



TIE-WRAP KEY LIFT MODIFICATION

FOR USE WITH: Rhodes/Fender-Rhodes Stage or Suitcase Piano models

INTRODUCTION

In a never-ending quest to improve their product, The Rhodes factory issued a change to the production of their pianos and an update for older pianos in the field. This modification, commonly known as a "key lift" was intended to improve the feel and response of the keyboard. Interestingly, the factory change involved adding a step at the very edge of the wooden pedestal, while the field update involved using a thin strip of felt added to each key.

We saw that the factory way was best, and found a way to add a hard surfaced lip that provides an even better feel than the original.

This kit contains the "tie-wraps" and instructions to allow you to add this improvement to your own piano.

KIT CONTENTS

Specially selected uncut "Tie wraps"	Instructions
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ATTENTION:

The required adhesive is NOT included in this kit.

We use a silicone adhesive sold under the trade name "Goop". There are different types of "Goop"; we use the "Household" variety.

1. Remove all keys from the piano.
2. If pedestal is covered with felt, be sure it is clean. If you find graphite (black powder) or Teflon (white powder), use high-pressure air to remove it.
3. Cut the tie-wraps into small segments, long enough to cover the width of the pedestal as shown in Fig. 1.
4. Put a dab of adhesive onto the cut segment of the tie wrap first then apply the tie-wrap to the pedestal as shown in Fig. 1 and press firmly holding it in place for a second or two. (If pedestal is bare wood, roughen the area to give the adhesive something to grip. NOTE: DO NOT ROUGHEN THE ENTIRE PEDISTAL; the remaining exposed wood must be smooth.)
5. Keep adhesive off top of tie-wrap and wipe off any excess amounts.
6. Repeat for all the remaining keys.
7. Let dry undisturbed for 24 hours.
8. Reinstall the keys into the piano.

Additional notes: If a key operates roughly after installation, some dried adhesive is probably contacting cam. Recheck to be sure that that top of the tie wrap, and the pedestal are free of any adhesive. If your piano has bare wood pedestals, it is also possible that felt that is glued to the hammer cam has become worn or grooved over the years. Replacement of that felt is the only solution for such a problem.

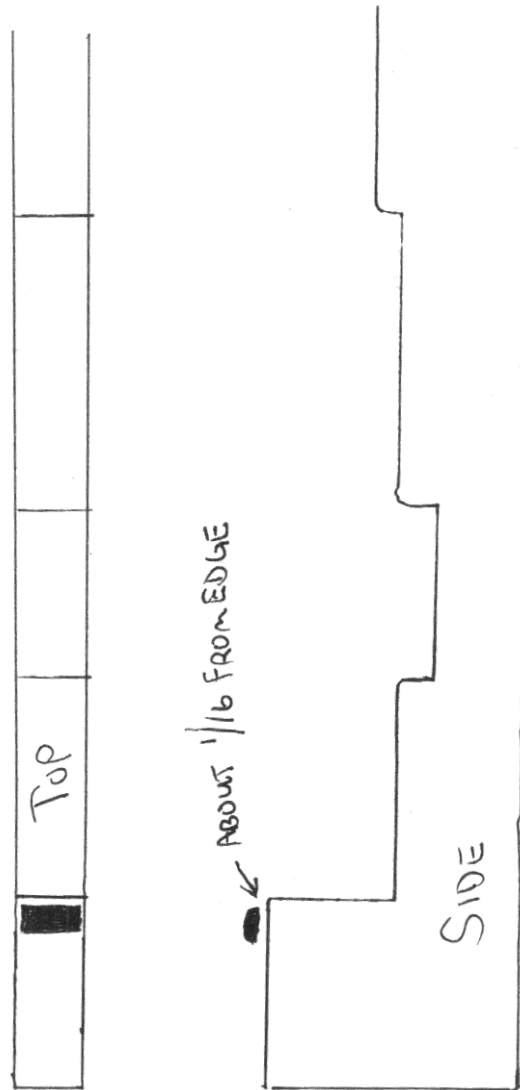


FIG. 1 - Rhodes Key tail