Autoharp Witch

HOW TO SAFELY PACK AN AUTOHARP

Whether you are taking your autoharp on a road trip, or plan to ship or receive an autoharp. There are a few simple steps you can take to help ensure the autoharp arrives at its destination safely.

1. **Loosen Strings & Secure The Chord Bars**
   Place a piece of card between the strings and chord bar felts. This will stop the bars rattling around in transit.

2. **Wrap it up snuggly and keep it dry**
   a. If you are taking your instrument with you in a case it's a good idea for extra protection to wrap it in a towel or an autoharp snuggy (a handmade custom quilt, just like a sleeping bag for an autoharp). Be aware these are only for short journeys as they will gather moisture (having a bag of silica in your autoharp case can help, especially if you live in a damp climate).
   b. For P&P - Wrap the instrument in bubble wrap. DO NOT use tape to secure directly on the autoharp body.

3. **Hard Exterior**
   a. Carrying your instrument in an autoharp bag or case is always recommended.
   b. For P&P - If the autoharp is not in a HARD CASE, It's time to make one by boxing the autoharp with strong cardboard. If you do not have a suitable cardboard box just wrap the autoharp with old cardboard boxes and tape it up securely. I recommend at least two layers and some more bubble wrap.

4. **Keep the rain and moisture out**
   a. In damp climate keep a bag or two of silica gel in your case. If like me you are in the outdoors carrying your instrument in the rain as extra protection a rain poncho like the ones used at festivals are ideal to cover your autoharp case.
   b. For P&P – Take the boxed and wrapped up autoharp and place in a large plastic bag (Garden waste bags are perfect for this purpose). Tape it securely.

5. **Label it**
   a. It is recommended your contact details are either on a discreet sticker on your instrument or on a label on your case or bag.
   b. For P&P – Always mark the package clearly FRAGILE. Ensure to add correct and clear SENDER and DELIVERY address. It is advised to insure and track the package.

Please share information with love and light courtesy of www.autoharp.witch.scot