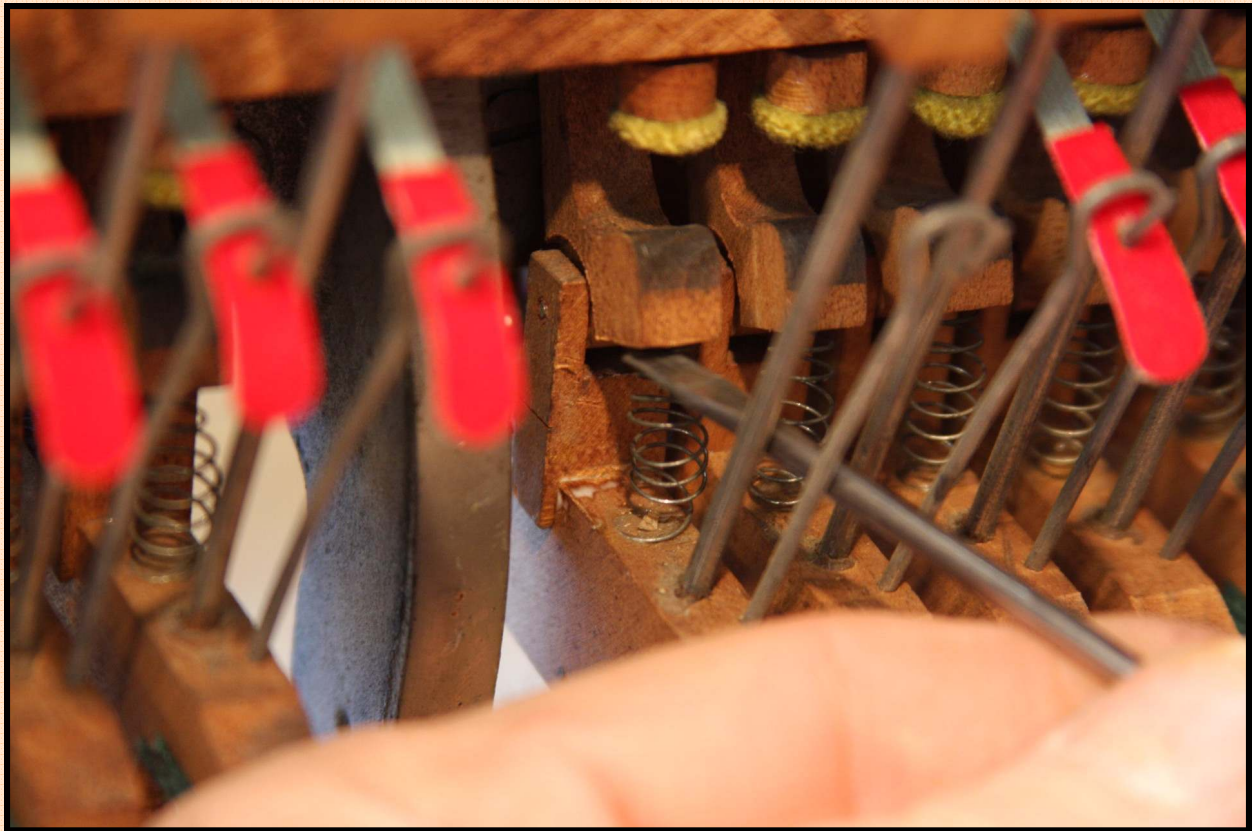


Schaff Piano Supply Company Presents:

