

Installing the Music Desk Hinge

Basic Procedures



By Chuck Behm

Installing the Music Desk Hinge



-Rationale-

The music desk hinge (Cat. No. 940W or 940N) for grands is a useful and appropriate replacement part for older style grands with inadequate or broken original hardware. It provides a sturdy prop for the music rack which also allows the folding down of the rack when it is to be stored under the closed lid. The brushed brass finish of the hinge, when combined with brass screws, makes for an attractive piece of hardware for any grand.

Although not a universal replacement part, in that it will not fit all the types of music desks manufactured, it does work for many varieties of music desk styles.

Installing the music desk hinge is a simple procedure which will take the technician approximately a half hour of time. The following directions should be helpful to the technician making an installation for the first time.

Case Work / Installing the Music Desk Hinge

-Basic Procedures-

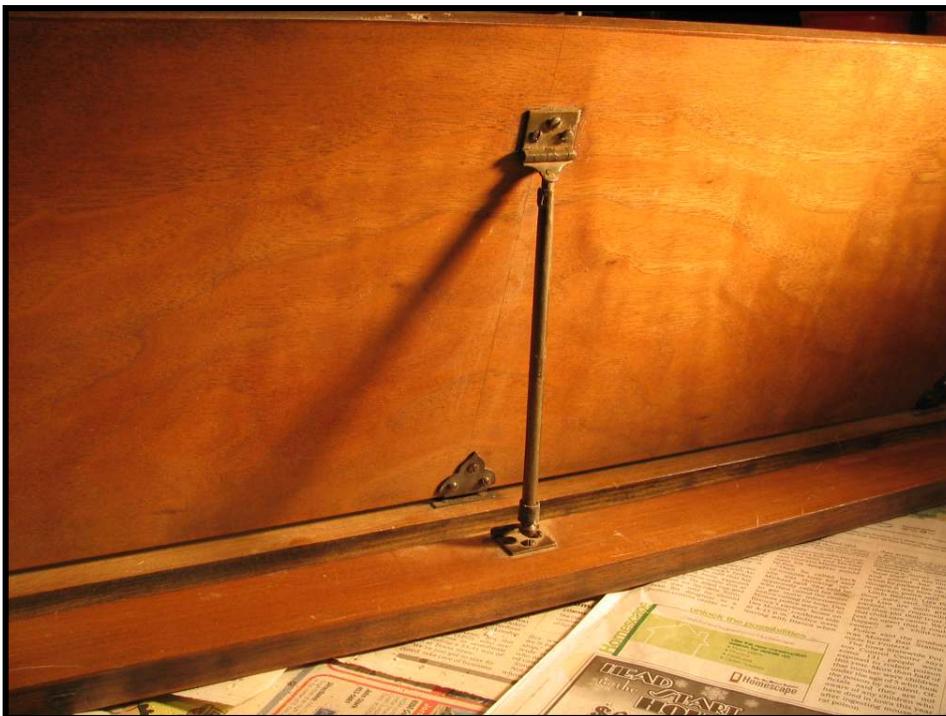


Photo 1: Old style music desk prop.

The [music desk hinge](#), Cat. No. 940W and 940N, are most useful for the replacing of older style, wobbly music desk props such as pictured in photo 1. The following step-by-step procedures should help guide you through the process.

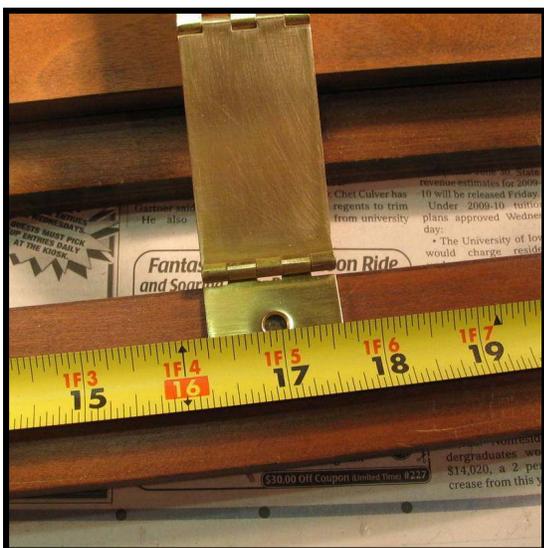


Step 1: Remove the old hardware. At this time, set the old hardware to one side, but do not throw it away, at least until you are sure the new replacement desk hinge is going to work properly.

