Tuning Your Autoharp

Tools for Tuning your Autoharp

- Chromatic Tuner
- Tuning Wrench
- Fine Tuning Wrench (If you have fine tuners)

CAUTION: PLEASE WEAR EYE PROTECTION WHEN REMOVING OR INSTALLING STRINGS!

Steps

- Start by turning on the tuner and attaching it to the autoharp if it has a clamp or setting it on the table on which you are working.
- Begin tuning on the lowest string, F, in the “middle” octave. This is important because this octave is the foundation for each of the other octaves.
- Pluck the cord that is being tuned, the tuner will say what the cord is and if it is too flat or too sharp based on a small dial on the screen.
- Using the tuning wrench turn the tuning pin counterclockwise to lower the pitch or clockwise to raise the pitch.
- Only turn the pin a hair at a time, little movements will make a big change in the pitch.
- After each small turn of the pin, pluck the string to make sure you didn't go too far.
- Repeat these steps on all the strings on your autoharp.
The following steps are for using the fine tuning pins on select autoharps:

- Follow the steps above to get the strings as close as possible to perfect.
- Then use the fine tuning wrench to tighten the fine tuning screws at the base of each string using the same clockwise and counterclockwise motions as mentioned above.
- This will perfect the tuning of your autoharp.

Notes:
Autoharp strings are made of steel, they can stretch a little bit but if tightened too much they will break.
If your autoharp is brand new it will take a few days for the strings to stretch and the base to get used to the pressure, you will need to tune it daily before playing to ensure it is properly tuned.
If your autoharp has the FT600 Fine Tuning Device find a balance between the regular and fine tuning pins because the FT600 fine tuning pins can be broken due to over-tightening.

What's in a name? Quality, history and tradition. Our Autoharp is the original, with over 100 years of history behind it. Oscar Schmidt is truly the original and only complete source for the Autoharp. Premium woods, quality hardware and modest prices create an ideal instrument. It is inspected and adjusted in the USA by a skilled technician, with assurance for smooth fret ends, precision low action and resonant sound quality. Unequalled standards, easy playing comfort and tone response creates the perfect value. This 21-chord OS11021FE autoharp plays in eleven different keys. The patented chord bar configuration makes it easy to learn and to continue to play for years to come. This design celebrates the founding of our great land by the Pilgrims.