

Headstock repair –

I hope you are spared ever having an instrument you value rendered unplayable by a headstock break. However, if you do experience this, take heart. In most cases the break can be repaired and the instrument restored to its former glory. The first example is a beautiful Fender Stratocaster. It fell victim to being in the wrong place at the wrong time. The transition from the safety of a guitar stand to lying on the floor in pieces occurred in an instant. Fortunately, the owner carefully collected all the pieces and brought them to the shop for assessment. A little TLC, glue and finish restoration returned the instrument to active duty.

Fender Stratocaster



The damage



After Repair

The second example shows an all-to-common Gibson neck break. Again, this guitar was accidentally knocked off a stand. The low profile that gives a Gibson neck such great feel in your hand leaves it susceptible to this kind of damage. The pictures show the “before” and “after-repair” condition of the guitar.

Gibson Les Paul Studio



The damage (“clean” primary break plus a nearly-invisible hair-line crack)



After Repair (visual impact minimized; playability restored)