Classic 1960’s edition with ’60’s pickguard. Equipped with transducer pickup. Antique Natural finish.



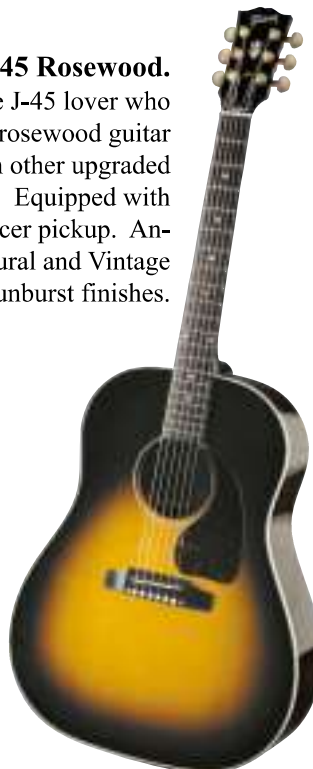
Southern Jumbo.

Late ’40’s model with upgraded features reflecting the charm and style of the South. Vintage Sunburst finish.



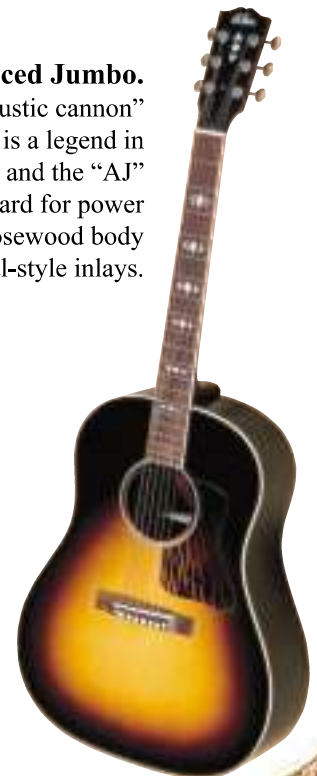
J-45 Rosewood.

For the J-45 lover who desires a rosewood guitar with other upgraded features. Equipped with transducer pickup. Antique Natural and Vintage Sunburst finishes.



Advanced Jumbo.

Gibson’s “acoustic cannon” from the 1930s is a legend in the vintage world, and the “AJ” still sets the standard for power and tone, with rosewood body and original-style inlays.



Hummingbird Square Shoulder Line

~Classic Looks with a Powerful Sound~

While other brands of acoustics are sometimes difficult to identify from one to the next, Gibson Hummingbird Square Shoulder models stand out from the crowd with a unique personality and appealing charm. In addition, the sweet sound of these guitars has enchanted countless artists and sound engineers, as well as those who just play at home and want the finest guitar in the world to do so.

Gibson's first Square Shoulder acoustic was released in 1960 in the form of the Hummingbird (pictured right). This very distinctive model quickly became yet another symbol of Gibson's innovative approach in creating instruments with impeccable craftsmanship, beauty, and character. Perhaps fueled by the powerful movement towards individuality in the 1960s, the Hummingbird has become an expressive symbol for legendary rock, pop, folk, and country artists. And this picturesque model is still seen and heard in today's modern music videos and CDs.

The ongoing love affair with the Hummingbird's charm and warm, honey-like tone also touches the hearts of guitar lovers in other walks of life. This is evident in the recent story of a customer who called Gibson to express that he loved his new Hummingbird so much that he kept it close to him under his bed each night while he slept. He later decided that he wanted an additional Hummingbird so he could keep his first one in his room and take the other out to play with friends. Nothing sounds lovelier than his beloved Hummingbird! Nothing else is so precious to him.



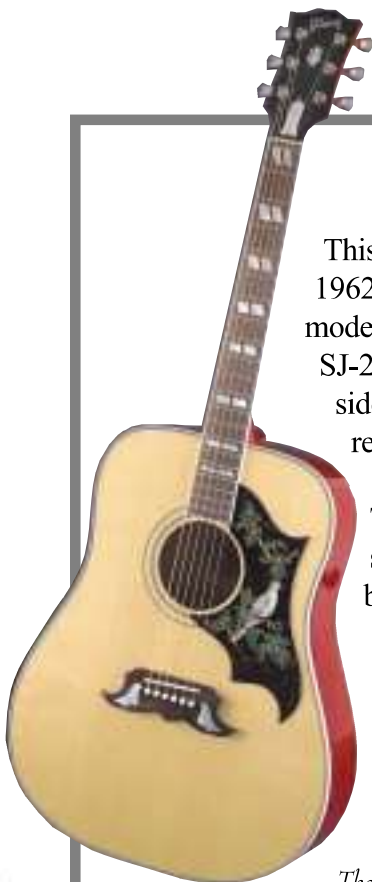
The Hummingbird with its classic Heritage Cherry Sunburst finish.

The Birds of Paradise

This art of creating acoustics with a life and personality of their own was repeated in 1962 when Gibson released its second bird of paradise, The Dove (pictured at left). This model can be considered a beautiful blend between the Hummingbird and the fabulous SJ-200. To achieve this effect, Gibson created the Dove with a flamed maple back and sides and artistic details like the Dove's pickguard with its inlaid Mother-of-Pearl dove resting on a branch.

The result was a Square Shoulder which blended the powerful projection of sound, equated with Gibson's Super Jumbos, and the lovable personality and beauty of the ever-popular Hummingbird.

Gibson Square Shoulder acoustics prove that a fine acoustic instrument can transcend the ordinary with superior sound, playability, and visual splendor. Gibsons in general have become the choice for those who truly wish to express their individuality, and their love and appreciation of fine art.



