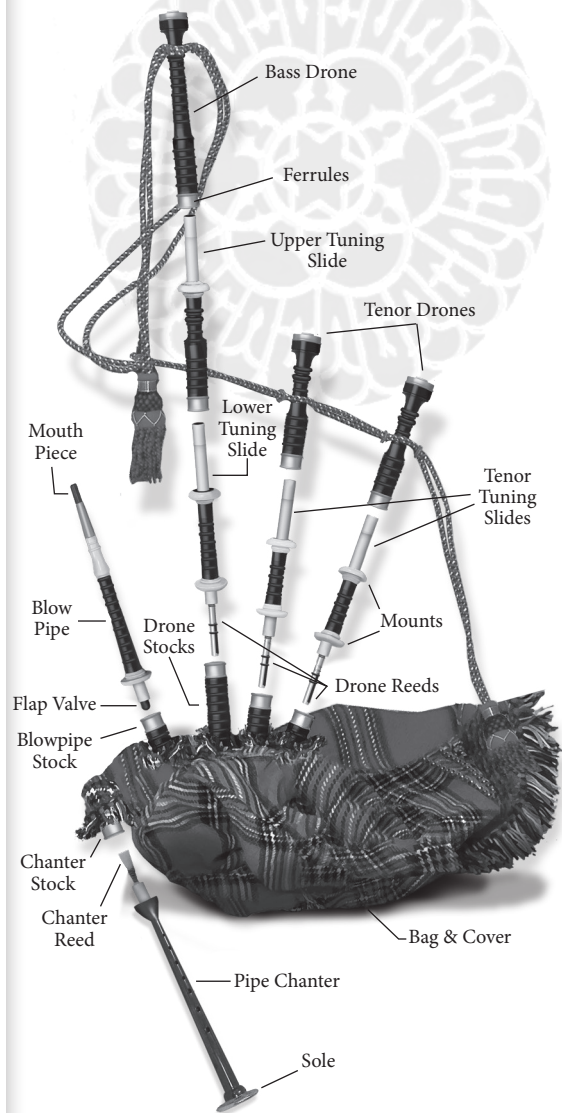


Roosebeck Highland Bagpipes



Anatomy of a Bagpipe
Highland Bagpipes
with a Royal Stewart Tartan Cover

Roosebeck Bagpipe

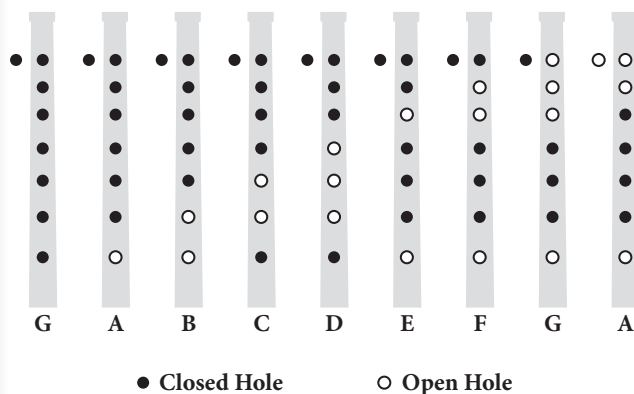
Fittings

Thread is used to ensure air-tight joints of an assembled Bagpipe. Adding or replacing thread for a tight fit is normal.

Bag Care

Rexine™ bags are synthetic and should never be seasoned. Leather bags must be seasoned. If an excessive air leak in a seasoned leather bag occurs, the bag should be re-seasoned by following the Super Seal instructions.

