

MONOCHORD

Owner's Manual



MUSICMAKERS

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CONGRATULATIONS

YOU OWN A MONOCHORD!

Strum the monochord and let the waves of sound wash over and envelope you. There is nothing quite like it. Whether you play this for your own enjoyment or strum it to provide comfort for others - it's easy to provide a comfortable bed of sound and a soothing ambience.



QUICK FACTS

But isn't the name "monochord" a misnomer?

Well, maybe... Pythagoras is said to have developed a one string instrument called a monochord (mono=one, chord=string). He used this instrument to demonstrate the mathematical ratios between notes and was able to show, for example, the ratio between a perfect fifth (C and G) is 3:2

Since we no longer need to prove the ratios between musical intervals, a one string zither just isn't all that exciting. But add a bunch more strings and tune them all to the same note or an open chord and it becomes irresistible.

Purists may complain about the name but that doesn't bother us. Language is fluid and changes over time and currently, the term monochord is widely used to describe an instrument like the one you are probably playing right now having long ago stopped reading all of this nonsense.

CARE AND FEEDING

Your monochord is comfortable in the same environment you are. Prolonged exposure to extreme temperatures can and will damage your instrument.

The monochord is finished with a water-based varnish which is durable, long lasting, and environmentally friendly. We recommend Old English furniture cleaner and polish for regular maintenance and hiding scratches.

If you use your monochord in a clinical setting and need to sanitize the surface between patients, most any of the sterilizing wipes will work.. The hydrogen peroxide based wipes, such as the Oxivar TB Wipes, tend to be gentler on the finish.

CONTACT INFO

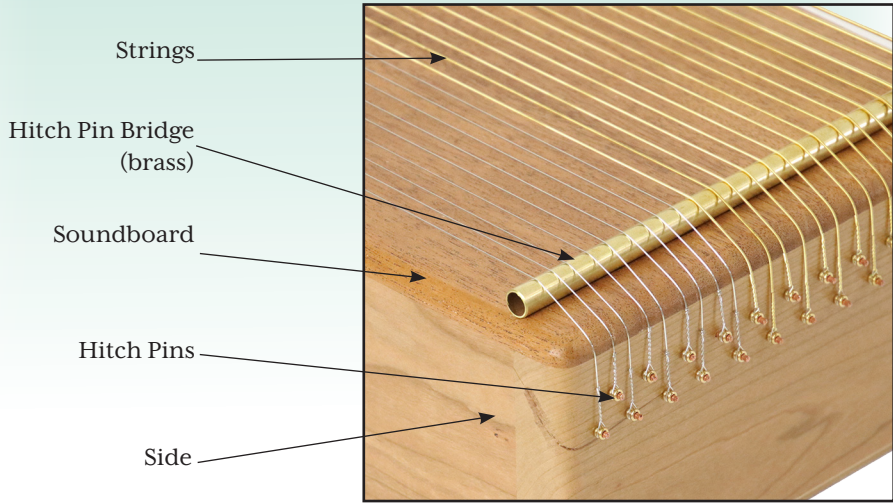
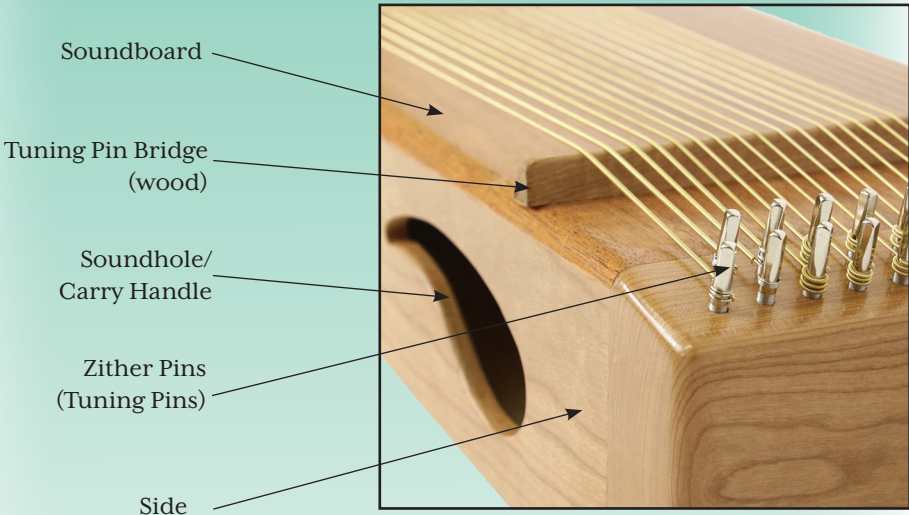
Please don't hesitate to contact us with any questions or concerns.

phone 651-439-9120

email info@harpkit.com

GET TO KNOW YOUR MONOCHORD

Take the time to learn the proper names for the parts of your monochord. It will be useful if you ever need to talk to a repair tech about any issues with your instrument.



- Strings: 25 ball-end acoustic guitar strings
- Weight: 7-1/2 pounds
- Dimensions: 32" x 8-1/2" x 5"
- Soundboard: Mahogany or Redwood
- Frame: Solid Cherry

TUNING AND STRINGS

TUNINGS

We offer three different tunings. We have one tuning that is an open C chord and two tunings that are just C notes. See the string charts at the bottom of this page.

TUNERS

Any chromatic tuner will work to tune your monochord. You'll find some for sale on our website or at your local music store. We also have a free online tuner on our website.

Free online tuner at www.harpkit.com/online-tuner

REPLACEMENT STRINGS

The monochord uses ball-end acoustic guitar strings. These should be readily available at your local music store. Consult the string charts below to find out what gauge string you need.

You can also buy complete sets or individual replacements from our website.

Replacement strings at www.harpkit.com/ball-end-steel-strings

HOW TO REPLACE STRINGS

We have a great video online that will teach you how to replace strings.

Learn how to replace strings www.harpkit.com/installing-wire-strings

STRING CHARTS

| OPEN C CHORD | | | | MIDDLE C TUNING | | | |
|--------------|---------|-------|-------------|-----------------|---------|-------|-------------|
| Note | Strings | Gauge | Material | Note | Strings | Gauge | Material |
| C4 | 4 | .016 | plain steel | C4 | 23 | .016 | plain steel |
| G3 | 5 | .020 | plain steel | C3 | 2 | .036 | bronze wnd |
| C3 | 10 | .036 | bronze wnd | LOW C TUNING | | | |
| G2 | 2 | .048 | bronze wnd | Note | Strings | Gauge | Material |
| C2 | 4 | .060 | bronze wnd | C3 | 23 | .036 | bronze wnd |
| | | | | C2 | 2 | .060 | bronze wnd |