

WORKING WITH KEY EASING BROACHES



Pianotek manufactures two types of solid brass broach tips, tapered and straight, for easing key bushings (used in conjunction with our 40 watt soldering iron and temperature controller). A question we're frequently asked is "What is the difference, and which set is right for me?" First of all, while key easing pliers are still necessary for many applications, heat and brass broaches provide a more permanent repair.

The 5 piece tapered set is designed so that each tip tapers .010", giving a range in the set from .085" through .165". This range will cover any pin size for any piano. Tapered broaches are perfect for the field technician especially for individual or small sections of seized keys.

The 9 piece straight set contains 1 each of all sizes. This is perfect for the technician working on new pianos at a dealership for example. You may have 5 identical (country of origin name withheld!) new pianos that have all the bushing centers tight from the factory. Once you select the correct size, it is a simple matter of inserting the broach all the way for a second or two, and doing the same thing for the entire keyboard. This method requires no finesse, and the rail can literally be eased in a matter of minutes. Tapered broaches would be too time-consuming for this application. The straight broaches can also double in an emergency as key bushing cauls for individual repairs.

To view specifications on the key bushing iron and broaches go to Products, and click on Key Repair and Regulation. The Key Easing Iron will appear on the third page.