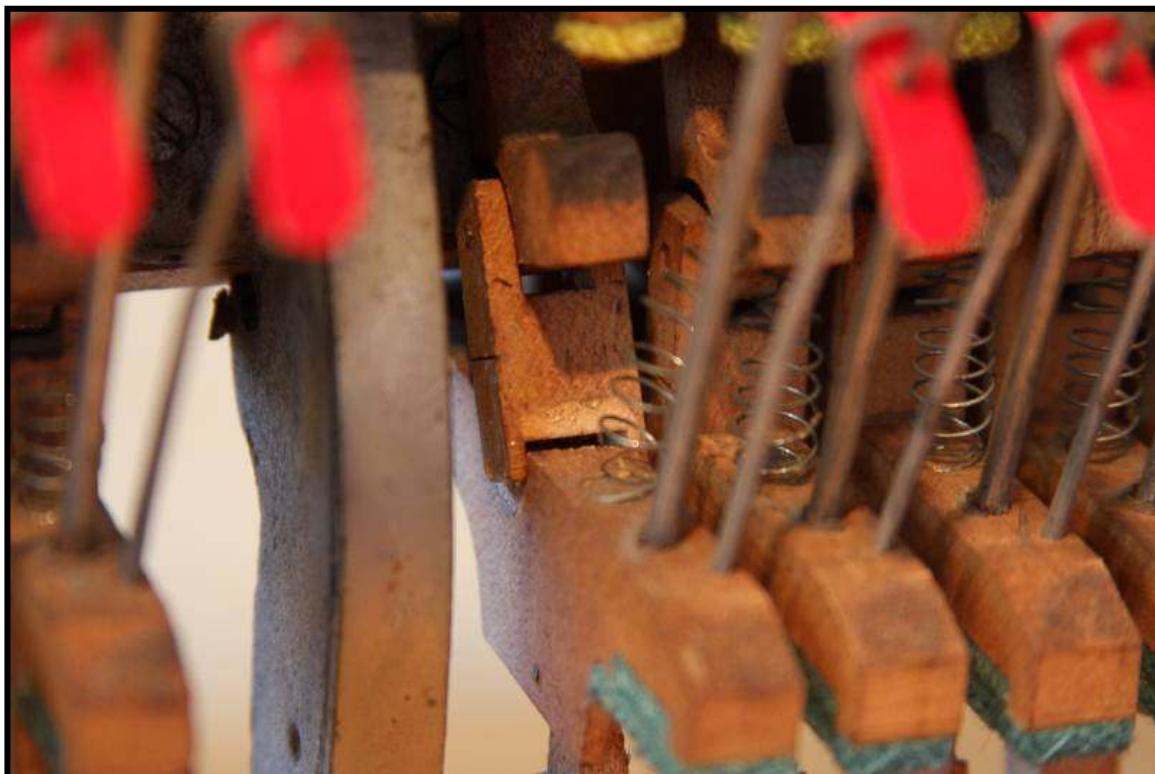
# Regluing Loose Jack Flanges in the Upright Action Basic Procedures



Action Work

By Chuck Behm

## Regluing Loose Jack Flanges

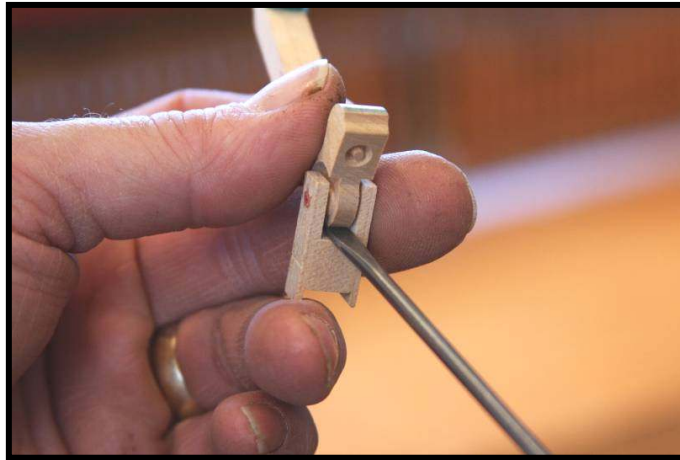


### -Rationale-

For the beginning technician out in the field for the first few times, certain necessary repairs are sure to cause frustration. On older uprights, jack flanges occasionally come loose from their respective whippens (photo above), resulting in notes that don't play, and a repair that needs to be done on the spot.

