

Loose Pins

Pitch doesn't stay

The pin might actually slip in front of you

The pin is very easy to move

Cause: low friction

Solutions:

Increase friction

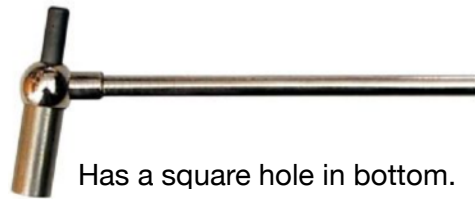
1) Put in a bigger pin. 2 sizes bigger.

2) Put in a sandpaper shim.

- Remove pin
- insert rolled up piece of sandpaper. Not a full rotation. Sand against wood.
- Hammer the pin back in

3) Hammer the pins in deeper. Look to see if there is room between the bottom of the coil and the plate. Do NOT let the coil touch the plate. Just move the pin.

- Hammering will cause pin to slip flat
- For a whole piano, consider using a tuning pin setter.



Has a square hole in bottom.

Notice that all these techniques cause the pin to be "bigger" in the hole.

If the pin block has a crack, this will just make the crack bigger.

How to know if there's a crack?

- Look for a pattern of loose pins in a horizontal row.

4) Ultra thin C.A. glue. (Crazy glue, "rapid" glue)

Good for a crack, but also faster than the other techniques.

- Put the piano on its back using a tilter.
- Put the glue in at the base of each pin.
- Make a little pool of glue at each base.
- Make two passes, add more glue if the 1st pool has soaked into the block.
- Let glue dry about 2 hours and then tune. Go flat first to break glue hold.
- Grand: You have to remove the action and line the keybed with plastic because the pin holes go all the way through and the glue will drip.
- The upright has "blind" holes that don't go all the way through so it's not as big a deal, BUT still be aware. The glue CAN find its way out of the hole and onto the floor.