

# Installing strap buttons on an Autoharp

The screw holes for the strap button screws must be pre-drilled. Be sure the bit you use is as large as the shank of the screw, leaving only the threads of the screw to hold in the wood.

Our buttons are best drilled with a 3/32" drill bit.

Put the screw through the button and hold the bit up to the exposed part of the screw (the part that will sink into the 'harp) and mark the depth of the hole on the bit with masking tape.

Strap buttons may be installed in a variety of places, here is the most common:

On the treble side of the 'harp, on the top, one button will be placed just below the last tuning peg. Place it in from the edge approx. 1/4" to the edge of the button. Placement is arbitrary, just keep it far enough from the strings and the tuning peg so that you do not cause interference.

At the bass side, for most autoharps, a good placement is centered on the edge (not the top) about 1 1/2" to 2" from the bottom of the 'harp. This is the best placement for a d'Aigle 'harp.

Another placement is on the top, just in from the edge, between the chord bar assembly and the bridge.

For some others, best placement is centered on the bottom edge, about 1" in from the side.

Remember that the wood is extremely hard. Use wax or soap on the screws and insert carefully. If the head of the screw strips, it can cause difficulties. If the screw breaks off, move the pin over slightly to cover the broken screw, and try again.

Unless otherwise requested, our 'harps are shipped without the buttons installed. Players sometimes have specific requirements for the placement, and we'd rather not have holes where they don't belong.