The Gibson Dove.

Hummingbird Square Shoulder Line

There are seven Gibson Square Shoulder models, two of which are Custom Shop models. See the Custom Shop section on page 17 for information on the Hummingbird Custom and the Doves in Flight Custom models.

Songwriter.

Designed for the working musician who demands a superior sound at an affordable price. Antique Walnut finish.



Songwriter Deluxe.*

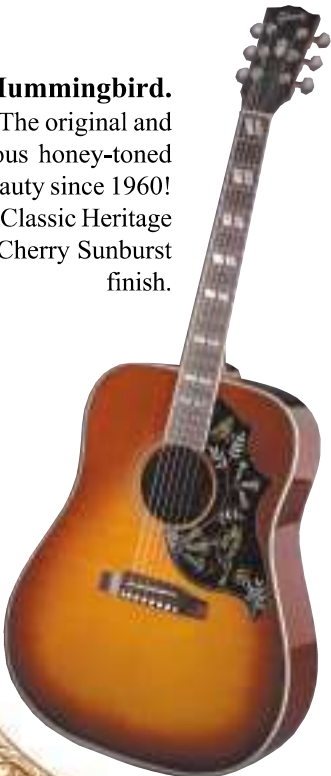
Superior performance model with rosewood back and sides and an active transducer pickup. Antique Natural finish.



*Optional Cutaway

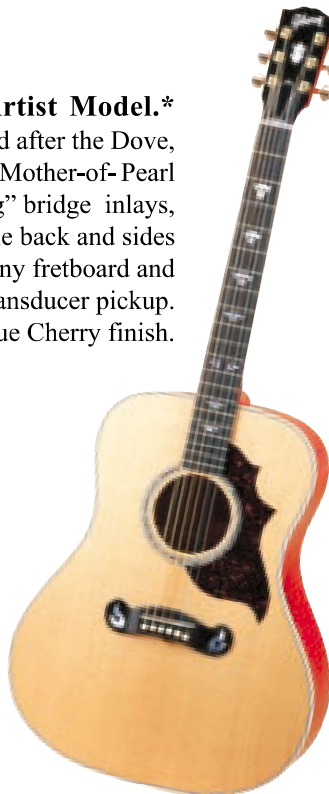
Hummingbird.

The original and famous honey-toned beauty since 1960! Classic Heritage Cherry Sunburst finish.



Dove Artist Model.*

Designed after the Dove, with Mother-of-Pearl "wing" bridge inlays, maple back and sides, ebony fretboard and active transducer pickup. Antique Cherry finish.



The Dove.

Legendary 1962 model with all of its original details! Antique Cherry finish.





