Full List of Reed Making Tools (2023)

* Beeswax
  + I purchased a 1lb block and I am still using it 5 years later. The clear is best for seeing the natural reed thread color. ($21)

<https://www.amazon.com/Alternative-Imagination-Beeswax-White-Ivory/dp/B08L6WZSKT/ref=sr_1_4?crid=36RFH1KV5ACNV&keywords=beeswax%2Bblock%2Bclear&qid=1677187197&sprefix=beeswax%2Bblock%2Bclea%2Caps%2C135&sr=8-4&th=1>

* Cotton Thread (100% Cotton)
  + Any size and color will work here, I buy mine from Joann Fabrics. Just be sure that it is 100% cotton as it will absorb beeswax best and seal the reed tube. Thicker embroidery thread comes in multicolor packs which can be fun when getting started making reeds.
* Dial Indicator
  + I use this exact one and 4 years ago it was over $300 but thankfully has come down in price. There are multiple options for the ramp and measuring apparatus on the website so it is versatile for all reed makes and styles. ($150)

<https://millermarketingco.com/product/miller-pro-bassoon-dial-indicator-english/>

* Double Hollow Ground Reed Knife
  + Landwell are the best, I have been using mine for over 7 years now! ($112.95)

<https://hodgeproductsinc.com/landwell-double-hollow-ground-reed-knives/>

* + I have never personally tried this one but a friend of mine said they are good, more affordable option ($45)

<https://millermarketingco.com/product/2xreed-double-hollow-ground-knife/>

* Duckbill Pliers
  + These are essential for forming the tube of the reed without applying too much pressure and cracking the blade. ($16)

<https://www.amazon.com/Pliers-Jewelry-Making-Metalsmith-Billed/dp/B00WGZHWP8/ref=sr_1_16?crid=1CTCYCEBLT9IB&keywords=duckbill+pliers+wide&qid=1677185718&sprefix=duckbill+pliers+wide%2Caps%2C106&sr=8-16>

* End Nippers/Guillotine
  + I use a Popkin Reed Guillotine that is no longer in production and very difficult to find unless you know someone retiring. I have tried and like these but any method will work. I personally do not recommend a cutting block as it is wildly inaccurate and difficult to get an even cut. ($35)

<https://millermarketingco.com/product/2xreed-end-nippers-tip-cutter-2/>

* Forming Pins and Holder
  + It is great that sets are now available, it is definitely recommended to have multiple pins to form multiple reeds at a time and not have to remove them from the original forming pin to put onto a drying rack. This set includes a rack, handle, and 10 pins. ($129)

<https://millermarketingco.com/product/2xreed-bassoon-forming-mandrel-set/>

* Forming pliers
  + These are a specialty item, and there are not many choices in brands. I prefer and highly recommend these ($45)

<https://millermarketingco.com/product/georg-rieger-pliers/>

* Galvanized 24 Gauge Brass Wire
  + I buy this in large quantities from Hodge Products, but any on the market will work ($7)

<https://hodgeproductsinc.com/bassoon-or-english-horn-reed-wire-24-gauge/>

* MD Bassoon Reed Profiler
  + This is a good, affordable option. I have been using mine with no issue for over 7 years and it is highly adjustable. ($699)

<https://www.mdreedproducts.com/Bassoon-Reed-Profiler.html>

* Reamer
  + The 2X is once again a winner, and the exact width necessary ($30)

<https://millermarketingco.com/product/2xreed-bassoon-reamer/>

* Reed Plaque
  + I typically recommend getting 2-3 as these like to disappear in cases and desks. Plastic is best as it won’t dull the knife but I do use metal ones too ($5)

<https://millermarketingco.com/product/rieger-bassoon-plaque/>

* Razorblades
  + I purchase these from Ace Hardware in 100 packs and they are also available online ($10)

<https://www.acehardware.com/departments/tools/hand-tools/utility-and-hobby-knife-blades/11140>

* Sandpaper
  + This is available at any hardware store, a few sheets will last forever and I recommend having 400 and 600 grit to work with. ($1-5)
* Sharpening stone
  + 400/1000 is typically the best, any one will do. ($20-40)
* Short “Holding” Mandrel
  + I recommend the 2X Mandrel by Miller Marketing as it is the exact size and shape of a reed in my style. It also happens to be the cheapest on the market! ($15)

<https://millermarketingco.com/product/2xreed-bassoon-mandrel/>

* Twine
  + This is separate from reed thread as it is larger and used for the forming process. This is available at grocery and craft stores. I’ve added a link if you prefer to get it online. ($6)

<https://millermarketingco.com/product/cotton-twine-for-reed-forming/>