

CLEARTONE Plastic Drone Reeds

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Adjusting the Reeds - more details on Web

- **Bridle....** Move the bridle up to lengthen the blade and lower the pitch. Move the bridle down to shorten the blade and raise the pitch. **Only small adjustments are needed.** The bridle is also used to balance or match the reeds so each reed and drone has same response to changes of blowing pressure and so stays in unison.
- **The moveable plug....** This is the main adjustment for pitch control after the bridle has been adjusted for matching etc and also move the plug to ensure drones tune on the hemp. Both adjustments interact so it is important to obtain optimum setting by small increments of adjustment. Move the plug out....larger cavity....mellows tone...lower pitch. Move the plug insmaller cavity.....brighter tone...higher pitch.
- **Strength....** To increase the blowing strength of the reed - Lift the tip of the blade and bend away from the body. **Do not over adjust.** The adjustment may be required several times until the reed settles in. It is better to adjust the strength with the reed set slightly flat to start with, because if you “over adjust” the strength and make the reed too hard to blow or too rough then you can move the bridle down to close the reed slightly and this will also raise the pitch. If you adjust the strength of the reed with the bridle too far down (too high a pitch) and by mistake make the reed too hard to blow, then when you move the bridle up to lower the pitch, the reed will be even harder to blow.

Test the reed strength and pitch with the reed seated in the drone and not by blowing it in your mouth.

Test the matching of the reeds by varying blowing pressure and see if drones stay tuned in unison.

Keep the reeds clean - Dirt etc under the blade will cause it to stop. **Do not use Sharp Objects.**

The reed is made from tough modern materials and should not be easily damaged with normal care.