

TOOLS & AIDS



HOHNER


Illus. C02-01

For this workshop we recommend the »HOHNER SERVICE SET MZ99331, which includes all the basic tools necessary for harmonica maintenance as shown in these workshops.

A compact and highly recommendable toolkit for the essential steps in harmonica maintenance. The set is suitable for both diatonic blues harps and chromatic harmonicas and enables basic maintenance work such as adjusting reed offsets, tuning and centering reeds, exchanging faulty windsavers and maintaining the slide assembly.

For this Workshop C02 - Cleaning you will need the following tools:



Illus. C02-02

Tool 2:

Reed Lifting Blade with Reed Wrench

An essential tool for many reed adjustment operations.

Featured in workshops:

- »Workshop C04 - Centering
- »Workshop C05 - Regapping
- »Workshop C07 - Tuning

C02 – Cleaning

 <p>Illus. C02-03</p>	<p>Tool 5: Screwdriver Slot + Cross Slot For both cover and reed plate screws. Required in all workshops</p>
 <p>Illus. C02-04</p>	<p>Tool 8: Cleaning Cloth For cleaning covers and mouthpiece. Featured in workshop: »Workshop C02 - Cleaning</p>
 <p>Illus. C02-05</p>	<p>Tool 9: Slide Oil Used sparingly to lubricate the slide. Featured in workshop: »Workshop C02 - Cleaning</p>

C02 – Cleaning



Illus. C02-06

Mouthpiece Cleanser

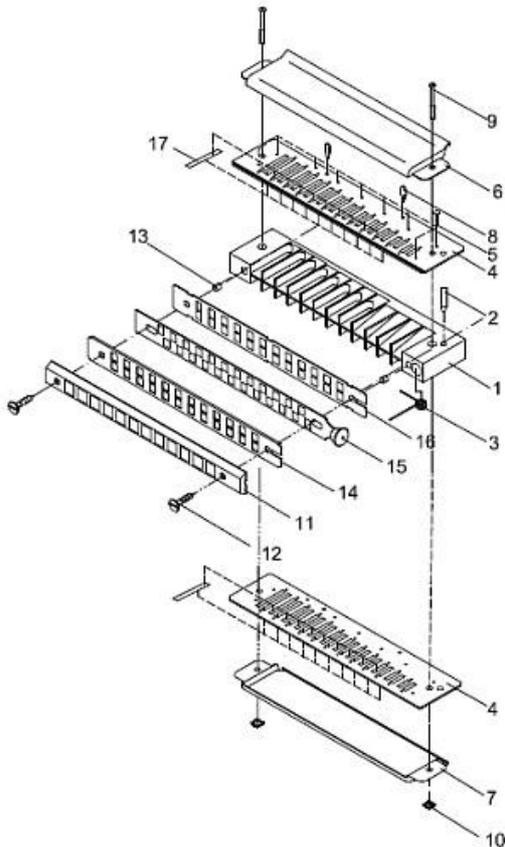
»Hohner Art.No.:MZ9317

Cleaning fluid.

Featured in workshop:

»Workshop C02 - Cleaning

Step 01 - Dismantling a Chromatic



Illus. C02-07

The exploded diagram on the left shows the construction of a Hohner Chromonica 48:

1. body or comb
2. Pivot
3. spring
4. reed plate
5. reed plate screws
6. upper cover
7. lower cover
8. cover support
9. cover screws
10. cover nut
11. mouthpiece
12. mouthpiece screw
13. buffers
14. flange
15. slide with button
16. blank
17. reeds

However, cleaning a chromatic does not necessarily mean that you need to dismantle the entire instrument.

C02 – Cleaning

Step 02 - Cleaning the leading edges of covers



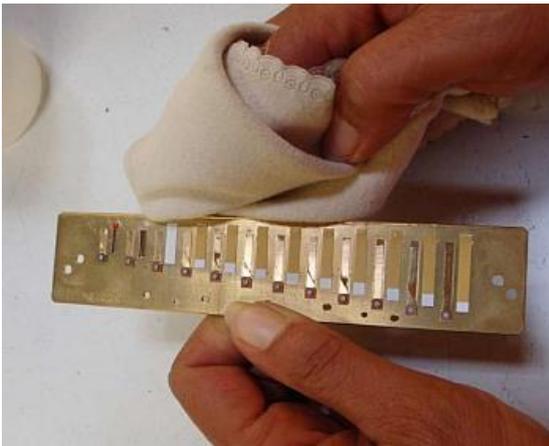
Illus. C02-08

In the course of time, playing your harmonica will result in the formation of a deposit of dried saliva and dead skin between covers and mouthpiece.

