

to Vintage Guitars

An Identification Guide for American Fretted Instruments



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2ND EDITION—UPDATED AND EXPANDED

Electric and Acoustic Guitars Amps Bases Banjos Mandolins

GIBSON

LES PAULS, SCS AND MELODY MAKERS

Generation Swine SG Special: promotional guitars for Motley Crue's *Generation Swine* CD and tour, ebony finish, red pickguard with "Generation Swine" logo, 5 guitars given away at Guitar Center stores and 1 given away nationally: **mid 1997**

SG Pro: replaces SG Special, 2 black soapbar P-90 pickups with mounting rings, semi-circular control plate, wing-shaped pickguard (Les Paul Standard-style) fastened directly onto top, tune-o-matic bridge in large rectangular housing, Gibson Bigsby vibrato, single-bound rosewood fingerboard, dot inlay, pearl logo, cherry, walnut or natural mahogany finish
Introduced: **late 1971**
Discontinued (SG Special reintroduced) **1972**
25 shipped: **1973-74**

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SG Special 400: 400-series electronics, 1 Dirty Fingers humbucking pickup and 2 single-coil pickups, master tone and master volume knob, 3 mini-switches for on/off pickup control, push/pull volume control for coil tap, vibrato, bound rosewood fingerboard, dot inlay, black hardware
Available as special order SG Special: **1985**
Introduced as **SG 400**, ebony, Ferrari red or pewter finish: **1986**
Discontinued: **1987**

Misc. SG MODELS

SG Studio: similar to SG Special Reissue of 1985, 2 humbucking pickups, 3 knobs, 1 toggle switch, no pickguard, dot inlay, some with satin finish
Available: **1978 only**

SG Exclusive: 2 humbucking pickups with or without covers, coil tap controlled by rotary knob (volume knob on standard SG), white pickguard, bound rosewood fingerboard, block inlay, pearl logo, crown peghead inlay, ebony finish
Available: **1979**

SG-R1/Artist: thicker body than standard SG, active solid-state electronics, 4 knobs (2 numbered 0-5-0), 3-way toggle, 2-way toggle, no pickguard, unbound ebony fingerboard, dot inlay, crown peghead inlay
Introduced as **SG-R1: 1980**

SG Elite: mahogany body, 2 Spotlight humbucking pickups, coil-tap switch, tune-o-matic bridge, TP-5 fine-tune tailpiece, 24 3/4" scale, bound ebony fingerboard, block inlay, locking nut, crown peghead inlay, gold-plated hardware, pearl white or metallic sunset finish
Available: **1987-89**

SG 90 Single: 1 humbucking pickup with black cover, pearloid pickguard, strings mounted through body, Floyd Rose vibrato optional, unbound ebony fingerboard, 25 1/2" scale, 2-piece split-diamond inlay, crown peghead inlay, pearl logo, Alpine white metallic turquoise, or heritage cherry finish

SG 90 Double: 1 oblong single-coil pickup mounted diagonally in neck position, 1 black-covered humbucking pickup in bridge position, 2 knobs, push/pull for coil tap, selector switch between knobs, pearloid pickguard surrounds neck pickup
Available: **1988-90**

Les Paul '63 Corvette Sting Ray: top carved to resemble back split-window of 1963 Chevrolet Corvette Stingray, maple body and neck, 1 humbucking pickup with no polepieces, ebony fingerboard, *Sting Ray* inlay, crossed racing flags on peghead, nickel-plated hardware, Riverside red, silver or black finish
Available: **late 1995-97**

SG Deluxe: (also see earlier style) 3 Firebird-style humbucking pickups with no polepieces, 2 knobs, 6-way rotary selector switch, pearloid pickguard, unbound rosewood fingerboard, dot inlay, decal logo, chrome-plated hardware, ebony, ice blue or hellfire red finish
Introduced: **1998**
Ebony fingerboard, small block inlay, Maestro (Bigsby style) vibrato: **early 1999**

SG-Z: 1 stacked-coil and 1 standard humbucking pickup, 2 knobs, selector switch between knobs, tune-o-matic bridge, Z-shaped tailpiece with strips through body, small pickguard, bound rosewood fingerboard, split-diamond inlay, 3-piece reverse-Z