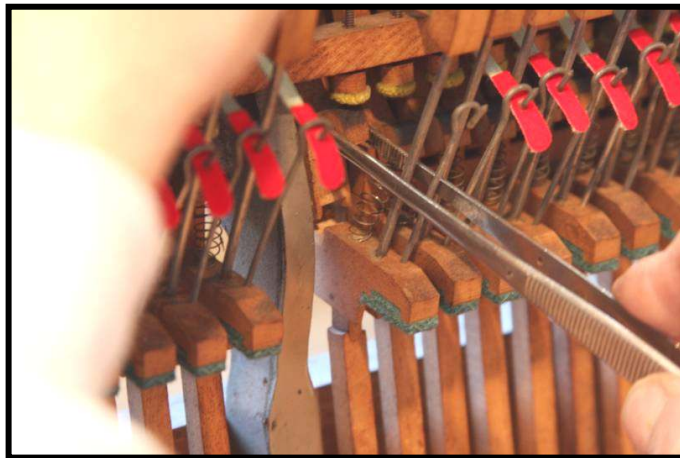
With the right tools and supplies this problem can be solved quickly, and without the need to remove the whippen from the action.

With a simple pair of 8" tweezers, a small flat-bladed screwdriver with combination handle, and a bottle of Titebond glue, one can easily make the repair without removing the action from the piano. The method is simple. One applies glue to the mortise, and reinserts the jack flange from the front .



*Photo 1: The fit is the key.*

The [Schaff grand screwdriver](#), (Cat. No. 4105) used with a [combination tool handle](#) (Cat. No. 26) is ideal for this job, and the key to its success. (If you have a small flat-bladed screwdriver already that you think would work, check to see that the blade fits easily in between the arms of a jack flange, as shown in Photo 1 above, with room to spare under the jack itself.) The screwdriver is the tool that you will use to push the flange solidly into the mortise, among other functions as well. These are the steps to follow in this procedure:



*Photo 2: Tweezers blades on either side of wires.*

1. To gain better access to the work site, unhook the bridle strap from the wire hook. Push up on the hammer with your left hand, and use a pair of [8" tweezers](#) (Cat. No. 160 C) as shown in Photo 2 to lift the jack flange up slightly to be clear of the mortise and out of the way. (The jack spring will most likely come loose from the jack in the process – don't be concerned.) Since the jack and its flange are not one solid piece, but bend at the pivot point, sometimes it takes a little effort to get it to go exactly where you want it to, so be patient. Prop the flange on the back part of the whippen, put the tweezers down, and go to the next step.