Model	Body Style	Top Wood	Back and Sides	FB & Bridge Wood	Neck Wood	Fretboard Inlay	Other Inlays
J-100 Xtra	Super Jumbo	Solid Spruce	Solid Maple	Rosewood	Mahogany	MOP Crowns	Abalone Rosette
J-150	Super Jumbo	Solid Spruce	Solid Figured Maple	Rosewood	Maple	MOP Crowns	Sggle MOP Bridge Inlay
SJ-200 Reissue	Super Jumbo	Solid Spruce	Solid Flamed Maple	Madagascar Rosewood	Maple	MOP Crowns	Dble MOP Bridge Inlay
J-200 Elite Custom	Super Jumbo	Solid Spruce	Solid Flamed Maple	Ebony	Flamed Maple	Abalone Crowns	Abalone Rosette
Super 200 Custom	Super Jumbo Cutaway	Solid Spruce	Solid Flamed Maple	Ebony	Figured Maple	MOP Split Block	MOP Split Diamond
Western Classic SJ-200	Super Jumbo	Solid Spruce	Solid Rosewood	Ebony	Maple	MOP Blocks	Historic HS Torch
SJ-200 Custom Vine	Super Jumbo	Solid Spruce	Solid Flamed Maple	Ebony	Flamed Maple	Abalone Vine	Abalone Body Trim
Working Man 45	Round Shoulder	Solid Spruce	Solid Mahogany	Morado	Mahogany	MOP Dot	MOP Bridge Dots
J-45	Round Shoulder	Solid Spruce	Solid Mahogany	Rosewood	Mahogany	MOP Dot	MOP Bridge Dots
J-50	Round Shoulder	Solid Spruce	Solid Mahogany	Rosewood	Mahogany	MOP Dot	MOP Bridge Dots
Southern Jumbo	Round Shoulder	Solid Spruce	Solid Mahogany	Rosewood	Mahogany	MOP Parallelogram	MOP Headstock Logo
Advanced Jumbo	Round Shoulder	Solid Spruce	Rosewood	Rosewood	Mahogany	MOP Diamond Arrow	Historic 1930's HS Inlay
J-45 Rosewood	Round Shoulder	Solid Spruce	Solid Rosewood	Ebony	Mahogany	MOP Dot	MOP Headstock Inlay
J-45 Rosewood Custom	Round Shoulder	Solid Spruce	Solid Rosewood	Ebony	Mahogany	MOP Floret	Abalone Body Trim
J-45 Custom Vine	Round Shoulder	Solid Spruce	Solid Rosewood	Ebony	Mahogany	MOP Vine	Abalone Body Trim
Songwriter	Square Shoulder	Solid Spruce	Solid Mahogany	Morado	Mahogany	Pearloid Trapezoid	Sculpted Pickguard & Bridge
Songwriter Deluxe**	Square Shoulder	Solid Spruce	Solid Rosewood	Ebony	Mahogany	MOP Parallelogram	Abalone Rosette
Hummingbird	Square Shoulder	Solid Spruce	Solid Mahogany	Rosewood	Mahogany	MOP Parallelogram	MOP Headstock Inlay
Dove Artist Model**	Square Shoulder	Solid Spruce	Solid Flamed Maple	Ebony	Mahogany	MOP Wings	MOP Bridge Wing Inlay
Dove	Square Shoulder	Solid Spruce	Solid Flamed Maple	Rosewood	Maple	MOP Parallelogram	MOP Bridge Wing Inlay
Hummingbird Custom	Square Shoulder	Solid Spruce	Customer-Selected	Ebony	Mahogany	Abalone Leaves	H'bird Bridge and HS Inlay
Doves In Flight Custom***	Square Shoulder	Solid Spruce	Flamed Maple	Ebony	Maple	MOP Doves In Flight	Doves PG & Bridge Inlay
J-190 Super Fusion	Jumbo Cutaway	Solid Spruce	Solid Flamed Maple	Ebony	Mahogany	MOP Split Block	MOP Split Diamond
J-180	Jumbo	Solid Spruce	Solid Maple	Rosewood	Maple	MOP Stars	MOP Headstock Inlay
J-185****	Jumbo	Solid Spruce	Solid Flamed Maple	Rosewood	Mahogany	MOP Parallelogram	MOP Maltese Cross Inlay
L4-A	Jumbo Cutaway	Solid Spruce	Solid Maple	Rosewood	Maple	MOP Trapezoid	Abalone Rosette
J-185 EC Cutaway	Jumbo Cutaway	Solid Spruce	Flamed Maple	Ebony	Maple	MOP Parallelogram	Abalone Rosette
J-2000 Custom Cutaway	Jumbo Cutaway	Solid Spruce	Customer-Selected	Ebony	Mahogany	Abalone Leaves	Abalone Top Trim
The Blues King	L-Series Small	Solid Spruce	Solid Mahogany	Rosewood	Mahogany	MOP Dots	
L-130	L-Series Small	Solid Spruce	Solid Bubinga	Rosewood	Mahogany	MOP Floret	Abalone Rosette
LC-1 Cascade	L-Series Sm Cutaway	Solid Cedar	Solid Quilted Maple	Rosewood	Mahogany	MOP Dots	MOP HS Inlay
LC-2 Sonoma	L-Series Sm Cutaway	Solid Cedar	Solid Figured Walnut	Ebony	Mahogany	MOP Floret	Abalone Rosette
LC-3 Caldera	L-Series Sm Cutaway	Solid Cedar	Solid Flamed Koa	Ebony	Mahogany	Abalone Leaves	Abalone Rosette
L-140	L-Series Small	Solid Spruce	Solid Rosewood	Ebony	Mahogany	Abalone Wings	Abalone Rosette
Nick Lucas Elite	L-Series Small	Solid Spruce	Solid Flamed Maple	Ebony	Maple	Abalone Lucas Style	Abalone Top Trim
L-150 Custom	L-Series Small	Solid Spruce	Customer-Selected	Ebony	Mahogany	Abalone Leaves	Abalone Top Trim
L-200 Emmylou Harris Model	L-Series Small	Solid Spruce	Solid Flamed Maple	Rosewood	Maple	MOP Crowns	Single Bar MOP Bridge
Dwight Yoakam Y2K	Artist/J-180-J-200Jr.	Solid Spruce	Flamed Maple	Rosewood	Flamed Maple	MOP Crown	MOP Headstock Inlay
Dwight Yoakam Honky Tonk Deuce	Round Shoulder	Solid Spruce	Solid Rosewood	Rosewood	Mahogany	MOP Parallelograms	MOP Headstock Inlay
Sheryl Crow	Square Shoulder	Solid Spruce	Mahogany	Rosewood	Mahogany	MOP Parallelogram	MOP Headstock Inlay

*AN=Antique Natural, AT=Antique Walnut, VS=Vintage Sunburst, HC=Heritage Cherry, HCS=Heritage Cherry Sunburst, AC=Antique Cherry, EB=Ebony

** Also available in Cutaway body style with added onboard controls.

***Nut widths for all instruments but the Dove in Flight Custom are 1 23/32". Nut width for DIF Custom is 1 9/16".

****Also available as a 12-string with flamed maple back and sides.

All specifications subject to change without notice.

