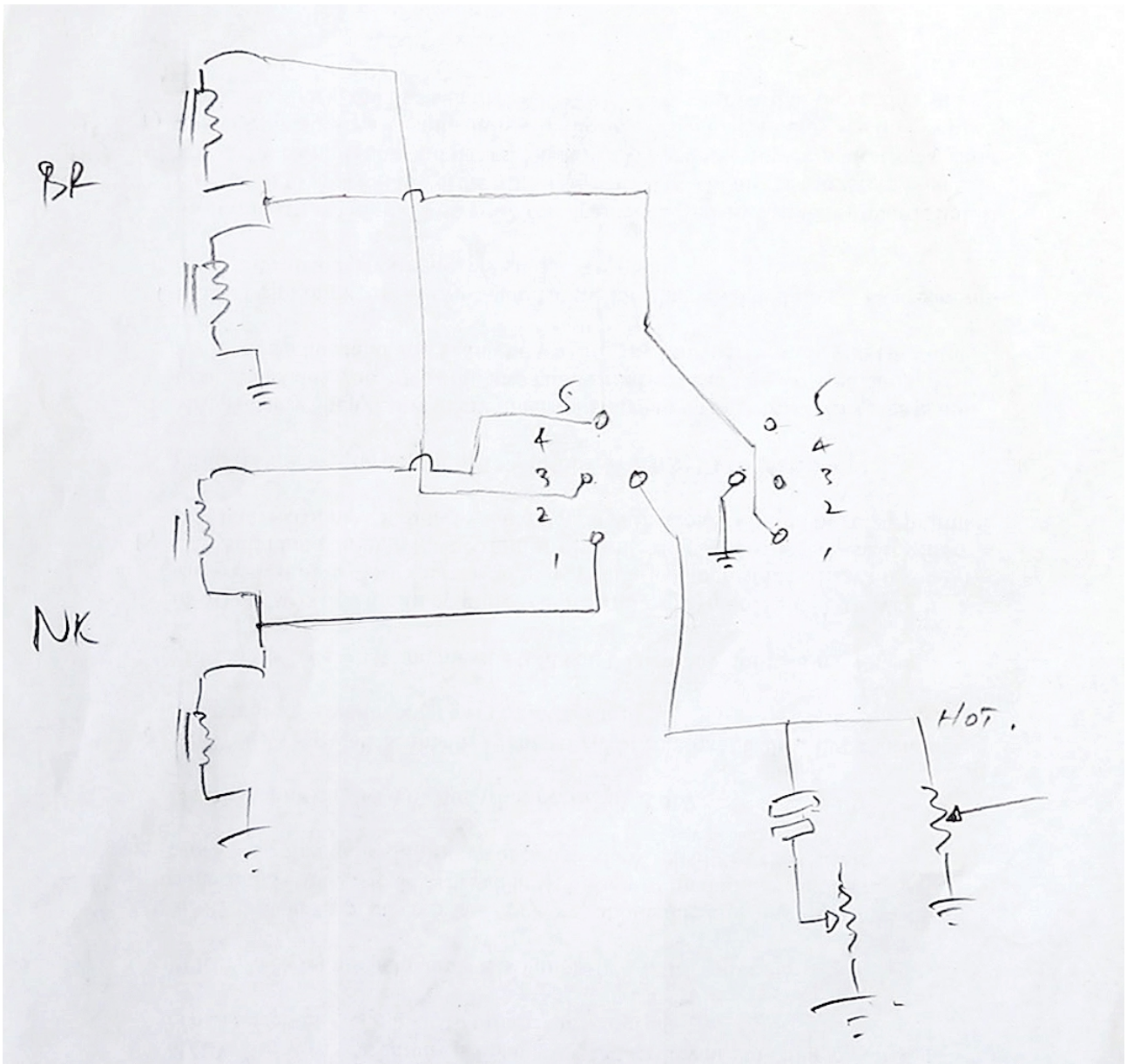


Rob Mods Custom 2-Humbucker Tele Wiring

In this video I was rewiring a tele style guitar I made back in the late 90's. It has two humbuckers, a Kent Armstrong THR1R, and a Seymour Duncan Jeff Beck Neck model. I use a standard 5-way (2-pole/3-throw) strat switch to achieve a couple of extra, single coil tones.

