



INSTRUCTIONS
FOR
USE AND CARE
OF


Malmark

CHOIRCHIMES®

INSTRUMENTS G3 THROUGH C8

Thank you for choosing Malmark!

Your Choirchimes® have been designed and manufactured to give you years of pleasurable use with very little maintenance. Please take the time to read this booklet in order to become familiar with your Choirchimes and our simple recommendations that will ensure the maximum degree of playability with the minimum amount of effort.

PLEASE NOTE:

The beauty of Choirchimes is best heard when they are rung with an easy full stroke of the arm. They are not designed nor intended to be a loud instrument. Ringing too forcefully in an attempt to make them loud destroys their tonal quality and can cause damage to the tines. Martellating, even if performed correctly, may also cause damage to your chimes. Failures of this nature are not covered under the guarantee. Treat your Choirchimes as you would any fine musical instrument to ensure many years of satisfactory performance.

CHIMES THAT HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO EXTREMELY LOW TEMPERATURES SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO REACH ROOM TEMPERATURE BEFORE PLAYING. LOW TEMPERATURE CAN CAUSE THE METAL TO BECOME BRITTLE AND, IF STRUCK HARD, COULD RESULT IN CRACKING.

ABOUT YOUR CASES

If your purchase included a carrying case(s), your 25 note set of chimes will be found stored in two sections of the double-handled case. Before opening it, place it on a flat surface with the top (identified with the Malmark label) up, open the case and lay the top back so that both halves of the case are flat on the supporting surface. Note how each tube is confined in a pocket, and that they are arranged chromatically in musical progression. Lift out a tube from the bottom half of the case and observe that the pocket is labeled for easy replacement with the same musical note designation with which the tube is marked.

Examine the top half of the 25 note case and observe that the chime tubes are secured in their pockets by a clamping bar which is, in turn, secured within a bracket on each side of the case. To release the bar, slide the bar to the left until the right end clears the bracket, lift and remove. To replace, insert the bar into the left bracket and push to the left until you can slide it into the right bracket.

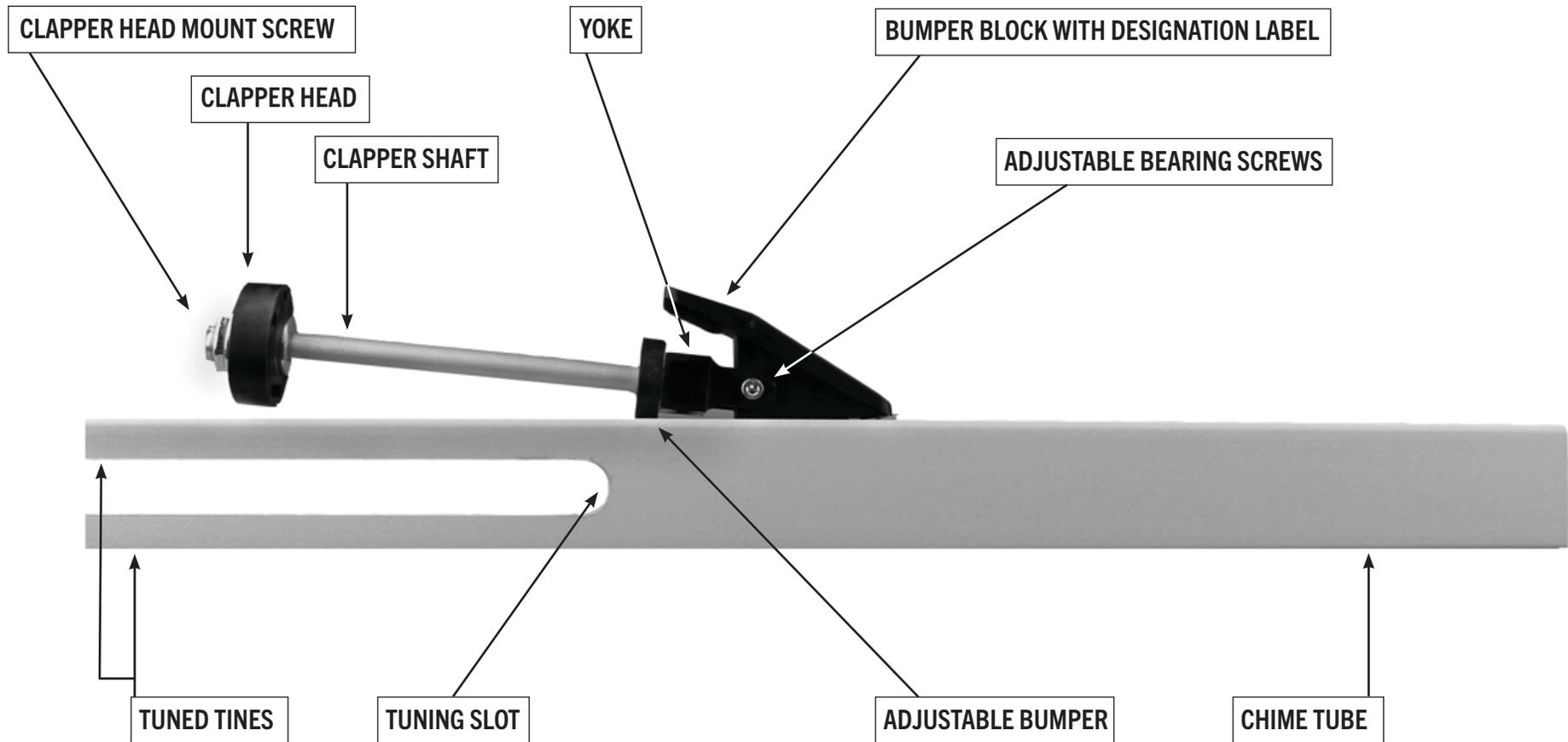
The cases for the 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th octave chimes confine the chimes similarly except all the tubes are placed in the lower half of the case and no movable locking bar is utilized. You will find, however, the bass chimes from B3 and down are stored with foam tine protectors which should be reinserted after each use.

