


VINTAGE YAMAHA FG FRET SPECIFICATIONS AND REPLACEMENT OPTIONS

Manufacturer	Years used	Crown Width	Crown Height	Tang Width	Tang Studs					Notes
YAMAHA	1966-68, 1971 & UP	0.079	0.040	0.020" (0.5mm)	0.034					Fret tangs are crushed on the bottom, no protrusions on the sides. The late 70's, and later, have normal diamond tang studs.


The measured Yamaha Crown Height is based on an untouched fret from near the end of the fretboard. If you're replacing somewhere in the first 12 frets opt for the shorter Crown Height (0.037") frets. Use the higher frets (0.043") for full refrets. Most guitars have had the fretboard leveled, either at the factory or later in life. Since many times the frets are very low and flat, when doing a partial refret use a WIDE fret file to attempt to get a crown on them after levelling.

Manufacturer	Part Number	Material	Crown Width	Crown Height	Tang Width	Tang Studs	Vendor	Part Number	Price	Length	Notes
LMI	FW74	18% Nickel Silver	0.079	0.043	0.020	0.032	LMI	FW74	\$6.01	4 feet	\$5.35 per 4 feet with qty 3 or more. With free shipping the price is right. THIS IS WHAT I USE FOR PARTIAL AND COMPLETE REFRETS. It ships in a coil, the radius is close enough.
LMI	FW74GOLD	Gold EVO	0.080	0.043	0.020	0.032	LMI	FW74GOLD	\$10.68	4 feet	Harder than Nickel Silver, not as hard as Stainless Steel.
LMI	FW9666	Gold EVO	0.080	0.037	0.019	0.032	LMI	FW9666	\$9.41	4 feet	Harder than Nickel Silver, not as hard as Stainless Steel.
LMI	FWS574	Stainless Steel	0.080	0.043	0.020	0.032	LMI	FWS574	\$8.55	4 feet	
Dunlop	656290	18% Nickel Silver	0.078	0.040	0.020	0.038	Amazon	B01L5R8SVE	\$23.53 + \$4.54 shipping		24 frets, 2-5/8" long. Dunlop's price is \$22.25, unknown shipping.
Dunlop	656220	12% Nickel Silver	0.079	0.043	0.020	0.038					24 frets, 2-5/8" long. Dunlop's price is \$19.31, unknown shipping.
Dunlop	656230	18% Nickel Silver	0.079	0.043	0.020	0.035	Amazon	B000EEHK5K	\$19.25 + free shipping over \$25		24 frets, 2-5/8" long. Dunlop's price is \$22.25, unknown shipping.
JESCAR	37080	18% Nickel Silver	0.080	0.037	0.0195	0.032	Phil. Luthier Tools	FL37080	\$4.00	2 feet	Flat length. (2) lengths will be needed for a full refret.
JESCAR	37080	18% Nickel Silver	0.080	0.037	0.0195	0.032	Phil. Luthier Tools	FW37080	\$7.99		25 frets, pre-radiused & cut to 2-3/4" long.
JESCAR	37080-185	18% Nickel Silver	0.080	0.037	0.0185	0.032	JESCAR	FL37080-185-NS	\$4.25	2 feet	Flat length. (2) lengths will be needed for a full refret.
JESCAR	37080-S	Stainless Steel	0.080	0.037	0.0200	0.032	Phil. Luthier Tools	FW37080-S	\$12.99		25 frets, pre-radiused & cut to 2-3/4" long.
JESCAR	37080-EVO	Gold EVO	0.080	0.037	0.0195	0.032	Phil. Luthier Tools	FW37080-EVO	\$17.99		26 frets, pre-radiused & cut to 2-3/4" long.
JESCAR	43080	18% Nickel Silver	0.080	0.043	0.0200	0.032	Phil. Luthier Tools	FL43080	\$4.40	2 feet	Flat length. (2) lengths will be needed for a full refret.
JESCAR	43080	18% Nickel Silver	0.080	0.043	0.0200	0.032	Phil. Luthier Tools	FW43080	\$7.99		25 frets, pre-radiused & cut to 2-3/4" long.
JESCAR	43080-S	Stainless Steel	0.080	0.043	0.0200	0.032	Phil. Luthier Tools	FW43080-S	\$12.99		25 frets, pre-radiused & cut to 2-3/4" long.
JESCAR	43080-EVO	Gold EVO	0.080	0.043	0.0200	0.032	Phil. Luthier Tools	FW43080-EVO	\$17.99		25 frets, pre-radiused & cut to 2-3/4" long.
Stew Mac	147		0.080	0.037	0.020		Stew Mac	147	\$4.31	2 feet	Flat length. (2) lengths will be needed for a full refret.

