

HOGNOSE PSALTERY

Updated June 2020



INCLUDED

- (1) Tuning Wrench
- (1) Flatpick
- (1) Set of Song Sheets



Musicmakers
14525 61st ST CT N
Stillwater, MN 55082

THANK YOU!

Thanks for purchasing a Musicmakers Hognose Psaltery. Please inspect your instrument carefully as you unpack it. Notify us if anything is missing or damaged so we can take care of it right away.

651-439-9120

There are numerous medieval illustrations of plucked psalteries with this characteristic “pig snout” shape. They were popular through the Renaissance and Baroque periods, sometimes quite decoratively ornamented with rosettes and painted trim.

Also included with the finished Hognose Plucked Psaltery is a set of songsheets that slide right under the strings to help the beginner learn to play.

You’ll be impressed with the tone and volume of this instrument- it is not just a toy. It can readily be used for performing. It would be ideal for period musical productions.

HOW TO REPLACE A STRING

1. To replace broken or rusty strings, you may need to “unscrew” the tuning pins somewhat to raise them up to the proper starting height - about 1” (fig. 1) Use the tuning wrench to turn the pins counter-clockwise to raise them, or clockwise to lower them in the holes.

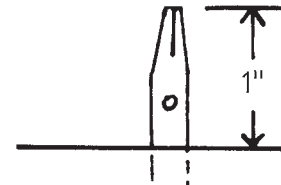


FIG. 1

2. Push the small brass eyelets into the other holes (from the front side of the instrument). They will prevent the strings from cutting into the wood. (fig. 2)

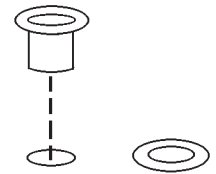


FIG. 2

3. Set the bridge on the scribed line and use masking tape to hold the bridge temporarily in place. (fig. 3) Once a few strings are installed, you may remove the tape.

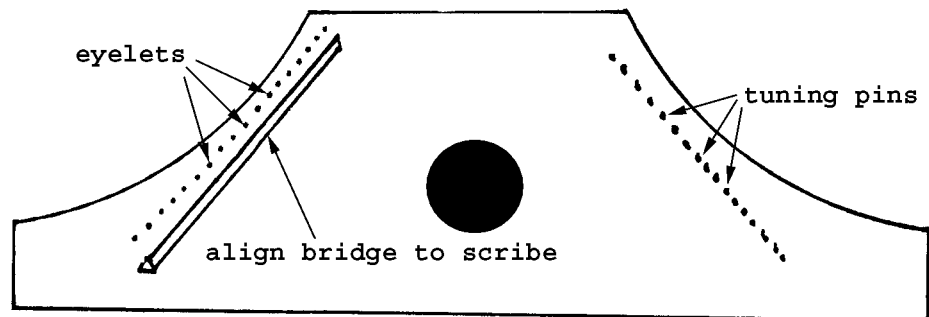


FIG. 3

- ___4. Beginning with the longest string on the instrument, take one .025” string and poke it through the first string hole, from the backside of the instrument, pulling it all the way until the ball end contacts the wood underneath. Stretch it across the instrument to the farthest tuning pin and clip off the excess length of wire so that it measures only about 2 inches beyond the tuning pin. (fig. 4)

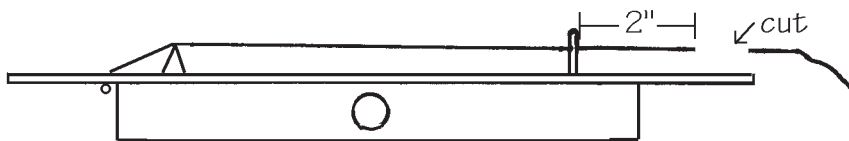


FIG. 4

- ___5. Put the wire into the pin so that the end just shows through the other side of the pin. (fig. 5)

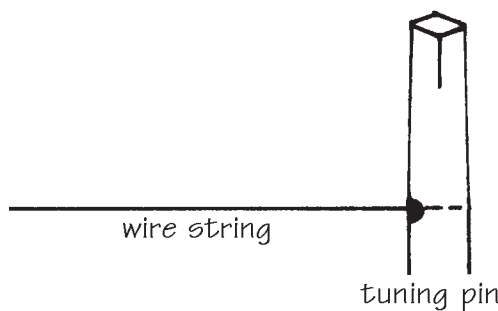


FIG. 5

- ___6. Use the tuning wrench to turn the pin clockwise about one-half turn before putting tension on the wire. (fig. 6)