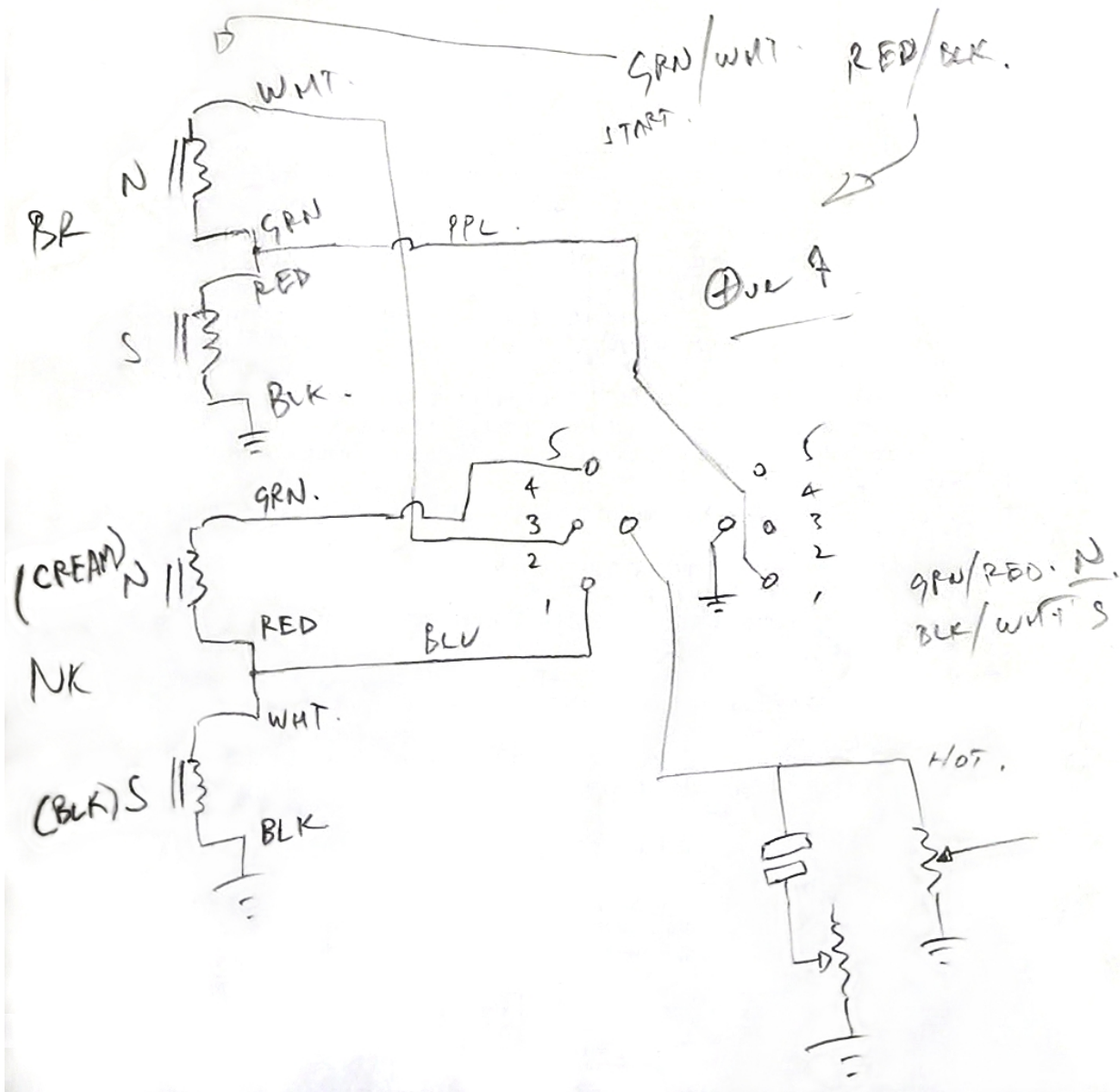
This quick, hand-drawn diagram was used to show my progress as I work through all the steps to understanding which wire it which, and choosing the orientation of each coil, so that their signals are all in phase. And for my preference that the inner windings are wired to the earth side of the circuit.

This diagram was never meant for others to use, but if you'd like to try this on your guitar, I've tried to clean up a couple of screen caps in photoshop. Here's the initial diagram.



The symbols are closer to electronics schematics than typical "wiregrams" that you find online, but that's the way I think and work. I encourage all techs to learn the common standard electronics schematic symbols, and be familiar with the basic layout of audio circuits. Persevere. It will greatly help you understand how these circuits work.

Here's the digram as I have it towards the end of the video, after I have worked out exactly which wire it which, and how I want to orientate each coil.



Many pickup makers use black/white/red/green as their four conductor colours, but as you can see, there is no standard. I encourage you to watch the video. I use a multimeter and a cheap compass, and with a few simple tests, I'm confident the guitar will work first time. There's also some info about pole-piece to coil capacitance. I don't believe I've seen anything about this anywhere else online.

Positions 5,4, and 3 give the normal neck, both, and bridge settings. In position 2, you get the north coil from the bridge pickup and the south coil from the neck pickup. This is the main reason I replaced the switch. It is a more traditional tele sound and it's hum-cancelling. In position 1, you get the south coil only of the neck pickup. Be sure to test the lugs on your switch, since there are several different common designs. The terminal layout here is meant to indicate functionality, and doesn't resemble any switch in particular.

For what it's worth, I used 250K audio taper pots and a 47nF capacitor. The tone pot was modded to be "no-load".