## **Instructions For Accordion Packing/Shipping**

## AccordionLab (<u>http://acclab.com</u>, <u>info@acclab.com</u>)

Accordions are extremely fragile! DON'T assume the shipping company shall compensate for any damage even for an insured item. They will try extremely hard to prove the damages were caused by YOUR poor packing job. We heard many terrible stories about priceless accordions destroyed by not handling the bass machine properly, not laying enough pads INSIDE the hard case. And in most case, the shipper never got a penny from the shipping company back.

## 1. Handle the accordion bass machine properly:

- Cut 6 pieces of card board in size of 3/16" x 6" (don't make them wider than 1/4")
- Insert the strips among bass buttons as shown in the Figure
- Stick a long transparent packing tape (at least 2" wide) on top of the buttons and stick the tape on the bass board on both ends.
- Make sure all the chord buttons are stick to the tape



- 2. Remove the back-straps from the accordion to allow more room inside the CASE.
- 3. Put the entire accordion inside a plastic bag and seal it shut.
- 4. Put light and soft packing material in bottom of the accordion case.
- 5. Put the accordion in the bag into the CASE -- keyboard side first, and then bottom side (when you take it out from the case, bottom first) and fill the space inside the case with light and soft pads as shown in the pictures. Do not allow the accordion to move around inside the case.
- 6. Put the straps in appropriate place in the case if it has enough space. Fill in around all sides of the case top, bottom, and all sides with as much clear plastic bubblewrap or foam as you can, except switches and keys.
- 7. Close the case and secure it with tape if necessary to keep it closed.
- 8. Choose a shipping BOX that is at least 1 inch larger than the CASE in each side of length, width and height. Usually, a shipping box of size 25x22x16 inches is big enough for the largest accordion inside a hard case. If the shipping box is too large, cut and fold to make it smaller. Then, put some packing material in bottom of the shipping BOX before putting the accordion CASE in.
- 9. Put the accordion case into the shipping BOX, and fill-in all the remaining five sides -- front, back, left, right, and top -- around the accordion CASE with shipping material.
- 10. Mark the outside of the BOX with an UP arrow in the same direction as the accordion-CASE handle.
- 11. Put the straps in there somewhere (if there is no enough space in the CASE), along with any pertinent documentation.
- 12. Finish packing the BOX, close and seal it. Mark the outside with FRAGILE and with UP arrows.

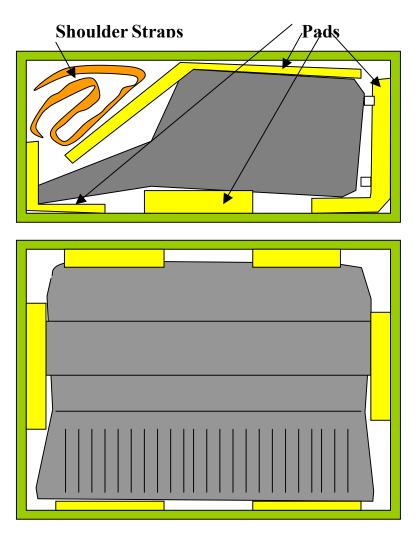
13. You don't have to go to UPS to find the rate. You can go to http://www.UPS.com to open an account, find the rate for Ground (and other too) shipping, then print a label on your own printer, and apply the label to the shipping box, then drop off the box to a nearby UPS Center or authorized Shipping Outlet - usually a Mailbox Etc store, and you can find the locations by telephone (1-800-PICK-UPS) or from ups.com website.

## DON'TS:

- 1. Don't use "peanuts" or sytrofoam inside the accordion CASE because they just create dust that is hard to get out (wadded-up paper works best).
- 2. Don't "jam" the keys and switches with packing material.
- 3. Don't use sytrofoam inside shipping BOX unless isolated from the accordion CASE, e.g. putting the entire case inside a plastic bag...because the stryofoam sometimes "marks-up" a textured accordion case.

(Figures in the next page)

Fill the space inside the case with light and soft pads. Do not allow the accordion to move around inside the case.



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