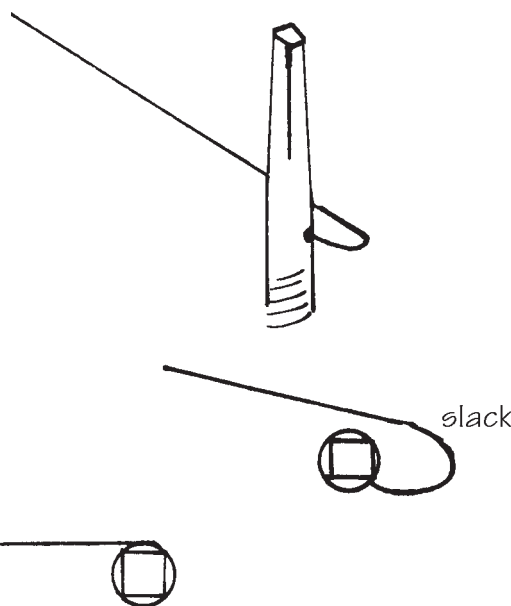


FIG. 6

- ___7. Pull on the wire to “set” it in the pin. This puts a sharp kink in the wire where it enters the tiny hole. If the wire jumps out when you pull, you may need to clip off the kinked end and try again. (fig. 6)



This may seem like a silly detail to worry about, but we like to hide the ends of the wires inside the tuning pins so they don't poke your fingers or catch on your clothes when you handle the instrument. Believe me, this does make a difference!

- ___8. Keeping tension on the wire at all times, turn the pin clockwise until you take up all the slack. You should be able to make about two or three complete turns of the pin before the wire is tight. (fig. 6)

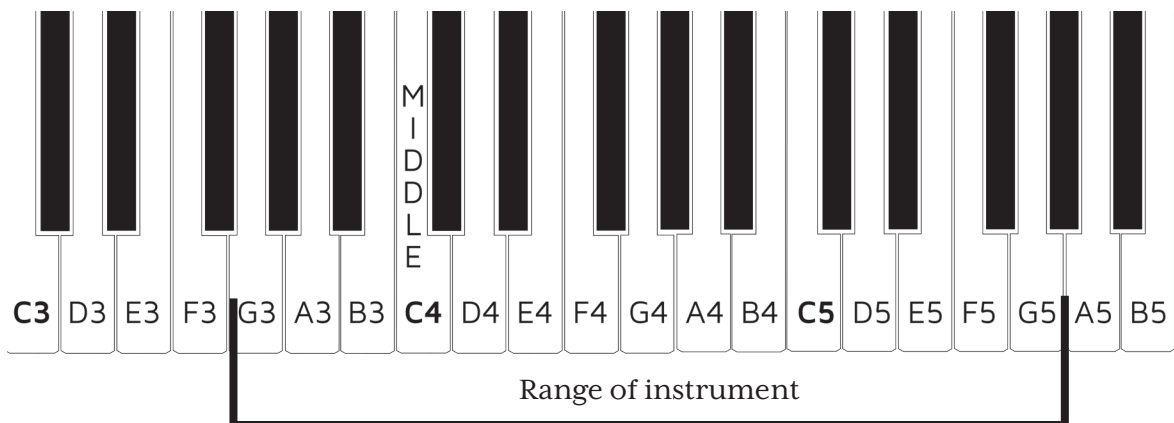
- ___9. Install the remaining strings. Consult the string chart on the following page for string size placement.

Tune your psaltery, beginning with the G below middle C for the lowest string. Then go up the scale according to the string chart, for two octaves to end on high G. Refer to the included songsheets - each note is named along one edge. NOTE: the F strings should be sharpened for the key of G (F-sharp is the black key on the piano between the F and G white keys).

HOGNOSE PSALTERY - G TUNING

STRING CHART

String	Note	Gauge	Code	Vibrating Length
1	G5	.012"	BALL012	8-7/8"
2	F#5	.012	BALL012	10
3	E5	.012	BALL012	11
4	D5	.012	BALL012	12
5	C5	.014	BALL014	13
6	B4	.014	BALL014	14-1/8
7	A4	.014	BALL014	15-1/4
8	G4	.014	BALL014	16-1/4
9	F#4	.016	BALL016	17-1/4
10	E4	.016	BALL016	18-3/8
11	D4	.018	BALL018	19-3/8
12	Mid C4	.018	BALL018	20-3/8
13	B3	.022	BALL022	21-1/2
14	A3	.025	BALL025	22-1/2
15	G3	.025	BALL025	23-1/2



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