Case Work / Installing the Music Desk Hinge



Step 2: Check to see that the geometry of the music desk hinge will work for the music desk in question. Actually fold the hinge in the configuration which it is to be used in, and hold it up to the music rack to see if it will fit. Check the angle of the music rack with the hinge in place. The further back the hinge is to be placed, the steeper the resulting slant of the music rack will be.



Step 3: If the decision to proceed is made, center the hinge on the back rail of the music desk. The hinge connected to the shorter of the two extension pieces goes here, with the bevel for the screws up. The furthest forward position is pictured, with the leading edge of the hinge in line with the edge of the back rail. This will provide the steepest slant possible for the music rack.



Step 4: With the hinge in position, mark the screw holes with a sharp awl.

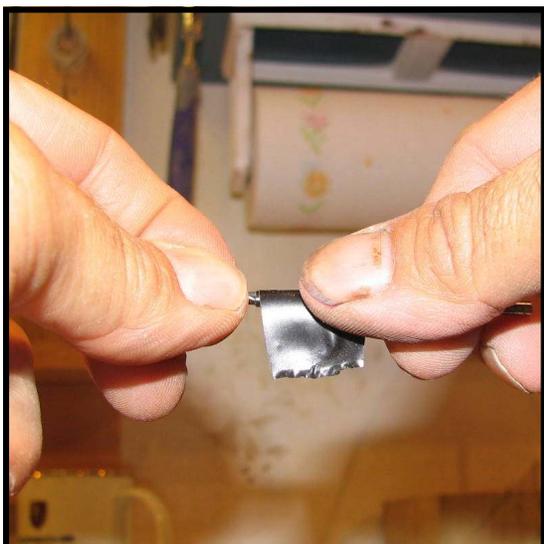
Case Work / Installing the Music Desk Hinge



Step 5: Select the proper screws for the job. The lengths of the screws will be determined by the thickness of the rail, and the thickness of the music rack. Select screws which will not penetrate the wood, and which will fit within the beveled holes of the hinge. Brass flat head screws make the best choice for the job.

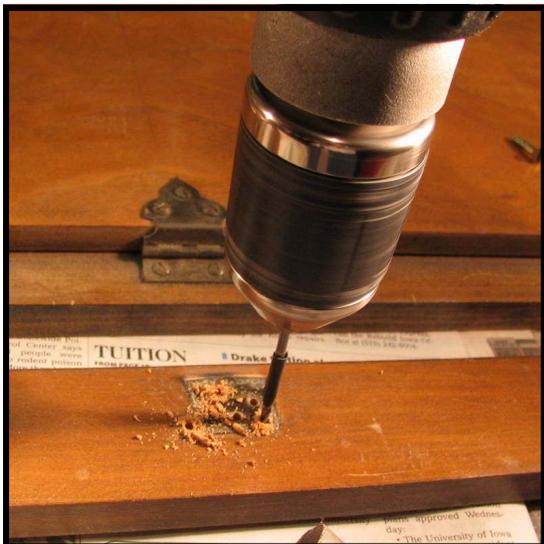


Step 6: For each size of screw, select a drill bit to drill the pilot holes. Placed in front of the screws, the drill should cover the body of the screw, but not the threads. Determine the depth of the holes to be drilled by actually holding the bit in front of the wood as shown. Pinch off the bit at the required point and proceed to the next step.



Step 7: Wrap electrical or masking tape around the bit at the depth chosen. Double check by holding the wrapped bit up to the wood to make sure the setting is correct.

Case Work / Installing the Music Desk Hinge



Step 8: Drill the pilot holes for the screws to the hinge to be mounted on the back rail of the music desk. Keep an eye on the tape to prevent the drill from going through the rail.

