

# Clive Morley Harps Ltd

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## LOVELAND LEVERS - REGULATING

Loveland Levers were developed by Robert Bunker of Bertoud, Colorado. They have been around for quite awhile and have stood the test of time. These levers have a brass metal bracket with long black plastic handles. The long black handles are smooth to operate. They have a short throw, which facilitate rapid lever changes. Red and blue dots are painted on the C & F levers, making it easy to find the lever you want to engage.

Though technical aspects of the harp may seem daunting, basic adjustment of the levers on your harp is actually fairly easy and an important skill for a professional harpist. There are three basic adjustments you can do quickly yourself with a few tools you should have on hand. You can tighten a loose cam (the part of the lever that you move), slide the whole lever up or down to correct the pitch of the string when the lever is engaged and move the string away from the lever if playing the string causes it to hit part of the lever.

For Loveland levers, a 7/64 balldriver is used to adjust the screw that attaches the lever to the neck. If the whole lever becomes loose on the neck, one can simply loosen the string, move it out of the way, and tighten the screw with the driver.

If the left side of the lever is too close to the string, the string may hit it when you pluck the string. In this case, you can loosen the screws holding the lever on to the neck and slide the whole lever slightly to the left and then retighten the screws. Be sure to try the lever when you do this, if you have moved it too far the string may no longer contact the lever in the right place.

If the string is hitting another part of the lever when it is played, fixing this will likely involve moving the bridgepin in or out. As moving the bridgepin is difficult and will affect the intonation, you should probably leave this work to a trained technician.

If the cam of the lever is not staying up when you play the string, you will need just the 1/4" wrench to adjust the tension on the lever cam. There is a hexagonal nut on the left outside of the lever. Turn it counter-clockwise to loosen the cam, or clockwise to tighten it, but it is important to be very careful while tightening this nut. If you turn the nut too far, you will crush the tiny concave washers that are part of this assembly and then the cam will not work at all. Only make one quarter of a turn at a time and try the lever between each adjustment.

To adjust the intonation of the lever, you move the whole lever down to make it sharper, or up to make it flatter. Adjusting the intonation requires very small movements of the lever, and may end up involving some tricky adjustments to the bridgepin, so most harpers leave this part to a trained technician.

If you have any further questions, or need a set of tools to adjust your levers, or would like to find out how you can have your lever harp regulated by one of our technicians, please contact us.