



HARMONICA MAINTENANCE OVERVIEW

	SYMPTOM	PROBABLE CAUSE	SOLUTION
REED ACTION & RESPONSE	Poor action or no response.	This is a common problem caused by improper offset of the reed.	Adjust reed offset using the pick or flat end of the Offset Tool.
	Reed responds only to soft playing (light air pressure).	Too little offset	Increase offset.
	Reed responds only to hard playing (heavy air pressure).	Too much offset	Decrease offset.
	No response.	No offset.	Increase offset.
	OTHER REASONS for poor action or no response.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Foreign material or saliva. Broken reed (total metal fatigue) Reed plates incorrectly mounted. Reed off-center (misaligned). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clean or shake out. Replace reed or reed plate. Refer to assembly, Pg. 5. Make lateral adjustment.
Buzzing sound.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reed off-center (misaligned). Metal burrs interfering with reed clearance. Foreign material (interfering with reed clearance). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make lateral adjustment. Square truing needed. Clean with pick or lint-free cloth and isopropyl alcohol. 	
PITCH & TUNING	A reed's natural tone is either too flat or too sharp.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fatigued reed. Factory specs may not agree with personal taste. 	Fine tune reed using chisels and/or file to remove metal.
	Pitch too flat.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Structure of metal has changed due to fatigue. Foreign substance or saliva. 	To raise pitch (sharpen), scrape tip of reed.
	Pitch too sharp.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total fatigue Aging of brass has caused change. Factory specs. 	To lower pitch, (flatten) scrape fixed end of reed.