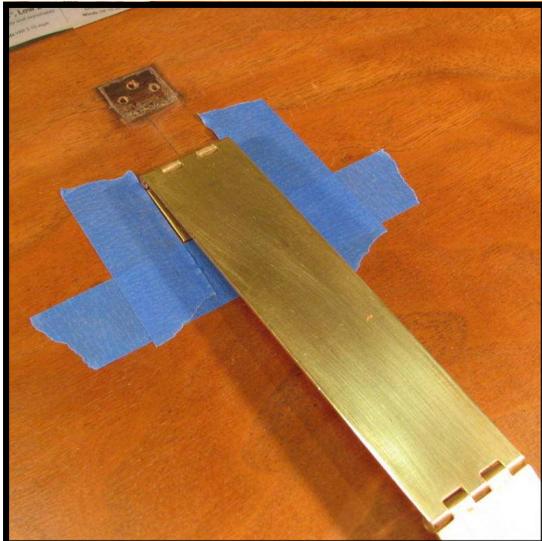


Step 9: Attach the hinge to the rail using the correct screws. Do not over-tighten the screws.

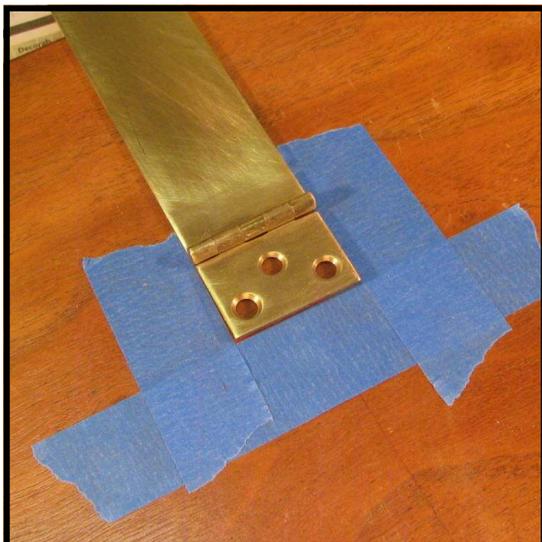


Step 10: With the music rack in the down position, lay the music desk hinge in place, with the upper portion of the hinge folded under as shown. Leave a slight bend in the two extension pieces.

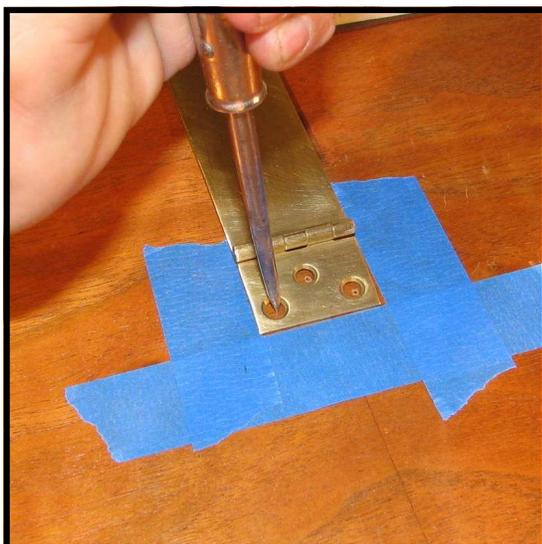
Case Work / Installing the Music Desk Hinge



Step 11: With the upper portion of the desk hinge in position, mark the exact location of the folded under segment with masking tape, making sure to maintain the slight bend in the two extension pieces. (Eliminating the bend altogether will result in improper unfolding of the music rack for use. The hinge will want to bend inward instead of outward - see step 18 for clarification.)

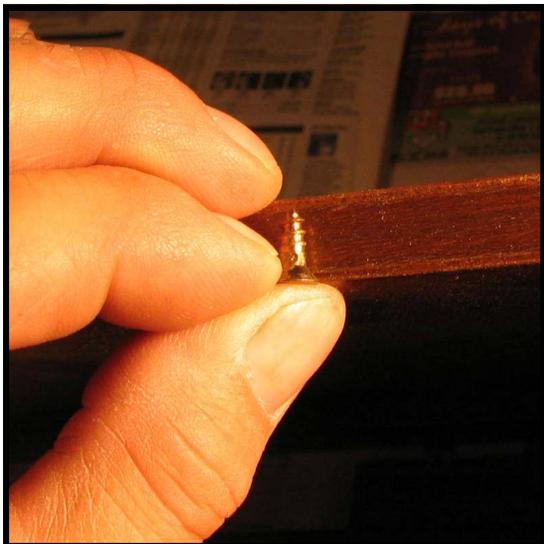


Step 12: Using the tape for repositioning, unfold the hinge and place the top segment in position.