Notice a small brown envelope in each case which contains a hex wrench for minor adjustments and a small clear plastic bag which contains a case key included in each case. No other tools are supplied or needed.

Please refer to the labeled photograph on the next pages to assist in identification of the chimes parts.



MALMARK CHOIRCHIME® INSTRUMENT



Note that this photograph represents the majority of Malmark Choirchimes® and depending on pitch, model or series, clapper details may vary with respect to the picture above. Malmark reserves the right to make design changes in the interest of product improvement without prior notice.

THE CLAPPER ASSEMBLY

The clapper head found on chimes C4-C8 is secured by a single clapper head mount screw in the clapper bushing. While a round felt or rubber head is assembled onto the C4-B4 clapper shafts, C5-C8 have clapper heads with a series of holes, slots, and a solid area, one of which is aligned at the point of impact. **The correct position for best sound quality has been selected at the factory and no attempt should be made to change it.** The clapper head is not adjustable as it is on Malmark Handbells. Do NOT attempt to rotate or force it into another position, or you may loosen the bushing from the clapper shaft.

At its other end, the clapper shaft attaches to a nylon yoke that pivots on the tapered heads of two stainless steel socket head bearing screws. Just before this point is a round, adjustable, rubber bumper placed on the shaft to hold the clapper head away from the surface of the chime tube. This adjustable bumper may be rotated left or right to position the clapper head closer or further from the chime tube to suit the preference of the ringer. To do this, grasp the adjustable bumper by its sides with the thumb and forefinger and rotate it to the desired position. The clapper head must clear the chime tube surface when the chime is held in a horizontal position. If the clapper head lays against the chime tube after it is rung, the sound will not sustain. **Do not turn the adjustable bumper unless necessary. Do not attempt to slide the bumper up the clapper shaft. Excessive movement may loosen the bumper to a point it will not hold its position on the clapper shaft.**

The clapper shaft assembly is restrained on the back stroke through contact of the top of the adjustable bumper against the felted underside of the bumper block. The block is secured to the chime tube by means of two screws. These screws are not visible as they are covered by the designation label bearing the musical note and its staff location. Only deliberate abuse will cause loosening of these screws.



MAINTENANCE

Very little maintenance of your Choirchimes  is necessary. Over a period of time, some wear may occur at the bearing (screw)points on either side of the black nylon yoke. To eliminate any slack that may occur, slightly turn the adjustable bearing screws clockwise with the 5/64" hex wrench provided until the desired resistance is obtained. The clapper should swing freely with no lateral movement.

A buzzing sound is indicative of a loose screw(s) or possibly a crack. Check your clapper head mount screw and check for movement of the bumper block. Tighten as needed (you would need to put two holes in the label to adjust the bumper block screws). If the screws are tight, there likely is a crack which is typically difficult to see and cannot be repaired.

Cleaning your tubes is easily done with diluted dish detergent in water. Wring out a soft, lint-free cloth in the solution and wipe the tube clean.

TREMOLO AND DAMPING

A tremolo effect can be produced by grasping the tube high enough to allow the forefinger of the ringing hand to cover the open end at the base of the slot. By moving the finger to and from the slot, the resonating air column within the tube is modulated and a tremolo occurs. Another simple method to produce this effect is to shake the tube from side to side immediately after striking.

Damping could be effected in several ways, all of which involve slowing or stopping the vibrations of the tines at the tuned ends of the tubes. This can be part of the return stroke after ringing, in which the tine end is pressed against the chest or shoulder thus stopping the vibrations. Other methods are detailed in the instruction book and may be employed depending on the preference of the director.

Your Choirchimes can be played by themselves or with handbells for an added musical effect using music written for handbells.

GUARANTEE

Malmark extends to the original purchasers of all Malmark Choirchime® instruments in the C3 through C8 range a five year warranty against failure due to inherent flaws or manufacturing defects. Malmark, Inc., at its discretion, will repair or replace those parts requiring service without charge, where no obvious damage because of misuse or abuse is evident, when returned postage-paid to the factory.

The Malmark warranty gives you specific legal rights in addition to others which you may have that may vary from state to state. Malmark's liability shall not exceed the cost of repair or replacement of any part claimed defective.

