

Sax Key Adjusting Lever

Item #233041

Thanks for ordering your Sax Key Adjusting Lever.

The Sax Key Adjusting Lever is a versatile and effective tool that performs several functions necessary to the proper setup of a saxophone. Currently you may be using other methods or tools to make the same types of adjustments but with the lever you'll find it's much easier to do the work with far more precise results, and most technicians find the tool is a real hand saver.



Using Your Sax Key Adjusting Lever

Terms To Know:

1. The flange end of the tool is referred to as “the step” and the triangular end is “the point”.
2. The term, primary key, refers to a key that is activated by direct finger pressure.
3. The term, secondary key, refers to a key that is activated by a primary key. (For example: In the stack sections, the left hand C-key is a secondary key. So is the F# in the right hand stack.)
4. The terms under-adjusted and over-adjusted describe the adjustment relationships between primary and secondary keys. (For example: under-adjusted means the secondary key doesn't cover the hole and the primary touches first. Over-adjusted means the secondary key touches before the primary.)



Secondary RH F#.



Under-adjusted LH B.



Over-adjusted LH B.

Adjusting the Left Hand Stack:

Remove any keys necessary to expose the stack sections or those that may interfere with the tool's use.

The key concept to understand at this point is that, if a secondary key is over-adjusted, you will hold down the primary key and flex its foot downward using the lever over the back bar.

For example: if the B is over-adjusted, hold down the B-key, insert the tool under the hinge and flex the back bar down. The flexing moves the foot gradually and with control. It's this kind of controlled movement that you want.

If the A is over-adjusted, hold down the A, and use the lever to flex the foot from the top of the C back bar. Always place the tool as close to the key foot as possible for direct pressure.

You can use the step and turn it up on end if needed. When adjusting the A in this way, it's best to hold both the key cup and the pearl down. This helps localize the flex to the foot alone, and it's the foot that we're trying to move. In most situations you won't need to adjust the A this way.

It's more common to adjust the pearl arm up or down relative to the cup. This moves the key foot in relation to the pad cup. Then adjust the pearl (or its felt) to the Bb bis key.

Another important concept: If the secondary is under-adjusted, we want to close the angle of the secondary key.

For example, if the C is under-adjusted from either the B or A, we'll work only on the C. We'll use the



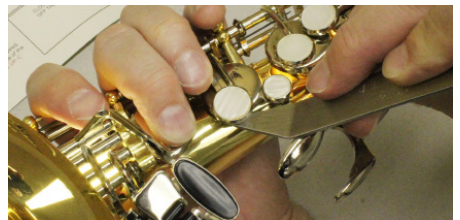
Holding B-Key and flexing back bar.



Holding A-Key and flexing foot from C back bar, with step end turned up.



Adjusting pearl arm down and pad cup up.



Adjusting pearl arm up and pad cup down.

lever to reduce the angle of the C-key arm relative to the back bar. Place the point end of the lever under the tail of the back bar while resting the broad part of the tool on the B-hinge. Flex the bar down.

Check adjustments often so you don't over do it and try to move the key in small increments. The Sax Key Lever is the perfect tool to do this.

If the A is in adjustment, but the B is over-adjusted, open the angle of the B-key by inserting the tool between the inner corner of the foot and the body. Using the inner corner prevents compressing the cork. Only do this when there is a rib on the body. Without a rib, this could dent the horn.

Adjusting the Right Hand Stack:

Assess the stack section to decide what needs to be adjusted and in which direction. Take into account each adjustment that will have to be made and try to use as little movement as possible.

If the F# is over-adjusted from any of the F, E, or D, then lift the back bar of the F#.

If the F# is under-adjusted adjust the back bar down.

If the F, E, or D is not open enough, you may use the lever under the foot of the key and pull the pad cup up. Make sure to use the tool under the inner edge of the foot, but again only if it's resting on a rib.

Spatulas can be aligned with the Sax Lever by prying up against a post.

Touch pieces can be aligned using a post as a fulcrum.



Reducing angle of C-Key arm.



Lifting back bar of F#.



Adjusting back bar down.



Adjusting spatulas.

That's pretty much all you need to get started with the Sax Key Adjusting Lever. I expect this tool will make your sax work a little more enjoyable and a lot faster.

For further demonstration of these instructions see our Sax Key Adjusting Lever instruction video online at www.jlsmithco.com. And while you're there, sign up for our email newsletter for repair tips, great new tools and special offers.

All the best,



100% Lifetime Guarantee!

J.L. Smith brand tools are guaranteed for life against breakage or defects. Just return any defective tool to us and we'll repair or replace it free of charge.

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