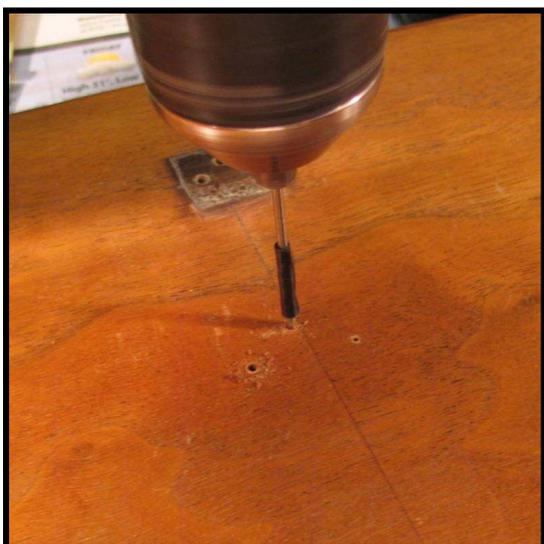


Step 13: Using your awl, mark the location of the holes in the music rack.

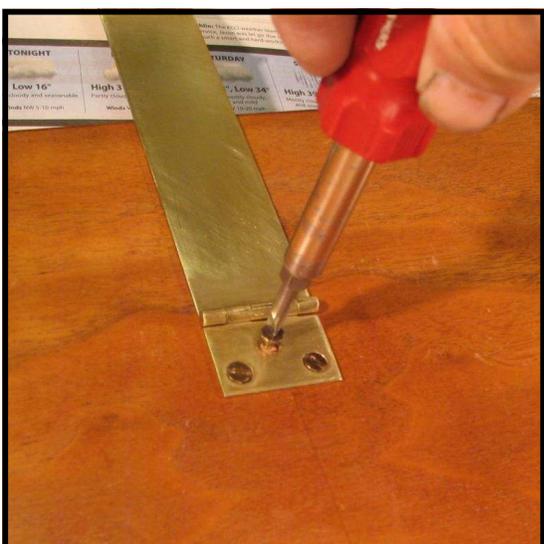
Case Work / Installing the Music Desk Hinge



Step 14: Double check the length of the screw selected for the music rack itself. This will most likely be a shorter screw than what was used for the back rail, in that the music rack is often made of a thinner material. This is an extremely important consideration, as the last thing you want to do is to penetrate the music rack with the tips of your screws.



Step 15: With the proper size of drill bit, taped for the correct depth, drill the pilot holes in the back of the music rack.



Step 16: Placing the unfolded hinge on the music rack, insert the correct (smaller) screws in the hinge. Again, do not over-tighten and strip the screws, but tighten firmly, then stop.

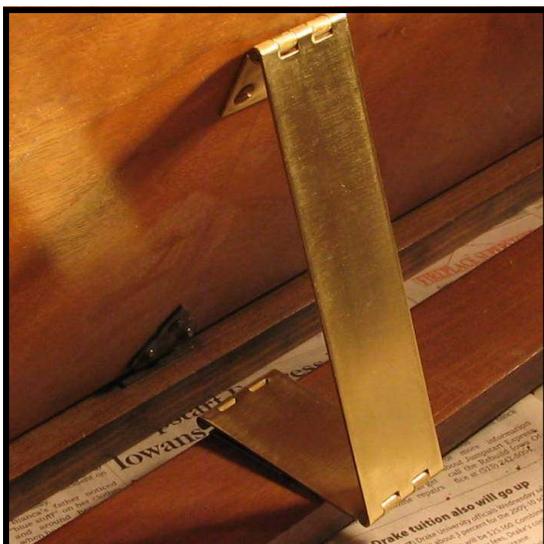
Case Work / Installing the Music Desk Hinge



Step 17: With the upper segment of the hinge secured in place with screws, fold the extensions down and reinsert screws for bottom segment of the hinge.



Step 18: Now that the hinge is secured top and bottom, pull the music rack back. The extensions should fold outward as shown in the photo.



Step 19: With the music desk hinge in this position, the music rack is securely fixed in place. The job is done.

Case Work / Installing the Music Desk Hinge

Supply Ordering Information:

For your convenience, this part is available in two sizes from Schaff Piano Supply by referring to the following catalogue numbers.

Music desk hinge.....Cat. No. 940 W

Music desk hinge.....Cat. No. 940 N

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.

Case Work / Installing the Music Desk Hinge

Notes on Procedures