

Basic Detail Report



Electric banjoline

Date

1957 ca.

Primary Maker

Vega Company

Description

At the behest of his friends Les Paul and Alvin Rey, Eddie Peabody went electric with this custom made Vega banjoline. The instrument was used extensively in Peabody's tours and recordings in the late 1950s through 1960s, most famously in his Smoothies records. Stringing: six steel strings Pickups: two single-coil pickups with individual pole pieces [adapted for four pole pieces from standard guitar pickup] and white plastic covers; volume and tone potentiometers with clear knobs, and three-way switch with black chicken-beak knob Body: mahogany two cutaways and contouring on the back and along edges; clear plexiglass plate backed with gold and silver sparkle

finish over body cavity on front secured with two dome-headed philips' head screws Head: maple with mahogany center stripe; face finished in black gloss; black plastic truss rod cover secured to head face with three chrome-plated steel Philips' head screws Neck: maple with mahogany center stripe; integral with head Binding: ivory celluloid along top edge Fretboard: ebony with ivory celluloid binding and 23 nickel-silver frets; mother-of-pearl rectangles with rounded corners behind 3rd, 7th, and 12th frets, single mother-of-pearl dots behind 5th, 10th, and 17th frets; double mother-of-pearl dots behind 22nd fret; black plastic side dots behind, 3rd, 5th, 7th, 10th, 12th, 17th, 19th, and 22st frets Nut: white bone Bridge: brass with rosewood saddle on nickel-plated brass screw adjusters Tailpiece: nickel-plated steel and chrome-plated steel Vib-rola Tuners: six individual planetary banjo tuners with nickel-plated steel covers and ivory plastic heads Pickguard: clear plexiglass plate backed with gold and silver sparkle secured with two domed, slot-head screws; raised over body cavity plate Strap buttons: steel on upper body; ivory plastic on end Finish: metallic gold on top; gold-to-red-brown sunburst on back, sides, neck, and head Jack plug: mounted on lower bass side; clear tan celluloid surround

Dimensions

Total guitar length: 1018 mm Back length: 420 mm Upper bout width: 223 mm Waist width: 182 mm Lower bout width: 332 mm Side height (including edging) at heel: 45 mm Side height, at center: 45 mm

Side height, at end: 45 mm Head length: 156 mm Head width, top: 74 mm Head width, bottom: 66 mm
Neck length (nut to body): 487 mm Neck width, nut: 29 mm Neck width, body joint: 42 mm Vibrating string
length (nut to bridge edge): 681 mm at high string; 686 mm at low string