

G7TH PERFORMANCE 3 GUITAR CAPO | Mitch Bohannon



KEY FEATURES

- Adjusts to specific fretboard
- Easily used on multiple guitars
 - Sleek Design
 - G7th locking mechanism

What is the fretboard radius of your guitar? Is it 10" or 12"? How about 16"? Possibly, like me, you may not even know. Wouldn't it be great to have a guitar capo that actually fit according to your guitars fret board radius? For all these years, guitar players have been stuck with "close enough" which means that in order to properly hold down the heavier guitar strings, the capo tension would often be too tight for the lighter strings. Having unbalanced tension with a capo will create serious tuning issues.

I was surprised to see a new release at the NAMM show: G7th has developed a new capo design with what they are calling ART (Adaptive Radius Technology). The new Performance 3 capo with ART is truly the next generation of guitar capos and one of the biggest advancements in decades. The technology behind ART consists of a new active string pad with sliding cams underneath that mechanically adapt to match your guitar geometry perfectly.

What's the fretboard difference? Often acoustic guitars have fret board radius' of 10", 12", 14", or even 16". Electric guitars most often have fret board radius somewhere between 9" and 14". Classical guitars will have most often a flat fret board. To explain, the lower measurement for the radius (10"), the more curved the fret board is. The more curved the fret board, the more comfortable it may be to your hand when playing, but the more difficult it has been to use a capo.

So how does this ART really work? At the NAMM show, G7th had a giant model of the new capo that allowed us to see the inside ART mechanism (pictured). Behind the string pad, there are sliding cams that automatically adjust as the capo pressure is applied. This is what



ensures the perfect fit against your fretboard. As you begin applying pressure, the center of the capo will touch the highest part of the fretboard first, between the 3rd and 4th strings. As pressure continues to be applied, the cams will begin to slide outward to level the string pad against the curvature of the fret board. Once in place, the capo will have even pressure across all six strings. When I saw the mechanics of the cams in the see-through capo, my first thought was to compare it to how some large home appliances are leveled - you tilt the appliance forward and as you lower the back, the back legs adjust to the level of the floor. This makes sense to me!

This Performance 3 capo will be useful equally on electric guitars as it is on acoustic and classical guitars. The capo still has the same award winning G7th tension control that is on their Performance 2 capos. It is an easy on, easy off trigger design that is simple to operate with one hand and stays sleek and low profile against the guitar neck. With a simple squeeze between the front and back to apply pressure,

the capo will lock in place and hold its tension.

In the video, I tried the capo on four guitars: a Gibson J150, a McPherson Touring, a Fender Stratocaster, and a Fender Telecaster. The Performance 3 capo performed perfectly on all four guitars. There was no fret buzz and the guitars stayed in tune. I'm really pleased with the Performance 3. It's just the slightest bit wider than the Performance 2, I'm sure because of the ART components inside. If you're looking for something sleek that will work on every guitar you own, check this one out.



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