Specifications



	Scale	Tuners	Finishes*	Other Features	Recommended Strings	Pickup
	25 1/2"	Gold Keystone	AN	Moustache TM Bridge	Gibson Light or Med Ph-Brz	Active Transducer
ay	25 1/2"	Gold Keystone	AN	Moustache TM Bridge	Gibson Light or Med Ph-Brz	Active Transducer
ays	25 1/2"	Gold Keystone	AN, VS	1950's SJ-200 Replica	Gibson Light or Med Ph-Brz	None
	25 1/2"	Gold Imperials	AN, VS	Dbl AB Bridge Inlays	Gibson Light or Med Ph-Brz	None
HS/PG	25 1/2"	Vintage Gold Imperial	AN, VS	MOP Bridge Inlays, Venetian C-away	Gibson Light or Med Ph-Brz	None
	25 1/2"	Gold Waverly	VS	Custom 1937 Replica	Gibson Light or Med Ph-Brz	None
	25 1/2"	Carved Waverly	AN, VS	Hand Engraved Pickguard	Gibson Light or Med Ph-Brz	None
	24 3/4"	Gold Kidney	AT	Gloss Lacquer Finish	Gibson Light Ph-Brz	None
	24 3/4"	Nickel w/White Buttons	VS	Historic Belly Bridge	Gibson Light or Med Ph-Brz	Active Transducer
	24 3/4"	Nickel w/White Buttons	AN	Historic Belly Bridge	Gibson Light or Med Ph-Brz	Active Transducer
	24 3/4"	Nickel w/White Buttons	VS	Bound Fingerboard	Gibson Light or Med Ph-Brz	None
lays	25 1/2"	Vintage Nickel	AN, VS	1930's Top Bracing	Gibson Light or Med Ph-Brz	None
y	24 3/4"	Gold Kidney	AN, VS	Historic Belly Bridge	Gibson Light or Med Ph-Brz	Active Transducer
	24 3/4"	Gold Kidney	AN, VS	Abalone Rosette	Gibson Light or Med Ph-Brz	None
	24 3/4"	Hand-carved Gold	AN, VS	Abalone Rosette	Gibson Light or Med Ph-Brz	None
& Bridge	25 1/2"	Gold Kidney	AT	All Gloss Finish	Gibson Light Ph-Brz	None
	25 1/2"	Gold Kidney	AN	Sculpted Pickguard & Bridge	Gibson Light Ph-Brz	Active Transducer
y	24 3/4"	Nickel Kidney	HCS	Hummingbird Pickguard	Gibson Light Ph-Brz	None
ays	25 1/2"	Gold Kidney	AC	Abalone Rosette	Gibson Light Ph-Brz	Active Transducer
ays	25 1/2"	Nickel Keystone	AC	Inlaid Dove Pickguard	Gibson Light Ph-Brz	None
S Inlays	24 3/4"	Hand-carved Gold	AN, HCS	Abalone Top Trim	Gibson Light Ph-Brz	None
lays	25 1/2"	Hand-carved Gold	AC	Abalone Top Trim	Gibson Light Ph-Brz	None
HS Inlay	24 3/4"	Gold Keystone	AN, VS	Toggle Switch, Vol/Tone Controls	Gibson Medium Light Nkl Wound	Act. Trans.& Single Coil
ys	24 3/4"	Nickel Keystone	EB	Dual Everly Pickguards	Gibson Light Ph-Brz	None
lays	24 3/4"	Nickel Keystone	AN, VS	Late '50's Style Pickguard	Gibson Light Ph-Brz	None
	24 3/4"	Gold Kidney	AT, VS & Select Multi colors	Sculpted PG & Bridge	Gibson Light Ph-Brz	Pickup & Controls
	24 3/4"	Gold Kidney	AN, VS	Sculpted PG & Bridge	Gibson Light Ph-Brz	Pickup & Controls
	25 1/2"	Gold Keystone	AN	Abalone Headstock Inlay	Gibson Light Ph-Brz	None
	25 1/2"	Nickel	AT, VS & Ebony	Customized Gigbag Case	Gibson Light Ph-Brz	None
	24 3/4"	Gold Kidney	AN	Sculpted PG & Bridge	Gibson Light Ph-Brz	Active Transducer
	24 3/4"	Gold Vintage	AN, VS	Special Thin Body & Advance 00 Bracing	Gibson Light Ph-Brz	Schertler Bluestick
	24 3/4"	Gold Vintage	AN, VS	Special Thin Body & Advance 00 Bracing	Gibson Light Ph-Brz	Schertler Bluestick
	24 3/4"	Gold Vintage	AN, VS	Special Thin Body & Advance 00 Bracing	Gibson Light Ph-Brz	Schertler Bluestick
	24 3/4"	Gold Kidney	AN	Sculpted PG & Bridge	Gibson Light Ph-Brz	Active Transducer
	24 3/4"	Gold Vintage	AN, VS	Abalone Rosette	Gibson Light Ph-Brz	None
	24 3/4"	Gold Kidney	AN	Abalone Rosette	Gibson Light Ph-Brz	Active Transducer
ge Inlays	24 3/4"	Gold Keystone	AN, VS	Special Thin Body, Signed Label	Gibson Light Ph-Brz	Schertler Bluestick
y	25 1/2"	Gold Keystone	AN	Moustache TM Bridge, Signed LE Label	Gibson Light Ph-Brz	None
y	24 3/4"	Nickel Keystone	AN, VS	Belly Bridge, Signed Lim. Ed. Label Inlaid MOP Dice	Gibson Light or Med Ph-Brz	None
y	24 3/4"	Nickel w/White Buttons	AN top, HC B/S	Signed Lim. Ed. Label, Distinctive PG	Gibson Light Ph-Brz	Active Transducer



Meet the Master Builders

No machine could ever produce the equivalent of a Stradivarius violin, and similarly, no machine could create the exquisite tone, feel, and visual beauty of a Gibson Acoustic. The very essence of a fine Gibson instrument comes directly from the skillful hands of the artisans who make them, and no two instruments are alike. The creation comes full circle when the instrument is played, and the personalities of it and the individual blend to form a unique musical expression.

Our builders respect this relationship between individual and instrument. We'd like to introduce a few of them to you here, and tell you just how they created that inspirational tone, feel and appearance that make up the Gibson Acoustic experience.

► Pictured in a moment of concentration, **Dana Baker** is bending and gluing a binding that is delicately formed to fit around a headstock veneer. Each guitar bears a distinctive headstock design, right down to style of inlay that proudly proclaims the guitar a Gibson.



