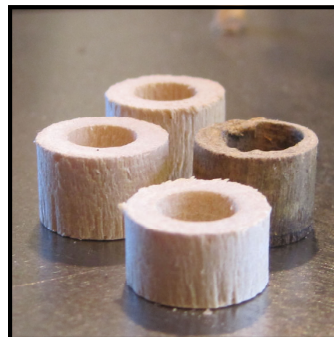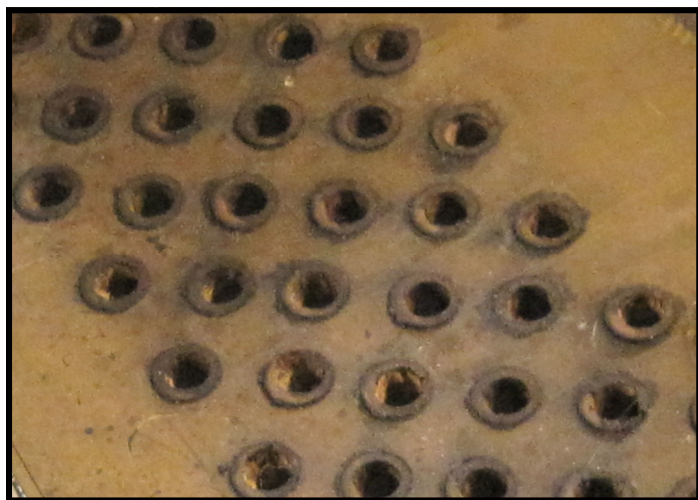# The Piano Owner's Heads-Up Guide to Important Piano Maintenance

Focus On: Replacing Tuning Pin Bushings

New and old bushings.

Reaming for tuning pins.

Information provided courtesy of:
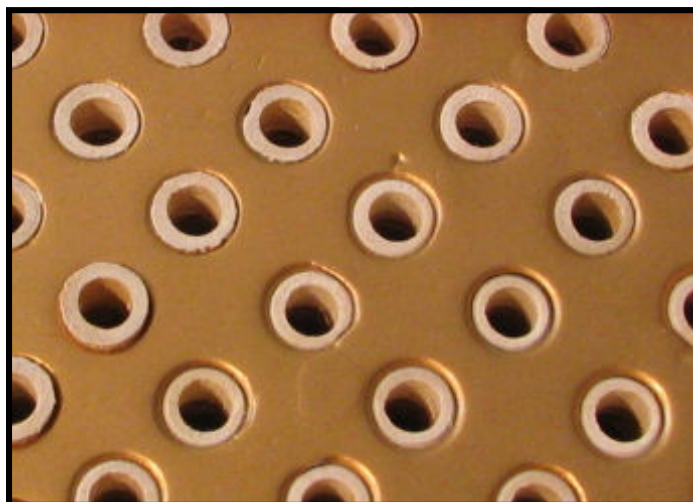**Bill Davis, RPT**
770.778.6881
bill@pianoplace.net

When a piano is to be repinned and restrung, the question of whether or not to replace the old tuning pin bushings needs to be considered. On the one hand, the original set of tuning pin bushings many times will remain intact when the old pins are backed out, and technically could be reused. On the other hand, new tuning pin bushings would not only better compliment the appearance of the new pins and strings (see before and after photos above and to the right), but also are more effective in providing solid support for the upper portion of the tuning pins, resulting in a more stable tuning.

The tuning pin bushings of your piano are definitely worn and could stand to be replaced. The ideal time for installing a new set of bushing would of course be when the job of repinning and restringing are done. If the bushings are not replaced and later turn out to provide inadequate support for the tuning pins, it will be too late to make the change.

In order to install new tuning pin bushings, the old bushings must first be carefully removed from the cast iron plate. With the old pins, strings and bushings out of the way, the plate may be cleaned up in preparation for the installation of the new parts..

The new bushings are driven into the pin holes using a wooden punch and a mallet to avoid marring the finish on the cast iron plate. After the bushings are in place, they are reamed using a drill bit corresponding to the size of the tuning pins to be installed.

With a new set of bushings in place, the repinning and restringing of your piano will be the most effective. The new bushings will look great and out-perform the old bushings in helping with tuning stability.

Bill Davis, RPT
The Piano Place GA
Appts: http://bit.ly/2G4ICDJ