



NEW CHANTER REED PHYSICAL EXAM CHECKLIST

All potentially good reeds will show that potential in their physical characteristics before they are even blown. Perform a careful visual inspection on your reeds of choice and work down a checklist of physical points, just like your doctor would when you arrive for your annual physical. It may seem like a lot to consider, but any reed maker worth their salt will be striving for all of these in every reed they produce. Select only the chanter reeds that meet all of the physical characteristics in the checklist below. You can also download the checklist here and keep it handy in your pipe box.

YOUR NEW CHANTER REED SHOULD BE (HAVE):

- CLEAN AND FREE OF DIRT.**
- NO DAMAGE, SPLITS, WARPS, OR CHIPPED CORNERS**
- SHARP AND POINTED, NOT ROUNDED, BLADE CORNERS**
- SYMMETRICAL OVERALL SHAPE WITH STRAIGHT EDGES AND PROFILE**
- SMOOTH SURFACES WITH NO DINGS OR CHIPS**
- CLOSED/SEALED SIDE EDGES WITH NO SIGN OF SPACE BETWEEN BLADES**
- SOLID CONSTRUCTION WITH TIGHT WRAPPING ON THE STAPLE**
- GOOD SYMMETRICAL CURVATURE ON THE APERTURE OR OPENING OF THE BLADES**
- EQUAL THICKNESS AT THE TOP OF EACH BLADE**
- GOOD ALIGNMENT OF BLADES AT THE TOP AND SIDE EDGES WHERE THE BLADES MEET, WITH NO OVERHANG OR UNEVENNESS**

