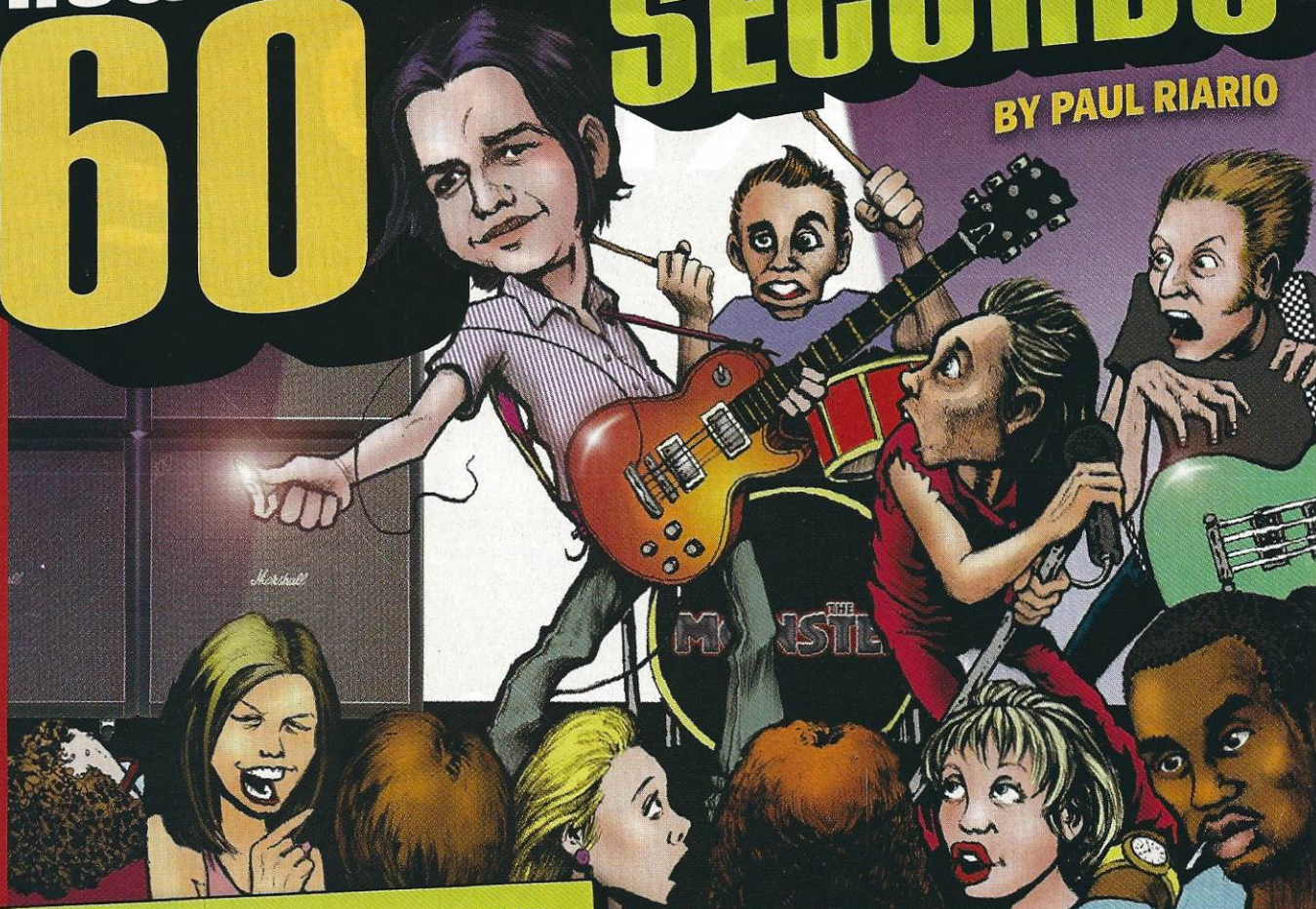


# HOW TO CHANGE A STRING IN 60 SECONDS

BY PAUL RIARIO



**A**FTER YEARS OF SLOGGING IT out in seedy bars, your band has finally scored the chance of a lifetime: an audition with one of the biggest bad-asses in the biz. You and your boys are laying down some killer grooves when, suddenly—*thwack!*—you bust a string, bringing the audition, and your career dreams, to a halt. You have exactly 60 seconds to either restring your ax or pack it in and head back to the loser's lounge. Will you triumph? Of course you will. Here's how, in 12 easy steps.



## THE TOOLS

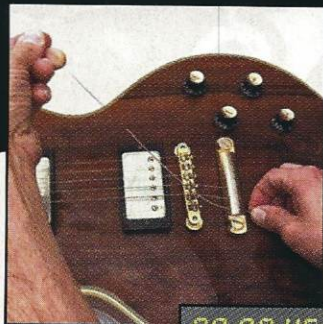
**YOU'LL NEED** a string cutter, peg winder and a guitar support. Counterclockwise from top: Planet Waves Headstand and Pro-Winders, Dunlop Ergo Stringwinder, generic winder.



## STEP 1

**REMOVE THE OLD STRING.** If the string is still attached at either end, slacken it. With the cutting tool, sever the string at the body's midpoint. Remove the string ends.