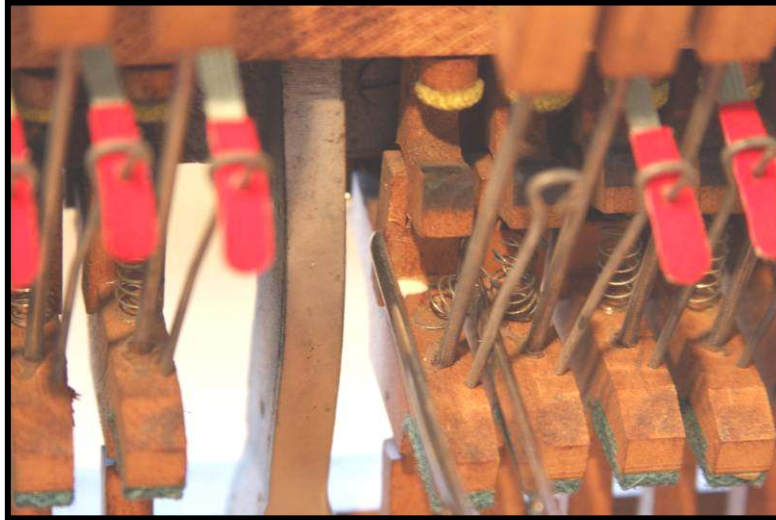
*Photo 3: Just a drop is needed.*

2. Put a drop of [Titebond glue \(Cat. No. 392-1\)](#) on the blade of your screwdriver (Photo 3).



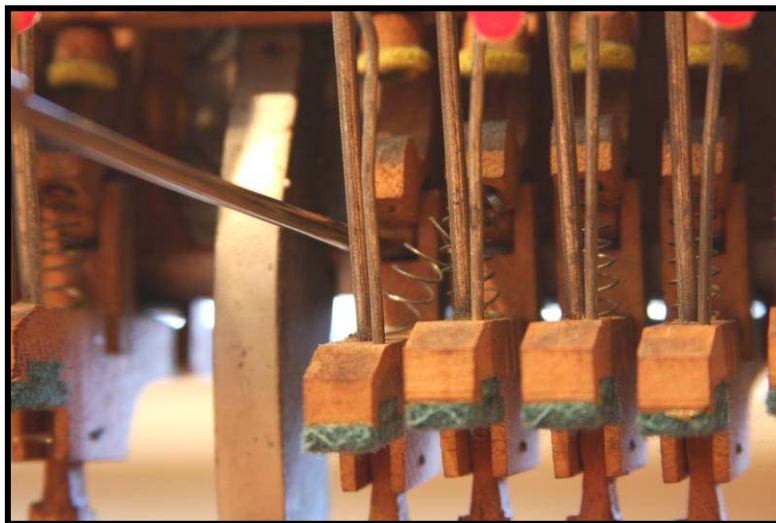
*Photo 4: Application of glue to mortise.*

3. Carefully insert the screwdriver, glue side up, back along the left side of the backcheck wire to the mortise. Turn the blade over, and scrape the glue (Photo 4) into the mortise. Allow several seconds for the glue to flow to the bottom of the mortise.



*Photo 5: Positioning of the jack*

4. With the tweezers, grasp the flange and position it over the mortise (Photo 5). This usually requires a bit of patience to get the alignment just right. Holding the hammer assembly up out of the way usually makes it easier to position the flange. You'll get a feel for knowing when the positioning is correct after you've done this repair a few times, and it will get easier and quicker. Ordinarily, the tweezers will not give enough leverage to push the jack flange completely in place.



*Photo 6: Pushing the flange on home*

5. Using the flat-blade screwdriver again (with any glue cleaned off), insert the blade of the screwdriver in between the arms of the flange and push firmly down (Photo 6).

You will feel the flange slide home if the positioning is correct. Sometimes, a gentle movement of the screwdriver blade from side to side or from front to back is needed before the flange will slip into place. Sometimes, the flange will be knocked out of position and you will need to repeat step 4. Again, be patient.

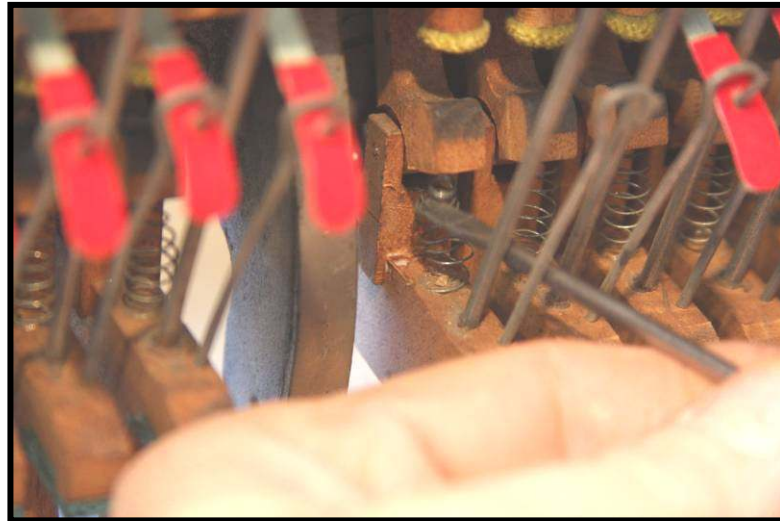


Photo 7: Using the screwdriver for yet another job.

6. Scrape any excess glue off with the blade of the screwdriver, wipe it clean, and reinsert the jack spring into the well on the underside of the jack by positioning it into place with the screwdriver (Photo 7).

Reattach the bridle strap and the repair is complete. If you are in the process of tuning the piano, the note may be used immediately.

**Tools and supplies:**

For your convenience, the tools and supplies for this repair are listed with corresponding catalogue numbers.

**Tools:**

Schaff grand screwdriver..... Cat. No. 4105

Combination tool handle.....Cat. No. 26

8" Tweezers.....Cat. No. 160 C

**Supplies:**

Titebond glue.....Cat. No. 392-1

**To order, call Schaff Piano Supply at 1-800-747-4266**

Important note: Ordering information is given for the use of Schaff account holders only.

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Notes on Procedures

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