



#I-42 Rhodes Elliptical Profiler

The Rhodes Elliptical Profiler is different from other profilers in that the center to side profile is adjustable and the cane, not the barrel, is flipped to cut each side. Two O-rings hold the cane in place as well as two collars with indents for the butt of the cane on each end. The main benefit of this machine is to take more cane off the reed in a way that is bassoon-like. You will always get a crescent shape which almost every bassoon reed making technique aspires to.

Use light but steady pressure and quick back and forth strokes. Steadily and slowly twist the barrel. If you are gouging the blade (face of the cane) you are placing too much pressure and not cutting fast enough. Possibly you are twisting the barrel too fast. The cutter carriage can take a lot of force and speed. All that said, the machine works more or less like standard double and single profilers.

If you want to take more off the sides of your reed move the cane to the end of the barrel. To take less off the sides move to the center. The bearing race is fully adjustable with numbered dials in half thousands increments. The front of the race is sloped to take more cane off or you can move the race for a straight taper. Side knobs adjust the collar and tip cut stopping points. The bearing race adjustment can be stiffened by removing the whole unit and tightening the slotted screws. Careful, as too tight and the dials will not work. All parts on the machine are adjustable but beware radical adjustments. Slow and careful. Try starting above your measurements and slowly work down to your specifications. This isn't hard to do and many times you can get it using one piece of cane which might even turn into a good reed.

The blade is adjustable using the brass screw. The set screw must first be loosened with the provided allen wrench. There should only be the thickness of a piece of paper between the height of the blade and the blade thickness guide on the front of the cutter. After sharpening you might have to readjust this thickness. Taking off too much might gouge the reed and not enough will make the profiling take longer.

The machine is set to around .035" at the collar down to about .018" at the tip. It is set from the factory for 120mm cane. It can easily accommodate 8 inch cane for sarrusophone or 6 inch cane for contrabassoon. Custom diameter barrels are available. The factory barrel is one inch.

If what I have included in this brief manual doesn't meet your needs please contact:
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