◄ Each Gibson acoustic bridge is a fine work of art in and of itself. To create this important element of a Gibson acoustic, builder **Loren Jones** shapes each guitar bridge by hand, including Gibson's famous Moustache® bridge. All Mother-of-Pearl inlays used for these bridges are hand-selected by Loren.



◄ Gibson Acoustics are finished with traditional Nitrocellulose Lacquer, which is applied with techniques used by past generations of Gibson builders. With over 12 years of experience, **Van Feldner** has become the master of guitar finishing. His touch in creating Gibson sunbursts has earned acclaim around the

world due to the superior beauty and distinction of his work.

► Specializing in the final set-up of acoustics, **Annie Masters** will polish the fretboards, hand fit a bridge saddle, insert tuning machines, and string up and test an acoustic. The final touches of each instrument come down to the very shine of the finish. Annie is one of our best.



Check Out Our Website!

To learn more about our guitars and how we make them, take a look at the Gibson Acoustics website. Just type the following address in your Web browser: <http://www.gibson.com/acoustics>, and follow the on-screen instructions. You can get back to the Gibson home page from the Montana page at any time. We try to update the site regularly, so you can check it for new products periodically.

The Artist Models

Gibson and Emmylou Harris introduce the L-200 travel/performance guitar

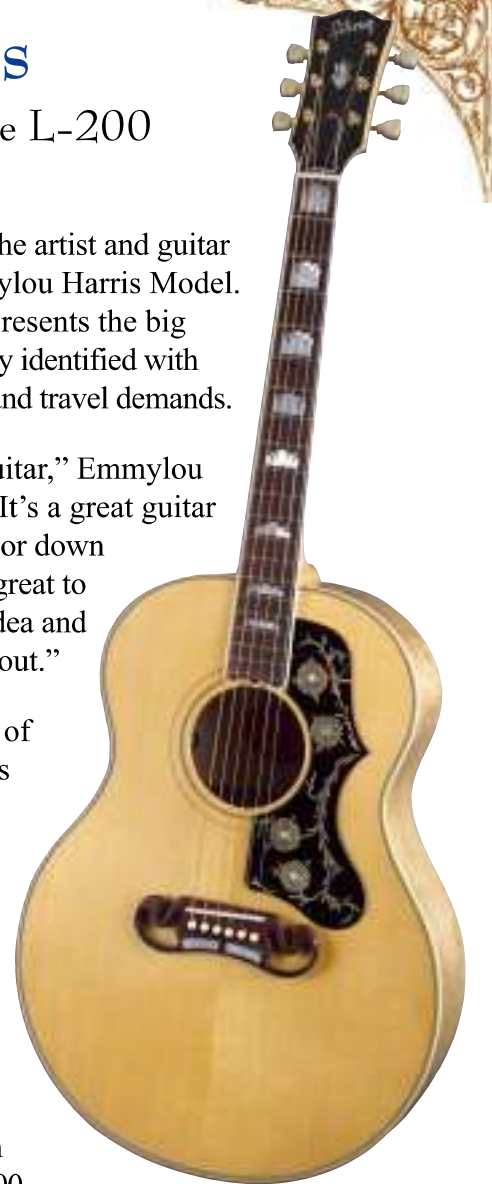
Emmylou Harris and Gibson have had a longstanding mutual admiration, and the artist and guitar company have now formally joined forces to create the Gibson L-200 Emmylou Harris Model. Produced by Gibson Montana, the company's acoustic division, the L-200 presents the big sound and classy look of Gibson's SJ-200 – the model Emmylou has been so closely identified with throughout her career – in a smaller package designed to meet an artist's performance and travel demands.



Emmylou is presented with her L-200 in her music, and we're excited to be her partner as she continues to make great music in the years to come."

"I love the size of this guitar," Emmylou said of her new model. "It's a great guitar to have in your bedroom or down in your music room. It's great to grab when you have an idea and want to work something out."

"Emmylou Harris is one of the most important artists of our time," said Henry Juskiewicz, chairman and CEO of Gibson Guitar Corp. "We're proud of the role Gibsons have played



The L-200 Emmylou Harris Model

Emmylou's association with Gibson dates back to her duets in the early 1970s with country-rock pioneer Gram Parsons, whose 1960s J-200 she still owns. Her black J-200 with a red rose custom-inlaid in the top graced the cover of her 1979 album *Blue Kentucky Girl* and her custom-painted pink J-200 captured the essence of her 1985 album *The Ballad of Sally Rose*.

The Gibson L-200 Emmylou Harris model features a newly designed body that is smaller and thinner than the SJ-200 but braced to produce a powerful natural sound and equipped with a Schertler Bluestick® transducer pickup system for concert performances. Classic features from the SJ-200 include flamed maple back and sides, mother-of-pearl "crest" fingerboard inlays, pearl-inlaid Moustache® bridge and engraved pickguard.

Gibson's SJ-200's distinctive body shape and styling has made it an icon for artists who make a strong statement visually as well as musically – from Pete Townshend and Ron Wood to Bob Dylan and the Backstreet Boys. Introduced as the Super Jumbo in 1937, it was originally a favorite of cowboy movie stars, such as Gene Autry and Tex Ritter. Its widespread popularity today has earned it the nickname "The King of the Flat Tops."

For more information on the L-200 and Gibson Acoustic's entire Super Jumbo line, please visit www.gibson.com/acoustics.



