

Matteo Cenerini

M i n i a t u r a

for piano solo

July 2024

Tool

inner tube

To perform this miniature, a piece of bicycle inner tube rubber is required. Cut a small piece, around 8-10 cm in length.

It will be used to rub the piano strings, starting as far as possible from the dampers and moving very close to them, in order to produce a high whistle pitched around a minor 7th plus an octave higher.

Depending on the tube material, the condition of the piano strings, and other variables, the tube's effect on the strings may vary in efficiency. If the inner tube doesn't provide satisfactory results, try scraping it with some sandpaper or on a rough surface to create irregularities in the rubber's surface. Alternatively, try turning it inside out, so the inner surface faces outward.

Video explanations about the use of this tool can be found here:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1AnzIHGX1W5k58RG5MeT_0wcMktQjd1Sb?usp=sharing

Inner tube



Folded inner tube



Notation

p crescendo/diminuendo from/to
p as piano as possible

Rub the string with the tube, starting from the furthest reachable point and getting as close as possible to the dampers. The notehead position refers to the involved strings, not the resulting pitch. Vary the dynamics by adjusting the tube's speed and pressure.

Cluster of rubbed strings

Inner tube pressure on strings:

- ◆ Very high pressure: Rubbing produces a scratchy sound. Completely damp the string to obtain a very dry sound.
- ◆ Medium pressure: Apply enough pressure to produce the most resonant sound while rubbing.
- ◇ Light pressure. Rubbing the string will produce almost no sound. Damping while playing by keyboard will make harmonics emerge.
- ◇ Lift inner tube from string. No effect.



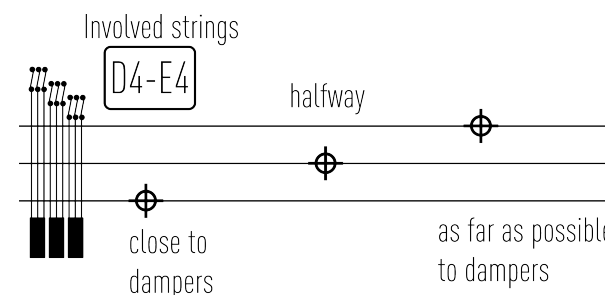
Damp the indicated string



Damped strings played by keyboard

D4-E4

Strings involved by the tube's action.
Middle C (261Hz) = C4



This clef refers to the position where to damp the strings, the lower line represents the closest point to the dampers, the upper line represents the position as far as possible to them, that for high strings could coincide with the point closest to the bridge, but obviously not for the lower ones.

Miniatura per pianoforte

♩ = 100

Freely, without time.

(Irregular groups only as suggestions.)

rub tube on strings
◆ (med. press)

hold tube on strings to mute them without rubbing
close to dampers

Bass cleff
always **8ba**

Ped. _____

close to dampers

Ped. _____

The musical score is written for piano and consists of two systems. The first system features a grand staff with a bass clef on the left and a treble clef on the right. The left hand plays a series of eighth notes with dynamic markings of *mf*, *mf*, *f*, and *mf*. The right hand plays a series of eighth notes with dynamic markings of *mf*, *p*, *mf*, and *p*. The second system continues the piece with similar dynamics and includes a 'Ped.' (pedal) marking at the end. The score includes various musical notations such as eighth notes, sixteenth notes, and rests, as well as performance instructions like 'rub tube on strings' and 'hold tube on strings to mute them without rubbing'.

2 (damped strings)

D4-E4

change tube position as fast as possible
lifting it up without rubbing the strings

mp *pp* *mp* *f* *p* *f* *pp* *mp* *pp* *p*

(Ped.)

mp *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mp* *mf*

(Ped.) Ped.

rub only one string

all strings

always start far from dampers

cluster (reach at least Bb)

mp *f* *p* *mf* *f* *ff* *sfz*

p *p* *pp* *sfz*

(Ped.) Ped.

E1-F1

D4

move tube very lightly on the strings, some whistles can occur but try not to produce them intentionally

(Ped.)

Ped.

D4-E4

(Ped.)

Ped.

no tube

double escapement

(Ped.)

Ped.