

Installing A Steinway Lyre, Easily!

PTG Tucson AZ 2019

Debbie Cyr, RPT

Materials needed: Rubber mallet, 3 or 4 rubber mutes, screwdriver if lyre is also screwed in.

Steinway lyres are attached to the keybed via the lyre support beam. From the late 1870's to 2007 all NY produced Steinway grands used interlocking iron plates on the lyres as well as the legs. These plates are kept in their inter-"locked" position by a wooden swivel "toggle" or "button", or a sliding wedge. Some lyres also have a couple of screws.

To remove the lyre assembly, sit on the floor facing the keyboard with your legs straddling the lyre. (Optional: use chalk to mark the location of the top of the lyre to the keybed.) Rotate the toggle away from the lyre capital using the handle of a rubber mallet. Remove any screws attaching the top of the lyre to the lyre support beam, if there are any. Now with one hand, hold onto the lyre to control its drop onto the floor while you strike the top rear of the lyre with the mallet, forcing it forward and unlocking the interlocking plates. Be careful, gravity takes over quickly. With the lyre now standing on the floor, detach the lyre sticks and lay them on the floor: left one on the left side, right on the right. Slide the lyre toward you, and remove for the necessary repairs.

In preparation for reinstalling the lyre, use rubber mutes to wedge up the trapwork levers. Wedge them in such a way that no lever or mute is hanging down in your way. Usually, one sideways between the shift lever and its side travel limiter post, 2 mutes at the point where the 2 sostenuto levers join, between the levers and the keybed, and on the damper lever, either turn up the stop screw, or position a mute between the lever and the "L" shaped lever stop. The levers should now all be higher than the lyre support beam. Position the lyre under the key bed, and lift it into place.

Slide it only part way back into the plate assembly, so that it is hanging loosely in place. Install the lyre sticks by inserting the bottom end of one first, and gently coax the top end into place. Likewise with the other. If needed, push gently against the pedal box to help keep the sticks in place. With the rubber mallet, hit the front of the capital on each side to push the lyre into place. Check that the lyre and each lyre stick is secure. Swivel the toggle into position, and bang it into place with the handle of the mallet. Make sure it returns fully into place - if it doesn't the lyre is not properly attached.

Remove the rubber mutes!

Test the pedals!

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Steinway Pedal Repair Parts

PTG Tucson AZ July 2019

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ITEM	PART NUMBER	COST	NEED
Pedal Pivot Rod 3/16"x 7"	8847	\$ 8.00 ea	1
Pedal Pivot Rod Teflon Bushings	7940	\$ 20.00/dz	3
Pedal Pivot Rod Leather Discs	7286	\$ 12.00/dz	6
Pedal Rod Rubber Tips	7910	\$ 18.00/dz	3
Pedal Cushions (Raviolis)	5258	\$ 12.00/3	3
Trap Lever Round Leather Disk 1x7/32	7309	\$ 10.00/dz	3

Total cost to replace above parts on 1 lyre \$39.00

Instead of Pedal Rod Rubber Tips, cut a round piece of hard leather 1/2" wide by 3/16" thick for the bottom of the pedal cup. Use action cloth 1 3/8" long by about 1/2" high to wrap around the pedal rod.

Instead of 3 Teflon Bushings, cut 3 pieces of bushing cloth 7/8" wide by 1 3/4" long

You can punch your own Pedal Pivot Rod Leather Discs – leather recommended. They are 15/32" wide, by 3/32" thick, with a 3/16" hole in the center. You need 6 for each pivot rod.

Also available:

Pedal Pivot Rod Machine Screws	8323	\$ 10.00/dz
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Round head pedal underplate screws not available from Steinway - they are either 10-32 or 12-32 x 3/4", not consistent in size over the years. Can be re-tapped.

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