The L-200 and its larger cousin, the SJ-200

J-180 Jumbo Line

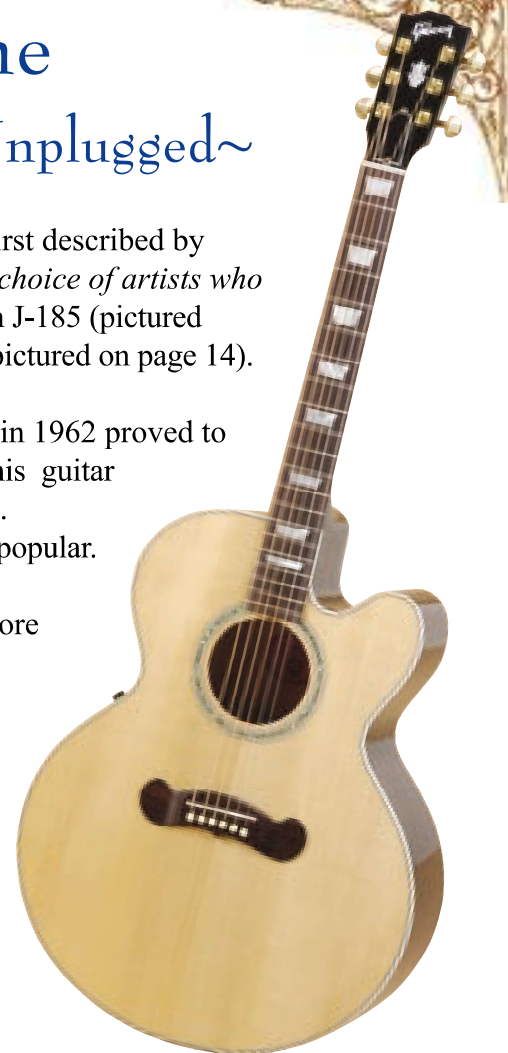
~The Perfect Balance—Plugged or Unplugged~

The J-180 Jumbo Line models are based on an original 1950s body design first described by Gibson as “a similar body shape to the somewhat larger J-200” and “the choice of artists who prefer a more compact instrument.” This design first appeared as the Gibson J-185 (pictured below left), and later found its greatest fame in the highly distinctive J-180 model (pictured on page 14).

The release of the famous Everly Brothers model (otherwise known as the J-180) in 1962 proved to the public that this new Gibson Jumbo was a superb stage performance acoustic. This guitar is unmistakable to the eye with its eleven Mother-of-Pearl stars and dual pickguards. Although this model has appeared in a number of finishes, the ebony finish is most popular.

In the late 1990s, Gibson began expanding the Jumbo line to include cutaways, more sophisticated electronics and, on the new L-4A, a wider variety of finish colors.

Artists have praised the Jumbos for the incredible balance between their low, midrange and high frequencies—a quality that has made the Jumbos ideal for rhythm guitar and great for studio recording.



L-4A



The Gibson J-185.

Heir to the Throne

The J-185 was originally released in 1951 as a slightly smaller and simpler version of Gibson’s “King of the Flat-tops,” the SJ-200. The predecessor to the more famous Everly Model, the J-185 was never highly promoted, and became one of Gibson’s best kept secrets in comparison to the celebrity status of many of Gibson’s famous acoustic guitars.

However, today’s discriminating musicians pursue this model for its unparalleled tonal balance. This balance is why J-180 Jumbo acoustics are the most versatile acoustics ever. They can deliver a superior acoustic-electric sound, while still being fully capable of delivering an unamplified acoustic concert with the unmistakable sound of a handmade Gibson Acoustic.

The J-185 is now most commonly seen in its Antique Natural and Vintage Sunburst finishes. The most identifiable feature of the J-185 is its Mother-of-Pearl maltese crosses, inlaid on each wing of its bridge.

J-180 Jumbo Line

There are currently six J-180 Jumbo Line models available, two of which are cutaway acoustic-electrics with onboard preamp controls. A third cutaway model, the J-190 Super Fusion, has a special pickup system described below. See the Custom Shop section on page 18 for information on the J-2000 Custom.

J-190 Super Fusion.

Designed for players needing both acoustic and electric capabilities, this model features both an under-the-saddle transducer pickup and an electric single coil pickup. The perfect guitar for the whole gig!



J-180.

The “one-and-only” with its distinctive Mother-of-Pearl star inlays and dual pickguards.



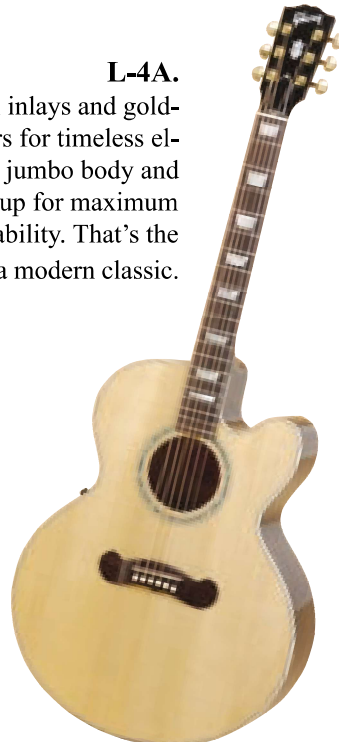
J-185.

Traditional 1950's model with its Maltese cross bridge wing inlays.



L-4A.

Mother-of-pearl inlays and gold-plated tuners for timeless elegance, cutaway jumbo body and transducer pickup for maximum performance capability. That's the L-4A – a modern classic.



J-185 EC Cutaway.

The world's most premium acoustic-electric with onboard controls. Made with hand-selected woods!



