

# ***HARMONIUM***

## ACCOUSTIC KEYBOARD



## INSTRUCTION MANUAL

This manual contains information & instructions relating to all models of **BINA** Harmoniums. Please disregard whatever information is not relevant to your model.

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# INTRODUCTION

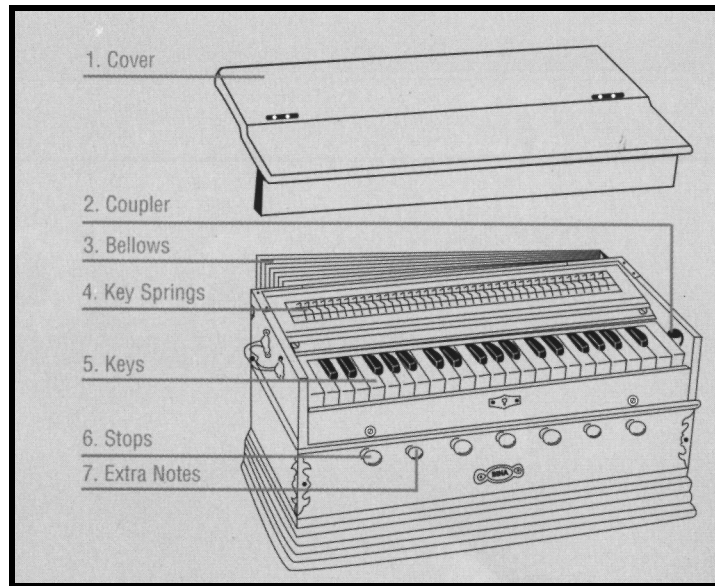
Congratulations on your fine choice. You are now a proud owner of a quality, genuine **BINA** musical instrument. **BINA** products are famous for their tonal quality as well as their reliability. **BINA MUSICAL STORES** was established five decades ago, and has since then become the largest manufacturing and exporting house of premium musical instruments in India - a result of our constant endeavour to offer superior value and commitment to the discerning musician. Being the pioneers in the art of making the Harmonium, because of which **BINA** is a household name in select music circles, we have diversified, and can now boast of an impressive array of musical instrument in our product line. The name **BINA** assures you of excellent quality and constant effort to exceed customer expectations.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

The harmonium is a very useful and all pervading accompanying acoustic keyboard. It is basically western in origin and entered India along with British rule, but the Indian Harmonium is now the sole survivor from its family that is being manufactured and used in a major way. It fits admirably in the Indian style of music rooted in melody of notes owing to its infinite adaptability and range of adjustments despite its limitation of having only fixed notes.

**BINA** Harmoniums are made essentially from two types of wood. Most low to mid end models are constructed using Pine whereas the upper end models are made from Teak. Irrespective of the type of wood used, it is seasoned well before use.

# PARTS OF A HARMONIUM



1. The cover is a wooden plane that is placed over the keys and key springs to prevent dust from entering these areas. Most, but not all models come with a cover.
2. Coupler is a feature, which allows double key function. It automatically presses the corresponding key of the next octave when any key is pressed.
3. Bellows are collapsible cardboard enclosures with the help of which air is passed through the reeds.
4. Key Springs are meant for keeping keys in their normal upright position.
5. Keyboard.
6. The large stop knobs fitted in front of the harmonium control the airflow into the reeds. The position is adjusted as per the sound required.
7. The smaller stop knobs control the drone/extra notes.
8. The reed board (hidden under the keys) is the plate on which the keys are set and has several holes that are covered using reeds.

# TYPES OF HARMONIUMS

1. Standard harmonium is the basic form of the harmonium as depicted in the picture.



2. Portable harmonium is a standard harmonium that settles into a cavity and closes to form a suitcase shape.



3. Scale changer is also a simple harmonium with the difference that the keys are not fixed over the reed board. The keys are instead mounted on a movable plate which slides sideways making one key place able on another note.



4. Hand and foot harmoniums have bellows at foot level with the main body at a higher level and connected to the bellows with pipes.

