

## Tools of the Trade - Part 3

by Pat Missin

First of all, an update to something mentioned in the second part of this series of articles.

When I reviewed **the Harmonica Einstein Tuning Table**, I said it

was made in two different versions - one for those harmonicas - like the Golden Melody and some incarnations of the Special 20 - whose combs have those bits of plastic running crosswise through the chambers and one for those harps whose combs don't.

Things have now been redesigned so that there is a single model that accommodates both types of comb. Details at: [www.tuningtable.com](http://www.tuningtable.com)

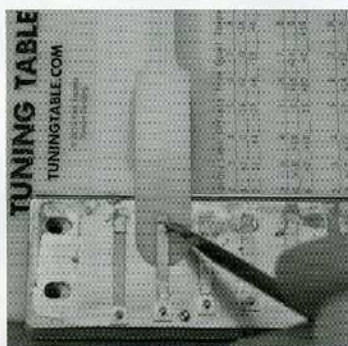
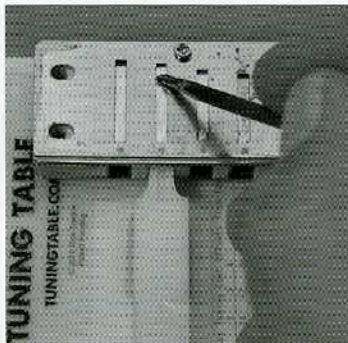
I also mentioned in the last instalment that we'd be featuring some stuff from Richard Sleigh in this issue - and here it is! Richard, for those of you who don't know, is one of the most respected diatonic harmonica customisers in the world, a long-time associate of Joe Filisko and a great harp player to boot.

Not surprisingly, the kit that he's put together for sale, **the Deluxe Tool Kit**, contains some top notch items, useful for working on both diatonics and chromatics.

Most of the tools have been specially made to Richard's specs, the exception being a three sided file made by the Swiss company Grobet, specially selected for tuning reeds.

The other tuning tool is a draw scraper. I've had a few of these over the years, but this is by far the best. It's extremely sharp (keep your fingers away from the cutting edge!) and very easy to control, mounted in a sturdy steel pin vise.

Also mounted in a pin vise is Richard's burnishing tool, for decreasing the gap between the edge of the reed and its slot. Again, very easy to control, it allows you to size one side of the slot at a time - extremely useful if the reed is not perfectly centred in the slot, or by using the opposite end of the tool to work on both sides simultaneously.



Einstein's Tuning Table

I found I could use both this tool and the draw scraper for extended

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