L-Series Small Body Line

~For Home, Studio, or Stage~

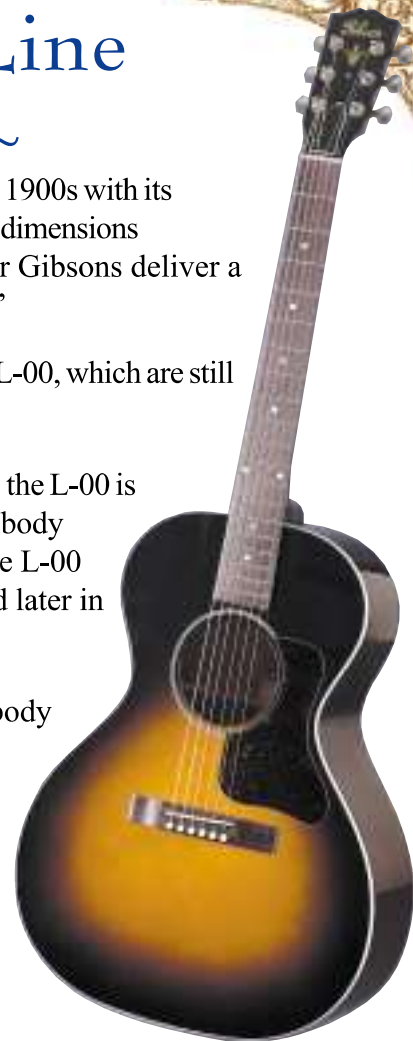
Gibson was a pioneer in the development of small body guitars at the beginning of the 1900s with its “L-Series Small Body” acoustics. The distinguishing elements of the L-Series guitar dimensions were their 10 1/4" upper bout, 14 3/4" lower bout, and 8 1/4" waist. These smaller Gibsons deliver a tonality that is best described in Gibson’s 1934 catalog as a sound of “perfect balance.”

Today, Gibson aficionados still cherish the famous L-Series acoustics, including the L-1 and L-00, which are still in use by today’s blues and fingerstyle players.

The L-00 (pictured right) was first released around 1929. Although simple in its appearance, the L-00 is popular for its vintage charm and its vibrant and balanced tonality. Note its 14th-fret-to-body design, and its classic Vintage Sunburst lacquer finish. It is also important to note that the L-00 originally was offered in an ebony finish, as well as a natural top finish that was released later in the 1940s.

In 1999, Gibson added a new dimension to the L-Series by creating a modified small body that has a tone and dynamic range that you will not believe until you hear it firsthand. The new design increases the air volume inside the body but reduces the bracing mass to achieve a wider range of tonality from the top wood. This Advanced L-00 body is featured on the L-130, L-140 and the new LC Series of acoustic/electric cutaways.

Never before has a small-body offered such a giant sound, excellent playability and distinctive beauty, all in one package. Gibson L-Series Small Body Acoustics, while achieving all the advantages of an acoustic that is comfortable to play in your home, still produce Gibson’s rich, full sound. The L-Series models each display a dynamic range and balance that would impress any professional sound and recording engineer.



The L-00.

The World's First Artist Model

In 1928, Gibson created the world’s very first artist guitar, the Nick Lucas Model.

Gibson enhanced this small-body acoustic by designing the Nick Lucas with added body depth for increased tonal projection and bottom end. In addition, the Nick Lucas Model was quite customized with its flamed maple body, multiple body binding, bound fingerboard with classic Mother-of-Pearl fretboard inlays (no two inlays are alike), traditional fleur-de-lis headstock inlay and firestripe pickguard. This guitar was considered the fanciest of the L-series Small Bodies in the early 1900s, and is still popular today for its early American charm and its full, balanced sound.

The Nick Lucas is currently only available through the Gibson Acoustic Custom Shop. It continues to be a favorite of artists around the world.

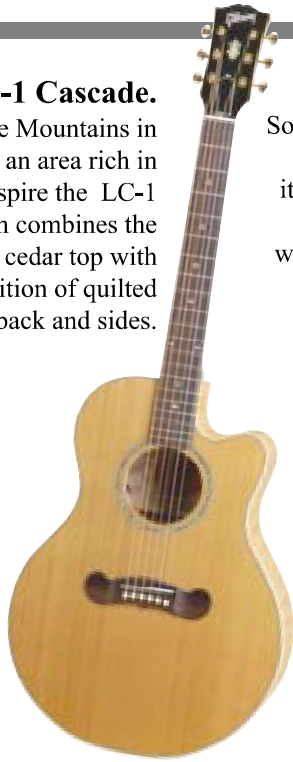
The Nick Lucas Custom.

L-Series Small Body Line

The Gibson L-Series Small Body Line offers six distinctive acoustics. Some are reissues of early Gibson small-bodies, and others bear a new Advanced body design for extended tonal range and volume.

LC-1 Cascade.

The Cascade Mountains in Washington State, an area rich in maple trees, inspire the LC-1 Cascade, which combines the warm sound of a cedar top with the clean definition of quilted maple back and sides.



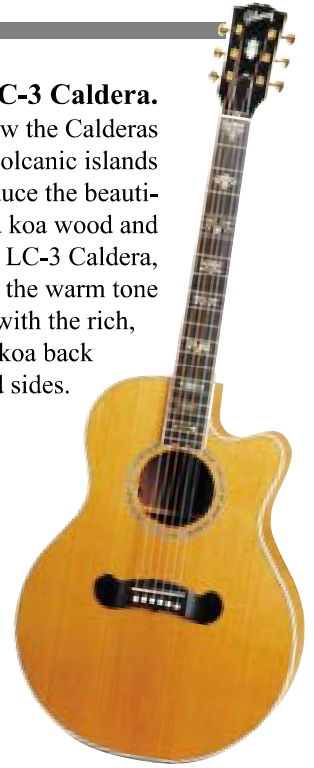
LC-2 Sonoma.

