

# Floyd Rose Redmond Model 2

## Reconciling Comfort and Speed

By Douglas Baldwin

Since its introduction in 1977, the Floyd Rose tremolo system has become a vital part of contemporary music. Yet while virtuosos like Eddie Van Halen and Steve Vai have proved the value of its expressiveness, many a common guitarist has shied away from the system's complex hardware, which has been known to necessitate hour-long string-changing sessions. The new Speedloader system—a redesigned tremolo system fit with specially constructed strings—tackles the dilemma head on, and this Floyd Rose Redmond series guitar is a fine vehicle for the system's introduction.

“Throwing out the hardware and doing it right.”

“Throw out the hardware/Let’s do it right.”

The change in hardware has not at all compromised the mystic Floyd Rose mojo. You can still take a conservative, jazz-flavored chord progression and turn it into Silly Putty, as in the figure below, or you can color your shred solos with wang-bar warbles and UFO-like oscillations. The new design and construction of the tremolo are excellent, with no sharp edges or protruding fine tuners to rip your hands apart mid-gig. In short, the Speedloader is everything the old Floyd Rose system was and—in a good way—less.

**REAL GUITAR INCLUDED!**

The Speedloader’s advantage over the Steinberger system (which employs a similar double-ball string approach) is that it feels more like a conventional guitar. This feeling is enhanced by the Model 2’s slim, matte-finished, oval-contoured neck. You might, however, have hoped for a little more eye candy than the plain-figured maple and three-piece ash body (reviewed). A textbook setup, complete with jumbo frets finished with a Gibson-esque squared crown, made for a superb overall playing experience. The Redmond Model 2 has a bright acoustic tone that is enhanced by the remarkably clean Floyd Rose Vintage series pickups. Full-bodied, chime-friendly, and featuring very distinct personalities, these sweet pickups are the icing on an already tasty cake.

**CONTACT** Floyd Rose, 425-861-7089, [floydrose.com](http://floydrose.com)



**Track 52**

Moderately

Cmaj7 F#m7 Em7 A7#5 Dm9 G7#5 Cmaj7

we'll see throughout

TAB

**GEAR BOX FEATURES** **BODY** Three-piece swamp ash (poplar also available) **NECK** Bolt-on rock maple with rosewood fretboard, 22 jumbo frets, 25-1/2" scale length, 165" nut width **CONTROLS** Single master volume, three-position pickup selector **PICKUPS** Floyd Rose Vintage **HARDWARE** Black Speedloader tremolo system, black straplock system **FINISHES** Black, white, transparent red, transparent blue **PRICE** \$2,400 with case, strings, and straplock