

ADDITION OF SHARPS KEYS to finished Lyre.

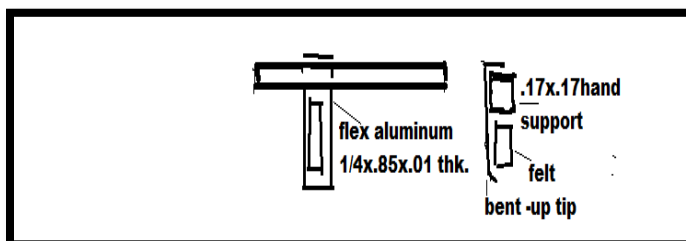
The instrument as shown contains 13 notes or 'naturals' B to G[octave 2].

Sharps and Flats strings were not added since this would increase the over all size. The solution is to include a way to increase the pitch of the natural note by a half-step for a sharp note to be played. This was accomplished by touching the string a fraction up on the string at the point it leaves the neck or rod. Then the string is plucked by the thumb when the key is pressed against the sharp-note point with the first finger. Alternatively, the left hand finger can do the key pressing while the right thumb strums the string.

The points where the string is touched to produce a 1/2 note higher pitch is usually a calculated distance. It is about 1/2 inch from the top of the rod for this instrument string lengths. The tine lengths are precut to be sufficiently long to touch this sharps point. They are a spring aluminum found in sheets at home improvement stores and the cans from beverage cans. cut to a 1/4 in. width.

Adhesive used here is RTV room temperature vulcanizing silicone adhesive called tub-calk. It is very rubbery and gives a little when the key is pressed down.

To protect the finger from the edges of the aluminum strip use a piece of velcro or felt and rtv on top. The end of the strip should be bent upwards about 45 deg.



SHARP KEYS FOR MINI-LYRE