— NOTE CHART —

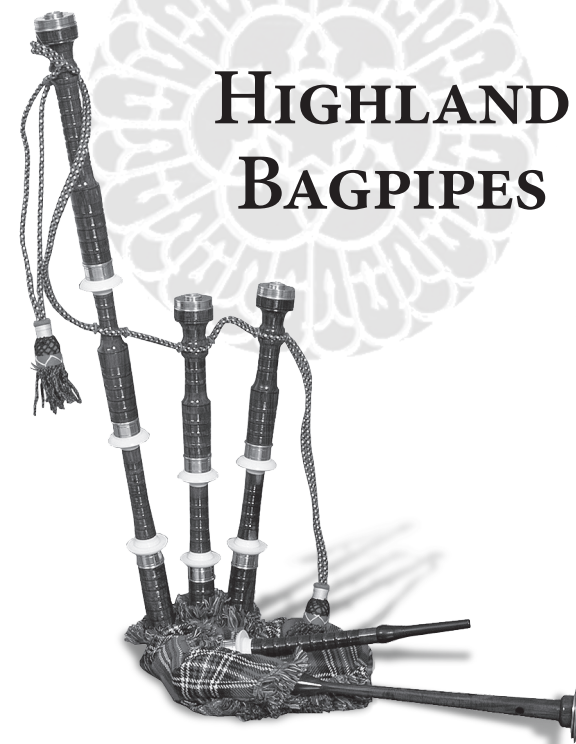


Accessories

Bagpipes and accessories are available at www.ensoulmusic.com

Roosebeck
FINE INSTRUMENTS

HIGHLAND BAGPIPES



— OWNER'S GUIDE —



EnSoul
MUSIC DESIGNS

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Bagpipes

Learning the *Roosebeck* Bagpipe

Bagpipe fingering, tunes and Ornamentations should be learned and practiced on a Practice Chanter. Since the Great Highland Bagpipe is such a physically demanding instrument, building stamina, coordination and transferring tunes to it must be done in stages. As a beginner, remove all Drones and cork the Stocks (This is called “Playing the Goose”). Playing only the Chanter makes it easier to learn breath, timing, pressure, arm and finger control. As you increase stamina and smooth breath control, Drones may be added one at a time (beginning with the Tenor Drones) until the full set can be played.

NOTE: Bagpipers playing as a group typically all use the same style of chanter to insure playing in tune. Highland style Bagpipes are tuned to low A on the Celtic scale (close to B flat on the Western Scale).

Before You Play

Read these instruction thoroughly.

Bagpipe reeds typically require some adjustments to play in tune at the proper pressure when mounted in the pipes. The Chanter has thin sides and is fragile. When removing and inserting the Chanter from the Stock, hold it close to the assembly joint and carefully, slowly twist.

Roosebeck Bagpipe Pipe Chanter Reed

The Chanter Reed is a natural cane, flat, double reed. The lip end of the reed should have a small gap. Test the reed by holding it by the threaded end and blowing into the lip end. Make sure the lip end does not touch the inside of your mouth. If the reed sounds with a “chirp”, then it is ready to be installed in the Chanter. If the reed gap is too large, the reed may not sound. In this case, gently press the lips together to narrow the gap, but don’t eliminate the gap altogether. If the reed gap is closed, moisten the reed by putting the lip end in water for 1 minute. Then gently open the lips by inserting two toothpicks, side-by-side between the lips and let dry. The reed may also not sound if it is too hard. In this case you should “soften” the reed by gently scraping the reed side edges with a razor or sharp knife. Be careful not to scrape too much or the reed will lose tonal quality.



To install the reed into the Chanter, carefully remove the Chanter from the Stock as described above, and push the threaded end of the reed into the Chanter bore top. Test the installed reed by blowing into the top of the chanter. This will require quite a bit of pressure. You can also slightly moisten the reed to ease playability. As you play, condensation from the breath will naturally moisten the reed. The chanter is tuned by adjusting the depth of the Chanter Reed in the bore.

Roosebeck Bagpipe Drone Reeds



The Pipes have 3 Drone Reeds. The longest is the Bass Drone Reed and the shorter 2 are Tenor Drone Reeds. To test the reeds hold them by the treaded end, and without touching the reed tongue to the inside of your mouth, blow steadily into the open end. The reed should make a low humming sound which cuts out with an increase in air pressure. If the reed does not sound, adjust the bridle up or down to open or close the reed’s tongue until a continuous sound is produced at a moderate pressure.

To install the reeds into the Drones, remove the Drones from the Stocks, and push the threaded end of the reeds into the Drones’ bore bottom. The largest reed will go into the 3 part Bass Drone and the other 2 into the Tenor Drones. With the Tuning Slides of the Tenor Drones open approximately to the middle position and the Upper Tuning Slide of the Bass Drone open three-quarters, test each installed reed by blowing into the ends of the Drones. The note produced by the Drones should close to the “E” note as played on the Chanter – see Finger Chart (the Bass Drone plays an octave below the Tenor Drones). If not, the major pitch of the reed may need to be adjusted by slightly moving the reed’s bridle. Fine tuning of the Drones is done using the tuning slides on the Drone.

Blowpipe Flap Valve

The inner flap on the end of the Blowpipe must be centered and free to open and close inside the stock to keep air from leaking back out the mouthpiece.