

Buzzes

- 1 Check that the buzz really is coming from the harp
- 2 If it's a metal string, check that the winding isn't loose; this usually occurs near the levers
- 3 Check that the ball end at the bottom of the string is seated neatly against the string bar
If it's a gut string, check that it isn't worn with loose fibres
- 4 Check that the thick bits of gut at the base of the strings are at right angles to the string bar and aren't touching each other; check all the way up the string bar, not just in the area of the buzzing string
- 5 If it's still buzzing, check that the large nut inside the box at the base of the harp is very tight
- 6 If the harp buzzes only with the lever on, check that the cap screw fixing the lever bracket to the harp is tight and also check those around it
- 7 Hold the lever on firmly by hand: if this stops the buzz, then the handle may be worn and need replacing, or
- 8 The handle may need tightening on its bracket
- 9 The buzz may be caused by a lever handle on a different string vibrating if it is loose, so you may have to pluck the string and hold each handle in turn to check this
- 10 On some older harps, the stiffener strips going vertically down the back of the soundboard inside the box can vibrate loose – check they are secure
- 11 Check to see if there are there any other parts of the harp which don't seem secure – the screws in the base, for instance. If you can, tighten it!
- 12 If none of this works, which is highly unlikely, then we need to see the harp.

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