ILLUSTRATIONS BY ERIK RODRIGUEZ AND JOSH BERNSTEIN



00:00:45

## STEP 2

### THREAD THE NEW STRING.

Feed the new string through the tailpiece (or the body for a string-through guitar). Extend the string over the bridge, to the headstock.



00:00:41

## STEP 3

### ALIGN THE TUNER POST.

Turn the tuning key so that the hole in the post is horizontal (i.e., perpendicular to the neck).



00:00:35

## STEP 4

### THREAD THE STRING INTO THE POST.

Insert the string until it starts to meet resistance, then stop.

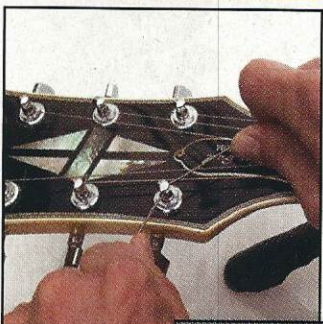


00:00:31

## STEP 5

### ALLOW EXCESS STRING LENGTH FOR WINDING.

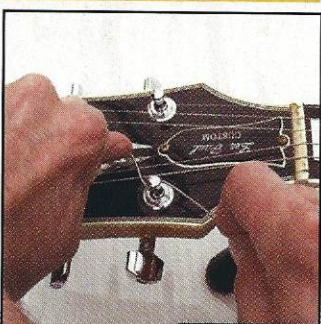
The string should be laying slack on the fretboard and curving slightly toward the middle of the headstock.



00:00:27

## STEP 6

### GRIP THE STRING WITH TWO HANDS AND...

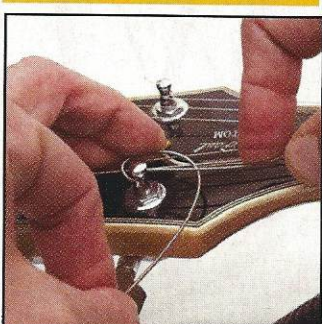


00:00:25

## STEP 7

### ...TWIST BOTH ENDS AROUND THE POST

in one smooth clockwise motion. For high strings on 3+3 headstocks, twist in a counterclockwise motion.

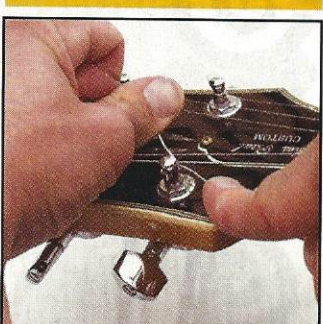


00:00:21

## STEP 8

### TIE DOWN THE STRING.

Wrap the string end around the post and slide it under the length of string between the nut and the post.

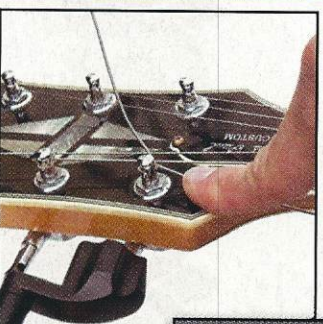


00:00:18

## STEP 9

### LOOP AND PULL.

Continue wrapping the string end by looping it over the string and pulling it tightly toward the top of the headstock.

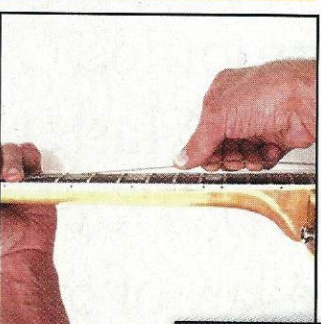


00:00:12

## STEP 10

### WIND THE STRING.

Anchor the string with your index finger, just below the post. Place your string winder on the tuner key and crank it in a clockwise direction.

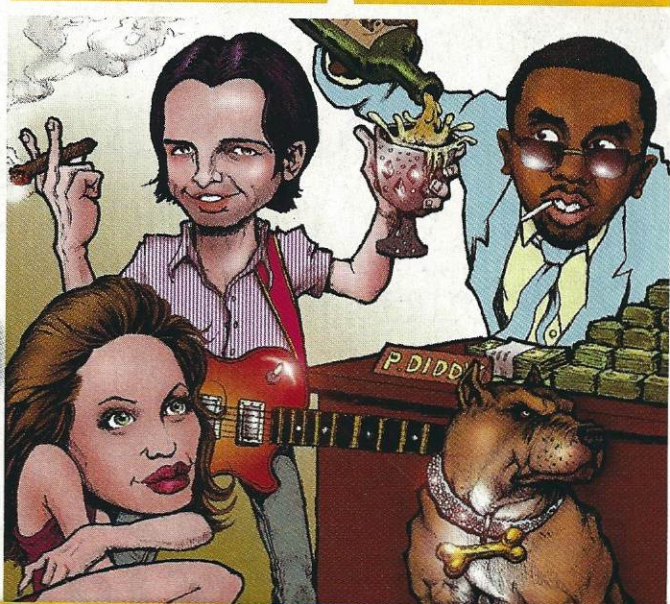


00:00:01

## STEP 11

### TUNE. STRETCH. REPEAT.

Fret the string at the 5th fret. With your free hand, pull the string up while moving your hand up the fretboard. Retune and repeat at 3rd and 2nd frets.



00:00:00

## STEP 12

SIGN CONTRACT, COLLECT CASH, BECOME FAMOUS (and date Angelina Jolie).