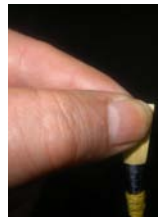


On receiving your reed, it is a good idea to employ the following 4 steps

STEP 1 Receipt of your reed



Always Manipulate and squeeze the tips.
(DO NOT MOISTEN)



Each time you blow your pipes,
you can repeat this exercise but employing a
less severe squeeze

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STEP 2 Check the Balance of your reed

If using a tuner attempt a reading between 449-452hz

Ensure the reed is inserted firmly into the reed seat.

Always grasp the reed between thumb and forefinger on the staple



Moth blow continuously low A and high A, if you are using a ***Shepherd Chanter*** be assured that these notes were tested and balanced before leaving our workshop. if you fail to have success at this stage try follow the basic rules illustrated before employing STEPS 3 and 4



Symptom Sharp	Symptom Flat
Raise in chanter	Lower in chanter



The High "A" will alter more dramatically than the "Low A"

STEP 3 Check the strength of your reed



Mouthblow continuously on lowA, C, E, highA,, E, F, High G, High A

If you fail to produce the second High A at the same pitch as the first High A,

You could conclude that the reed strength is on the strong side for you, herefore go to STEP 4

Factors affecting difficult tuning

.Hard pipes → leaking gas or leaks → unfriendly drone reeds → unfriendly pipe reeds

Also beware of the Unfriendly PIPE CHANTER

Prove by using a variety of reeds

Difficult to achieve the octave A-A'

and

Also the A arpeggio notes A,C,E,A

And in particular the notes F and high G

“The message being do not always blame the reed”

STEP 4 To make the reed weaker and Raise the Pitch

To raise the pitch and make the reed easier, give a “hefty” squeeze as shown.



If the reed is proving difficult to react to the squeezing at this position, Slightly lower the squeeze position closer to the staple.



After raising the pitch you will probably have to reset as in step 2 to achieve the “A” octave

If the reed is being stubborn and not responding to your requirements regarding its strength, it could mean that you have ordered or received a reed which does not match your perceived strength. Please Contact us and ask for George at 01592 720130 or by e-mail at aftersales@shepherd-bagpipes.com.