Manufacturer's recommend a .023" slot for .020" tang wire. The Yamaha fret slots measure .018"/.020" with feeler gages. That technically would require a fret slot saw to open every slot to have a .003" clearance.

Opening .018"/.020" slots to .023" is very difficult. Typically, the saw sticks and some times slips out of the slot when pulled hard enough, causing fretboard damage. But I've had good luck replacing them with standard .020" tang frets with no back bow seen.

Stew Mac fret saw \$48.63.	https://www.stewmac.com/Luthier_Tools/Types_of_Tools/Saws/Fret_Saw.html	Stew Mac shipping is \$10, unless you pay \$40 for the StewMax program, that gets you additional discounts and free shipping for 1 year. A great deal if you are planning on buying from them frequently or often need inexpensive small parts.
LMI fret saw \$34.27	https://www.lmi.com/fretting-tools/2695-fret-saw-beech-handle.html	LMI has free Standard shipping anywhere in the continental US.
Phil. Luthier Tools fret saw \$38.95.	https://www.philadelphialuthiertools.com/luthier-tools/saws/japanese-fret-slot-saw-57mm-width-cut/	Shipping is \$3.34 First Class mail, or \$7-\$8 Priority mail.

Manufacturer	Years Used	Crown Width	Crown Height	Tang Width	Tang Studs				Notes	
YAMAHA	1969 & 1970	0.079	0.035	0.030" (0.75mm)	0.045					Fret tangs have triangle shaped dimples on the sides and are slightly crushed on the bottom.

The measured Yamaha Crown Height is based on an untouched fret from near the end of the fretboard. Most guitars have had the fretboard leveled, either at the factory or later in life. Since many times the frets are very low and flat, when doing a partial refret use a WIDE fret file to attempt to get a crown on them after levelling. Obviously there aren't many replacement choices for this wide tang fret. NONE of these choices are pre-radiused, although the LMII FW75 comes in a coil and the radius is close enough.

Manufacturer	Part Number	Material	Crown Width	Crown Height	Tang Width	Tang Studs	Vendor	Part Number	Price	Length	Notes
LMI	FW75	18% Nickel Silver	0.098	0.043	0.024	0.048	LMI	FW75	\$7.09	4 feet	RECOMMENDED for a complete refret. A bit wider and higher, but it has the widest fret tang available. 2 lengths need for refretting a 12 string FG-230. LMI has free shipping!!
Dunlop	6260	18% Nickel Silver	0.079	0.039	0.024	0.037	All Parts	LT-0473-000	\$5.50	2 feet	RECOMMENDED for replacing a few frets. The tang studs are smaller, but the price is right. May need to be glued in. Flat length. (2) lengths will be needed for a full 6 string refret.
Dunlop	656260	18% Nickel Silver	0.079	0.039	0.024	0.037	Amazon	B01YJXEW4	\$20.69 + free shipping		24 frets, 2-5/8" long. Dunlop's price is \$24.32, unknown shipping.
Dunlop	656200	12% Nickel Silver	0.083	0.035	0.024	0.045	Amazon	B06XJQ2XFL	\$20.06 + free shipping over \$25		RECOMMENDED for replacing a few frets, but slightly softer material. <i>The only option for close to original crown width & height, with the wider tang studs.</i> 24 frets, 2-5/8" long. Dunlop's price is \$18.05, unknown shipping.
JESCAR	37080-235	18% Nickel Silver	0.080	0.037	0.0235	0.032	JESCAR	FL37080-235-NS	\$4.25	2 feet	Flat length. (2) lengths will be needed for a full refret. Not recommended, narrow tang studs.
JESCAR	37080-245	18% Nickel Silver	0.080	0.037	0.0245	0.032	JESCAR	FL37080-245-NS	\$4.25	2 feet	Flat length. (2) lengths will be needed for a full refret. Not recommended, narrow tang studs.
Stew Mac	NONE										All Stew mac fret wires have .020" tang width.