## TYPES OF BELLOWS

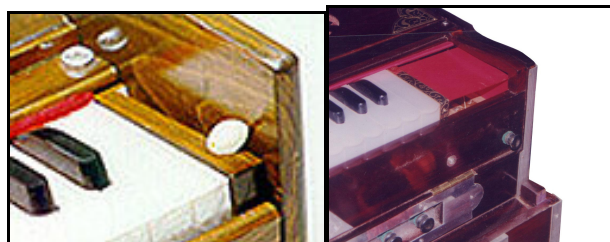
**BINA** harmoniums come fitted with the following types of bellows:

1. Double bellows.
2. Triple bellows.
3. Multi-fold bellows.



## TYPES OF COUPLERS

1. Standard coupler option comes in most harmoniums. This type of coupler is a lever fixed to the right of the keyboard and when in the up position is ON and when in the down position is OFF.
2. Scale changer harmoniums have the coupler on the front panel with the stops. It is the stop to the right and slightly above the other stops. When pressed the coupler is ON and when pulled out it is OFF.



# FUNCTION OF STOPS

Model No. 5, 10 and Bina Tarang

- |               |               |
|---------------|---------------|
| 1. Male reeds | 4. Bass reeds |
| 2. Bass reeds | 5. Tremolo    |
| 3. Drone      |               |

Model Nos. 8, 9, 11, and 12

- |               |               |
|---------------|---------------|
| 1. Male reeds | 5. Bass reeds |
| 2. Drone      | 6. Drone      |
| 3. Bass reeds | 7. Tremolo    |
| 4. Drone      |               |

Model Nos. 13, 15, 17s, 23 B 3 1/2, Bina Swar, and Sangeet

- |               |               |
|---------------|---------------|
| 1. Male reeds | 6. Drone      |
| 2. Drone      | 7. Tremolo    |
| 3. Bass reeds | 8. Drone      |
| 4. Drone      | 9. Male reeds |
| 5. Bass reeds |               |

Model No. 23 A and 23 B 2 1/2 Oct.

- |               |          |
|---------------|----------|
| 1. Male reeds | 3. Drone |
| 2. Bass reeds | 4. Drone |

Model No. 23 B

- |               |            |
|---------------|------------|
| 1. Male reeds | 4. Drone   |
| 2. Bass reeds | 5. Tremolo |
| 3. Bass reeds | 6. Drone   |

Model No. 31 and 32

- |                 |               |
|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. Drone        | 6. Male reeds |
| 2. Female reeds | 7. Drone      |
| 3. Drone        | 8. Tremolo    |
| 4. Bass reeds   | 9. Drone      |
| 5. Drone        |               |

## **SIZES OF HARMONIUMS**

1. 2 ½ Octave – 30 keys
2. 3 ¼ Octave – 39 keys
3. 3 ½ Octave – 42 keys
4. Scale changer – the keyboard is 3 octaves with the possibility of shifting the scale 4 notes either up or down.

Note: all keyboards begin with the note 'C'.

## **OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS**

1. Remove the cover in a standard harmonium or pull out the folded portion in the case of a portable harmonium.
2. Open the bellows.
3. Pull out the stops as per the required volume or tone desired.
4. Place the fingers on the keyboard before blowing air through the bellows.
5. After playing, remove air from the bellows by pressing any number of keys.
6. Close all the stops.
7. Replace the cover / fold the harmonium back.

## **CARE AND MAINTANANCE**

1. Never store the harmonium in a damp place.
2. Avoid exposure to high temperature and direct sunlight.
3. Never insert anything in the holes at the back of the bellows.
4. Never blow air into the harmonium without having pulled out any stops.
5. Always remove all air from bellows before closing.
6. Always cover your harmonium after playing or when it has to be stored.
7. Never change the coupler position while playing the harmonium.
8. Do not use lacquer, thinner or similar chemicals for cleaning.
9. Lastly, the best maintenance for your harmonium is regular usage. Long duration of storage results in the tuning going out and also in damage to the bellows.

**Once again, we thank you for choosing a BINA Harmonium and wish you years of melodious playing, and assure you of any assistance you might ever require.**

**Bina Musical Stores**

# WARRANTY

The harmonium is warranted against defects arising out of faulty or defective materials or workmanship for a period of ONE year from the date of purchase.

In case of a defect developing within the period of warranty, **BINA MUSICAL STORES** will undertake to repair the harmonium free of charge, provided the harmonium is returned to the manufacturer, freight pre-paid with adequate packing.

Tuning will be done at the cost of the owner.

This warranty is void if:

1. Physical abuse, improper handling, and reckless use by the user has damaged the instrument.
2. Any repairs or modifications are made / attempted on the harmonium by unauthorized personnel.
3. Counterfoil is not returned to **Bina Musical Stores** within 15 days of purchase of harmonium.