

INSTRUCTIONS FOR INSTALLING YOUR CUSTOM CHORD BAR SET

PLEASE READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE STARTING TO WORK.

To begin, remove the chord bar covers by removing the brass screws and lifting the covers off. Next, lift the chord bars off the combs. **BE CAREFUL OF THE SPRINGS AS THEY HAVE A LIFE OF THEIR OWN AND THE CARPET EATS THEM.. THEY WILL DISAPPEAR IF YOU AREN'T VERY CAREFUL.** A cereal bowl or like container is a good place to put the springs.

With your 'harp stripped and ready for the new bars, set a comb on each side of the strings with the widest spaced holes away from the strings.

Set the combs so there is about the same amount of space between the strings and the combs on each side of the 'harp. I install the comb with the widest spaced holes outside the pins.

Be sure the comb on the treble side is located so the string anchor won't interfere with the chord bar cover when you come to install it. You will need about ½ inch space between the comb and the closest part of the string anchor cover. Put a chord bar on a pin close to each end of the combs.

The holes in the chord bars should be on the treble side of the 'harp and the slots on the bass side.

Using the pointed pin supplied, mark one of the outside screw holes in the treble side comb by putting the pointed end through the hole and tapping with a hammer. You may have to move a bar if it is covering the hole you want to mark. These are the holes with the funnel shape, not the ones with threads in them.

Using a 3/32 inch drill, drill the hole you just marked to the depth of about 7/8 inch. You can wrap a narrow piece of masking tape around the drill at the proper location to mark the depth. A little variation in depth won't matter.

Mount one end of the treble comb with one of the screws supplied. A drop of oil or a bit of soft soap on the screws will make them go in much easier.

Make sure the comb is parallel with the strings and mark a mounting hole in the other end of the comb. I like to use three of the holes in each comb. I put two outside the pins, and one inside the pins. Loosen the screw you have holding the comb a little so you can swing the comb out of your way to drill. Drill the second hole, install the screw and tighten both. There are extra holes in the comb in case it doesn't sit up straight. Add a screw if you need it to straighten the comb

Now set the bass side comb so the pins are about midway in the slot and making sure the bars are square across the strings, mark one hole. Drill the hole and put one screw in to hold the comb in place. Now making sure the comb is in the right location, mark and drill the second hole. Install the second screw and tighten both.

With the combs mounted, drop a chord bar on each end pin to be sure they are mounted right. Bars must move easily up and down. When satisfied, remove the bars.

Cut a strip of tablet back or manila folder about an inch wide and long enough to press down over the pins on each comb. I cut it down so only one pin is through the cardboard. With the cardboard in place over the pins on either end of the combs make a mark directly over each string and label your marks with the string name each should have.

Put the first bar on the combs being sure it's on with the slot toward the bass side of the 'harp. And put the cardboard strip over 2 pins a couple of spaces down.

Now you can mark the felt where it needs to be cut. After marking, always go back and check your marks to be sure you're right. I've cut thousands of bars, and I still catch mistakes now and then.

I mark all my bars and leave them in place on the combs before I cut any. You can do them that way, or one at a time.

When I have them all marked, I take them off and do the cutting. I cut a "V" shaped notch with the bottom of the V centered on the mark I made on the felt.

When you put the bars back on after cutting, don't forget the springs.

If the bars are not low enough to suit you, you may lower them more by removing wood from the bottom of the covers. This is easily done by sanding or lightly planing. The brass screws can also be shortened by sanding should they be too long.

You'll find the parts you need to assemble, and a couple of extra springs in the small plastic bag.

I've read this over and it's clear to me, but I've done a lot of them. Do not hesitate to call if you need help.

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