Sonoma County is known for its wine and its walnut trees, and it's the inspiration for the LC-2 Sonoma, which combines the warm sound of a cedar top with the deep, traditional tone of walnut back and sides.



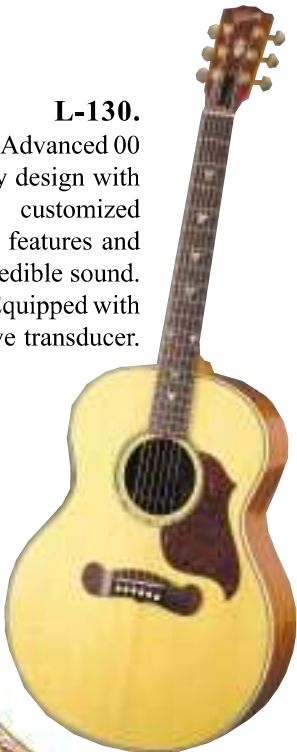
LC-3 Caldera.

The slopes below the Calderas (craters) of the volcanic islands of Hawaii produce the beautifully grained koa wood and have inspired the LC-3 Caldera, which combines the warm tone of a cedar top with the rich, resonance of koa back and sides.



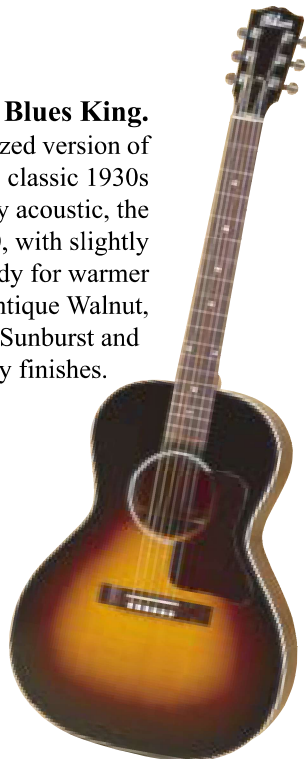
L-130.

New Advanced 00 body design with customized features and incredible sound. Equipped with active transducer.



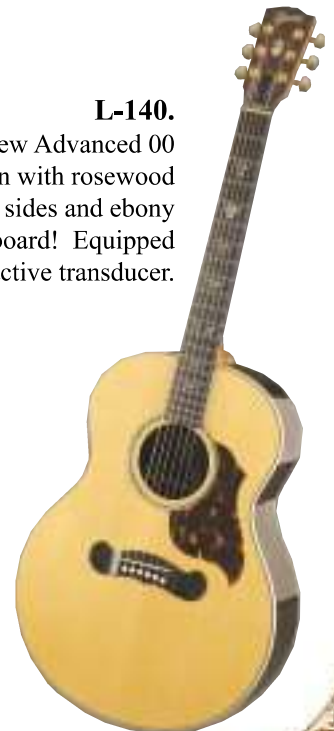
The Blues King.

A modernized version of Gibson's classic 1930s smallbody acoustic, the L-00, with slightly thinner body for warmer tone. Antique Walnut, Vintage Sunburst and Ebony finishes.



L-140.

Elegant new Advanced 00 body design with rosewood back and sides and ebony fingerboard! Equipped with active transducer.



Gibson Acoustics Custom Shop

The Gibson Acoustic Custom Shop is led by Master Luthier Ren Ferguson and staffed by Gibson's finest builders.

Since this Custom Shop began in the early 1990s, Gibson Custom Shop Acoustics have been featured in books and magazines throughout the world.



▲ Ren Ferguson inspects a top.

In 1999, the Gibson Montana Division began offering an original line of Custom Shop Acoustics, each with some optional details chosen by the customer, in the widest price range ever before offered for these "One-of-a Kind" Art Guitars.

To inquire about ordering a special Gibson Custom Shop Acoustic, see your nearest authorized Gibson Acoustic dealer, or call 1-406-587-4117 and request "Custom Shop Sales."



▲ Val Bolitho marks the placement of a brace on a Custom Shop instrument.



◀ Designed by Master Luthier Ren Ferguson, the *New Doves In Flight Custom* bears 28 individually engraved Doves, each an original design unto itself. ▶



◀ Adorned by magnificent hummingbird inlays, each *Hummingbird Custom* is created with elaborate gold tuners. ▶

▶ Reminiscent of the Gibson Super 400 archtop, the **Super 200 Cutaway Custom** features a similar split block inlay, and the same playing comfort of Gibson's historic hollowbody jazz guitars.



Gibson Acoustics Custom Shop



▲ Mike Bakeberg applies binding on a Custom cutaway.



◀ Fit for true royalty, the **J-250 Monarch** is embellished with hundreds of hand carved pieces of mother of pearl and abalone, and is highlighted with a Brazilian rosewood back and sides.



◀ ▲ The **J-200 Custom Vine** is a Custom Shop masterpiece, with elaborate vine inlays. Antique Natural or Vintage Sunburst finish.



◀ A beautiful small jumbo cutaway with abalone trimmed top and rosette, the **J-2000** features abalone “autumn leaf” fretboard, bridge and headstock inlay, and customer-selected back and side wood.



◀ The ultimate round shoulder, the **J-45 Custom Vine** is created with customer-selected back woods, and hand-carved gold tuners. ▶





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Address correction requested