Making special stereo pots for active guitars

This is for those guys, who want to control both passive pickup volume and an active signal (e.g, Variax or GK-Midi-Volume) with one single knob on their guitar (like I prefer to do ...)

The problem here is that passive pickups use normally 250 to 500 kOhm logarithmic (A) pots, but active systems like the Line6- Variax and the Roland GK-system use linear pots (B) with values from 10 to 50 kOhms for volume control. You normally cannot buy such stereo-pots with two different tracks easily.

But it's easy to make two such special pots out of two standard-stereo-pots!

Buy one normal stereo-pot with e.g. 2x250 kOhms A (A= log) for Single Coil Pickups (or 2 x 470...500 kOhms A, for humbuckers).

Buy also one stereo-pot of the same model, but with value 2 x 47...50kOhms B (B=linear).

Not all brands and models are suited for this modification, so check carefully before buying! I've done it already with types of OMEG and ALPHA...

Remove the two outer pot-systems and change them, like on the <u>pictures below</u> – so you get your special pot ...

In the same manner you can make a dual tone pot for both passive pickups and a Variax-tone-control (10 kOhm linear). To get a 10 kOhm – pot, you can also solder a little resistor with 12 kOhms parallel to the two outer terminals of a 47 or 50 kOhm pot.

The absolute values may differ up to 20% as this is usual for this components – but that's absolutely no problem for the use in a guitar, no matter what some "gurus" will tell you on a forum ;-)

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