To clean this off, simply remove **9. cover screws** and **10. cover nut** and clean the residue from the leading edges and the rest of the covers as shown on the left.

You can do this using the
 »[Hohner Mouthpiece Cleanser Art.No.:MZ9317](#)

Step 03 - Cleaning the reed plate cover groove



Illus. C02-09

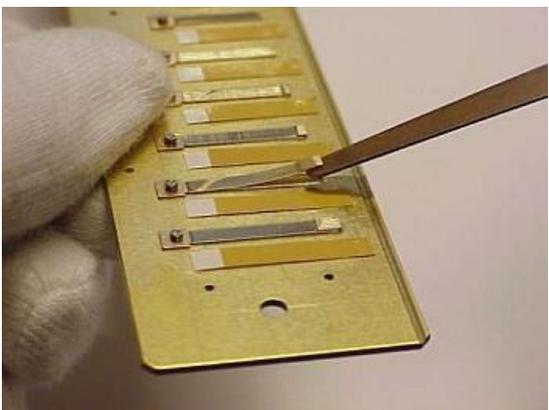
The cover groove of the reed plates is the place to start. Using the cleaning cloth and your thumbnail, clean out the groove.

Removing and cleaning the reed plates should be avoided as long as sound production is not impaired. Always bear in mind: 'Never touch a running system!'

However, a residue of dried saliva can act like glue, so if you have a problem with reeds or windsavers sticking, you will need to unscrew the **reedplate screws 5.** and lift off the reed plates.

Before you do so, you should loosen the **mouthpiece screws 12.** so that no tension is on the **comb 1.** of the harmonica

Step 04 - Cleaning the reeds and slots



Illus. C02-10

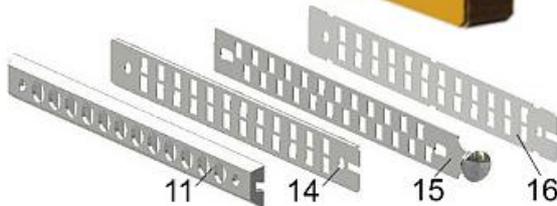
On no account should you work with a cloth or a brush when cleaning reeds and slots.

For this purpose, use **Tool 2: reed lifting blade** from the »[HOHNER SERVICE SET MZ99331](#) exclusively

Gently lift the reed and let it 'plink' back into the slot. This will release small encrustations of **debris** which may be causing the reed to stick and preventing it from sounding properly.

C02 – Cleaning

Step 05 - Cleaning the slide package



Illus. C02-11

The mouthpiece assembly needs cleaning regularly, at the latest when the slide starts to stick due to the build-up of dried saliva. How frequently this is necessary depends on the composition of your saliva and also on how much you play.

It's usually better to clean the slide package without removing the reed plates, as these help prevent the comb from warping when the mouthpiece is taken off.

The parts are:

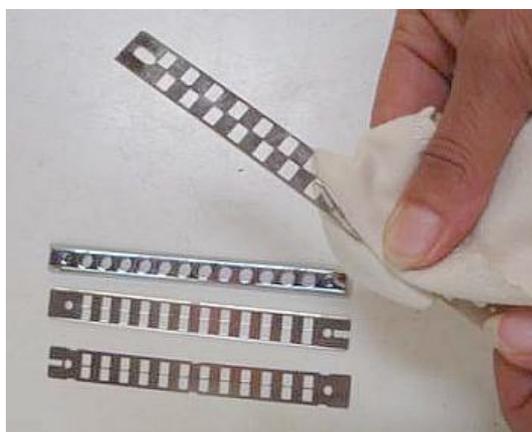
- 11. mouthpiece
- 12. mouthpiece screw
- 13. buffers
- 14. flange
- 15. slide with button
- 16. blank

The most important components are parts 11, 14, 15 and 16 (see diagram C02-11). As there are four of them, this type of slide assembly is referred to as a '4-part-slide-package'

Different types of construction are used in the various HOHNER chromonica models, from 2-part to 3-part and 4 part.

While dismantling the slide package, take care not to lose the buffers. But if you do, don't worry - these are expendable parts which wear out and can be ordered in the HOHNER CSHOP:

»13. Buffers Art.No.:TM99401



Illus. C02-12

First of all clean the parts using the »Hohner Mouthpiece Cleanser Art.No.:MZ9317 and Tool 8: Cleaning Cloth as shown on the left.

As soon as the parts are clean, use Tool 9: Slide Oil and put a very thin film of oil on both sides of the slide 15.

It's very important use the oil extremely sparingly and ensure that none gets into the inside of the instrument, because this will cause the windsavers to stick and render the harmonica unplayable.