

PTG Convention, August 2022
Anaheim CA
Jim Busby RPT

General Ideas to Consider

1. One person's "perfect" tool may not work as well for you. Test and determine what you like, but DON'T throw away those old tools! You may find a use later.
2. Make some tools, but buy the best of some of the important tools. Don't skimp.
3. Ask other technicians. "May I see what's in your toolbox?"
4. Have four lists: 1. Absolutely 2. Yes, but wait 3. Maybe, later 4. NO!
5. Get current supply house catalogs and mark them up

What's in Jim's toolbox?
(Powerpoint. Video available at PTG.org)

Giveaways for this convention

1. Wire canisters
2. String lifters (Lift or push down strings)
3. Large sanding paddles (80/320 grits. See video "Hammer filing in 10 minutes")
4. Small sanding paddle (Single hammer filing, and martin hammers to strings)
5. Folders and carbon paper (See video "Marking the strings")
6. Spike needler (See video, and David Stanwood voicing video.)
7. Upright bridle strap inserter (See video. Easy as other methods with factory results)
8. The Stick (To set letoff, squaring and leveling keys, etc.)
9. Shank splicing jig (Common tool, see video.)
10. The "perfect straw" (Not easy to find nowadays!)
11. Chopstick needlers (Give to certain clients. They will love it, and so will you!)
12. Key bushing depth gauge (And the answer is... 3/16" deep, 3/8" wide.)
13. Quick touchweights (In a few seconds you can detect major problems)
14. Una corda strips
15. Blow/checking gauge (Use it "At-a-glance"; i.e. don't waste time measuring everything.)