

CBS Era Stratocasters

The often derided CBS era produced some very good guitars although at times there were some quality control issues with some poor ones being made also. It was also the era which started production in Japan and gave us the first "vintage reissues". They at least deserve credit for that.

There were 5 standard Stratocasters with several special editions of them. These are:

Model	Special Editions
Stratocaster CBS 60s 1965-71	None
Stratocaster 1971-1981	Rhinestone, Antigua, 25 th Anniv and International colour
"Strat" 1980-83	Gold/Gold and Walnut
Standard V1 81-83	
Standard V2	Bowling Ball or Marble

Stratocaster CBS 60s

1965-71

Headstock	Large 1 string tree with Truss R A at body end
Logo	Thicker logo on headstock gold with black outline. Later solid black thick logo (CBS logo)
Pickguard	White 11 Screw Laminated Plastic White Controls (tortoiseshell p/g available until 1967)
Bridge	6 pivot/vibrato unit or 6 saddle small bridge with through body stringing
Neckplate	4 bolt with backward F logo stamped on
Neck	Maple with Rosewood fingerboard or Maple with Maple fingerboard 67-69 Fretted Maple 69-71 21 frets
Body	Sunburst or Colours
PUPs	3 White 6 polepiece 3 way selector
Notes	Some examples with small headstock and others with bound neck



1966 Strats



1968



1969 headstock black logo



1966 with bound neck

Stratocaster

1979 to 1981

Headstock	Large 2 string trees with Bullet Truss R A
Logo	Solid black thick logo (CBS logo)
Pickguard	1971-75 and 1981 White and 1975-81 Black 11 Screw Laminated Plastic controls to match
Bridge	6 pivot/vibrato unit or 6 saddle small bridge with through body stringing
Neckplate	3 bolt with backward F logo stamped on
Neck	Maple with Rosewood fingerboard or Fretted Maple 21 frets. Skunk stripe at rear
Body	Sunburst or Colours
PUPs	3 White or black as per pickguard 6 polepiece 3 way selector 5 way from 1977
Notes	Some examples with TRA at body end and 4 bolt neckplate

Special Editions

Rhinestone Stratocaster 1975 as above but with bonded metal and fibreglass body. Relief floral and leaf scroll design inset with Rhinestones. Genuine examples are very rare.

Antigua Stratocaster 1977-79 as table above but with Antigua shaded body and pickguard

25th Anniversary As table above but with Fretted Maple neck with TRA at the body and 4 bolt commemorative neckplate. The body is silver or white with Anniversary written on in black.

International Colour Stratocaster as table but with new colours, white pickguards with black screws controls and pickups





The Strat

1980-83

Headstock	Large but sharper shaped colour to match body 2 string trees Truss R A at body end
Logo	Fender logo gold with black outline STRAT in black in capitals
Pickguard	White laminated with 3 F stamped controls volume tone and 2 way rotary switch
Bridge	6 pivot bridge and vibrato unit
Neckplate	
Neck	Maple with Rosewood fingerboard or Fretted Maple 21 frets.
Body	Red Blue or White
PUPs	3 White 6 polepiece 5 way selector
Notes	Hardware is gold plated brass (some have chrome tuners)

Special Editions

Gold/Gold Stratocaster 81-83 Neck fretted maple only, "STRATOCASTER" logo on headstock, body gold only additional tone control instead of rotary switch gold plated hardware and normal 6 pivot bridge/vibrato unit

Walnut Strat

As table but fretted walnut neck or walnut neck with ebony fingerboard, walnut body, black laminated plastic pickguard and gold plated hardware.

**The Legend.
The Technology.**

smaller head with painted cap and white pick guard. On the inside, a brand new concept in electronics from Fender Research & Development that offers you the traditional biting Stratocaster sound plus...

The music you're growing into.

With the flick of a finger, you switch from the standard Stratocaster model to a nearly unlimited combination of tone, the key sound... You create your own sound using the new pickup combinations in the two high output, dual coil pickups and new super neck 2-1 pickup in the lead position.

The Strat's bridge maximizes string vibrations and sustain. And the vibrato tremolo arm is removable for extra sustain and convenience.

What looks like yesterday, sounds like tomorrow and can help make you a legend in your own time!

It's the Fender Strat. The styling and sound of the legendary Stratocaster, plus a whole new range of tones you've never heard before.

The music you grew up on. It's all here in The Strat. On the outside, the original Stratocaster styling and feel - candy apple red or Lake Placid blue body.

THE STRAT.

Today's legends are already playing the Strat. Right now Frank Zappa and the Blues Brothers are adding new dimensions to their music with The Strat. You can see The Strat at your authorized Fender dealer - or your favorite bandstand. It could be the two most legendary guitars you've ever played.

Fender

Cover of 1980 Fender Catalogue showing The STRAT



Walnut Strat 81/82

Standard

V1 81-83

Headstock	Small 2 string trees with Truss R A at body end
Logo	Solid black logo (CBS logo)
Pickguard	11 hole laminated White or Black
Bridge	6 pivot/vibrato unit or 6 saddle small bridge with through body stringing
Neckplate	4 bolt with backward F logo stamped on
Neck	Maple with Rosewood fingerboard or Fretted Maple 21 frets.
Body	Sunburst or Colours
PUPs	3 White
Notes	



Not sure the neckplate is replacement or some did come like that.



Body presumably stripped and refinished

V2 83-84

This is the 2 control model hence easily spotted

Headstock	Small 2 string trees with Truss R A at headstock
Logo	Silver outlined in black
Pickguard	12 hole White 2 controls and jack socket in body face
Bridge	Redesigned 6 saddle bridge/tailpiece or single pivot bridge/vibrato unit
Neckplate	4 bolt Fender written on back
Neck	Fretted Maple or Maple and Rosewood 21 frets
Body	Sunburst or Colours
PUPs	3 White 6 polepiece
Notes	Also streaked finish versions "Marble or Bowling Bowl Stratocaster"





Various Standard V2 83/84