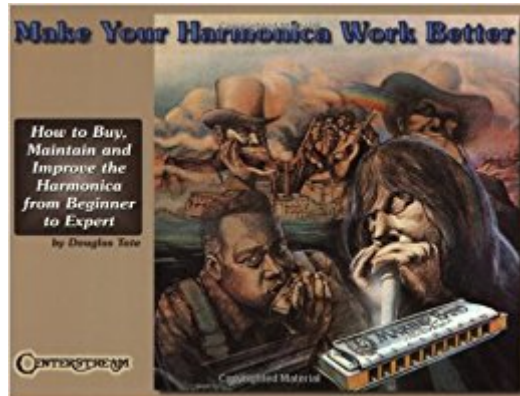




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Make Your Harmonica Work Better



Synopsis

(Harmonica). There is a vast amount of knowledge throughout the world about how to make the harmonica sound better and play better, but little of it is written down. This fully illustrated book solves the problem. It contains sections on: how to buy a harmonica, common problems, advice about tools and techniques for using them, the basic parts of the chromatic harmonica, solutions to improve sound and functionality, experimenting on old harmonicas, tuning, and much more. For chromatic players, but diatonic players will learn just as much.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 3.7 out of 5 stars 29 customer reviews

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Customer Reviews

This is a well-written and illustrated set of instructions on how to repair your harmonica. It has extensive information on the tools needed and details on the steps in procedures to fix and maintain a harmonica. I found the steps to accurately reflect what you need to do. It mainly focuses on chromatic harmonicas although the information works well for diatonic harmonicas also. There is much information on the details of how harmonicas work with great graphics. It also goes extensively into retuning or fixing the reeds. My only significant negative is that it misses the opportunity to list the frequencies of harmonica notes. If you are going to retune a reed, you really need that information. It's a shame to force you to have to look elsewhere to find it.

Although it's not at all clear from the title or description, most of this book is about the cleaning and customization of chromatic harmonicas- the fancy ones with the slide- and not the simple diatonic harps that most people play. Some of the information is useful to diatonic players, but most is

not. The chromatic info is useful, but of somewhat uneven quality and style. Tuning- one of the most useful mods a player can do- is covered in a very superficial manner. Some of the mods, like reshaping the internal channels in the comb, are discussed at length without a lot of explanation as to why one might want to bother. And many mods are presented with only the barest of details- certainly not enough to insure that the tyro doesn't destroy an expensive harmonica while learning how. As one reviewer has noted, far more information is out there on the web awaiting only a quick Google search. I'd do that before I considered buying this book.

This book is written for a Chromatic Harmonica not the one pictured on the cover. Good info but specific to only this type of harmonica.

this is a technical book about using files on reeds etc. it is more for a professional harp player who wants to customize his harp. i play every day a half hour or so for my own enjoyment so this book tells more than i want to know. but if you're a pro or want to start customizing your own harps it probably rates 5 stars

There was a good deal of information in this book that I will put to use and some that I will never attempt. None the less, I learned a great deal about harmonica construction and function. It was worth the price.

Quite informative. Clear descriptions. There is nothing else available I know of to do little repairs on your harmonica. Very useful, also for beginners. Main topics on chromatic harmonica's, but blues-players can also gain much from the book. Topics include: the mouthpiece, slide movement, spring, Body, reed plates, reeds, tuning and adjusting reeds, rivets, windsaving valves. A very fine book, in nice lay-out.

I haven't read the entire book yet but so far it is well written and informative. It is mainly for chromatic harmonicas but the information can be used with diatonics too.

Excellent book, shows quite unique ways to fix, maintain & keep your harps in excellent shape. My kind of book - do it yourself - very helpful in simple easy to understand procedure and language...

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