# PerfectaReed

# Takes the guess work out of reed adjusting!

The PerfectaReed is а user friendly precision instrument designed to measure all single reeds. This ingenious device accurately identifies imbalances commercially made reeds, in enabling the user to manually reeds adjust individual to specifications or to precisely copy a model reed.



## **GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS**

Examine the PerfectaReed to familiarize yourself with the instrument.

Dial indicators are sensitive to atmospheric conditions that can cause the pointer to move from either side of zero. To adjust the pointer, loosen the dial screw and rotate the frame until the "zero" on the dial face lines up with the pointer, then tighten the dial screw. Each line on the dial face represents one thousandth of an inch.

Numbers 1–8 on the lower base are evenly spaced on either side of the sensor, to measure along the length of the reed. Letters A–F on the upper base are evenly spaced to measure across the width of the reed.

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## Precision Reed Measuring Instrument

#### **MEASURING PROCEDURES**

The PerfectaReed is shipped with the pin in locked mode and aligned with the black line in the "A" position. This secures the carriage from moving during shipping. The "A" position measures the reed's rails. Place the reed on the lower base parallel to the base ridge. Using the ridge as a guide, slide the reed's tip under the sensor to #1 line. Record the dial reading on paper and continue this procedure for #2 – #5.

Compare readings on opposite sides of the reed to determine which side has more mass. Remove material from thick side to match with thin side.

Remove the reed from the base. Turn the lock pin handle 180° counterclockwise. This unlocks the carriage. Remember, only move the carriage in the unlocked position! Using the grip circles, move the carriage to "B" line. Match "B" line to black line on carriage. Move the lock pin handle 180° clockwise to lock the carriage position. Check that the black line is always perfectly aligned to the letter line.

Continue moving the carriage throughout positions C, D, E and F using the procedure of measuring and recording numbers.

### TIPS FOR BEST RESULTS

Reeds may be measured wet or dry. A wet reed will tend to hold to the base better than a dry reed.

Use a favorite reed as a model for the basis for your measuring.

Test play the reed after each cycle of measuring and scraping.

Clarinet reed measurements will use only #1-5, saxophone reeds will require #6-8 also.

Visit reedwizard.com/perfectareed.html to find a worksheet to document your measurements.



## NOMENCLATURE

- 1. Dial indicator
- 2. Pointer
- 3. Dial screw
- 4. Dial frame
- 5. Lock pin handle
- 6. Carriage
- 7. Grab circle
- 8. Black line
- 9. Upper base letters
- 10. Ridge
- 11. Lower base numbers
- 12. Sensor

Caution: Never move carriage in locked position.