

PROPERTIES	Hide Glue (hot)	White/Yellow Glue	Epoxy	Cyanoacrylate (CA) Glue
Heat Resistance	high	low	low to medium	high
Gap Filling	no	no	best	good
Water Cleanup	best	good	no	no
Effect on Finish	no	no	sticks	eats
Tendency to Creep	no	yes	varies	no
Runs into Cracks	good	poor	worst	best

USES	Hide Glue (hot)	White/Yellow Glue	Epoxy	Cyanoacrylate (CA) Glue
Fingerboard	best	OK	OK*	OK*
Bridge	best	good	OK*	OK*
Top Braces	best	good	OK*	OK*
Back Braces	good	best	OK*	OK*
Dovetail	good	good	NO**	NO**
Crack Repair	best	good	for open gaps only	very tight cracks
Deep Finish Fill	no	no	good	good
Headstock Crack	good	no	OK	good
Inlay	no	no	good	best

* The solvents in cyanoacrylate and those needed to clean up cyanoacrylate and epoxy are destructive to traditional lacquer, varnish and shellac finishes, making these glues poor choices for many applications. Most epoxy loses strength at the temperatures reached in hot parked cars, so it may not be the best choice for highly stressed applications around the bridge and neck.

** These glues make it impossible to disassemble dovetail neck joints!

Chart courtesy of Frank Ford of Gryphon Stringed Instruments in Palo Alto, California
(www.gryphonstrings.com/www.frets.com)