Reedmaking Supplies and Resources

Blanks – Hyperlinks are for example – be sure to shop around!

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Tool | Amount | Description | Where to Buy |
| Easel/Dowel | Qty – 1 | 1 ¼ wood dowel – 6-7” long | Hardware Store (cut to length) or “Bassoon” [Dowel](https://charlesmusic.com/shop/easel-for-bassoon/) |
| Scoring Tool | Qty – 1 + extra blades | Utility Knife (or Xacto) | Hardware or Craft Store[Utility Knife](https://www.amazon.com/IRWIN-Hi-Vis-Retractable-Utility-2082300/dp/B0001Q2EOS/ref%3Dsr_1_9?dchild=1&keywords=utility+knife&qid=1597852169&sr=8-9) |
| Curved Garden Shears | Qty – 1 | Pruning Shears – 7-8.5” | Hardware Store - [Curved Garden Shears](https://www.amazon.com/gonicc-Professional-Titanium-GPPS-1003-Clippers/dp/B01JZFC9QS/ref%3Dzg_bs_9001139011_3?_encoding=UTF8&psc=1&refRID=TQBQRK7SVCPG4QF62E26)  |
| Brass Wire | 1 or 5 lbs | 22 Gauge | [22 Gauge Wire](https://www.rjleahy.com/category-s/126.htm) |
| Forming Mandrel Tips | Qty – minimum 14 (undergrad) or 5 (grad), 30+ is better, but they are expensive. Can buy more over time. You do not need a drying board but can get one if you like. | Christlieb, brass long forming tips, item 7B1 | [Forming Mandrel Tips](https://www.christliebproducts.com/CP%20Tool%20Archive%202.html) |
| Cotton Crochet Thread | I like to have several colors to keep batches of blanks visually distinct. Cotton is important! | Size 10 | Craft Store[Cotton Crochet Thread](https://www.joann.com/aunt-lydia-s-crochet-cotton-classic-size-10/zprd_12377065a.html#start=1) |
| Wire Cutters | Qty - 1 | Some pliers have this, but may not work well to cut wire. | Hardware Store[Wire Cutter](https://www.amazon.com/Kaisi-Diagonal-Cutting-Precision-Electronics/dp/B076BP21CC/ref%3Dzg_bs_553186_6?_encoding=UTF8&psc=1&refRID=7BD1HN2YKJT4K782C5EX) |
| Jeweler’s Ruler  | Qty -1 6” length | Due to quirks of Herzberg system, needs to measure both mm and inches. Best if it reads with 0 at the exact end. | [Ruler](https://www.esslinger.com/millimeter-ruler-and-inches-stainless-steel-flexible-ruler-6-150mm/) – Can be purchased at craft or hardware stores as well. |

Buy cane from bartoncane.com - <http://www.bartoncane.com/shop/herzberg-shape-pack-of-5>

Herzberg shape, standard profile. Buy several types of cane, there is no “magic” cane that works better than others. Cost per reed – $6 (plus shipping)

Reed finishing –

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Tool | Amount | Description | Where to Buy |
| Tip Clipper | Qty – 1 | Use wooden block + utility knife, or purchase tip cutter (much more accurate) | <https://hodgeproductsinc.com/reeds-n-stuff-guillotine-for-bassoon-reeds/> |
| Hot Glue Gun + Glue | Clear + use own labels, or multipack of colors | Mini or normal size both OK. Make sure your glue temp matches the gun | Craft, Hardware, or Electronics Store (Microcenter)[Hot Glue Gun](https://www.amazon.com/ccbetter-Upgraded-Removable-Anti-hot-Flexible/dp/B01178RVI2/ref%3Dsr_1_5?dchild=1&keywords=hot+glue&qid=1597852450&sr=8-5) |
| Diamond Files | Medium, Fine, both in 3 Square | Grobet | 33.975 (Medium)33.965 (Fine)[AllCraft Files](http://www.allcraftusa.com/Default.asp)Type above numbers into Search Bar to find |
| Tip Knife |  |  | Many options – can start with a regular reed knife if you already own one. Maintaining sharpness is key, so some people use disposable razor blade for each reed so as to avoid sharpening a knife frequently.[GEM Razor Blades](https://www.razorbladeco.com/62-0161-gem-carbon-steel-extra-sharp)[Mini Tuff Lite for Reed Tips](https://www.amazon.com/Cold-Steel-20MT-Mini-Plain/dp/B004MNAKYM) |
| Plaque | At least 1 | Goldbaum is best (if you can find in stock), otherwise get a few to see which one you like best | <https://www.mmimports.com/product/goldbaum-bassoon-plaque/><https://www.mmimports.com/product-category/bassoon-acccessories/bassoon-reed-making/bassoon-plaques/> |
| Holding Mandrel | Qty - 1 | Can use Christlieb Mandrel for both forming and holding pins. Brand not important | Item 1, 2, or 3 from Christlieb site, many other options in bassoon shops[Christlieb Shop](https://www.christliebproducts.com/CP%20Tool%20Archive%202.html) |
| Reamer | Regular, Diamond  | Stees (best) or Rieger | <https://www.steesbassoon.com/products><https://www.mmimports.com/product/rieger-bassoon-reamer/><https://www.mmimports.com/product/rieger-diamond-coated-bassoon-reamer/> |
| Snub-nose Pliers | Qty - 1 | Smaller is usually better, should fit your hand | Hardware store or any online bassoon shop["Bassoon" Pliers](https://www.mmimports.com/product/solution-pliers/) |

Resources –

Book – The Banana of Life by Rian Craypo - <https://www.lulu.com/en/us/shop/rian-craypo/the-banana-of-life-peeling-away-the-mysteries-of-reed-making-for-the-bassoon/paperback/product-1mqg672p.html>

Videos – The Herzberg/Kamins Reed Making Method - <https://bassoon.music.utexas.edu/instructional/the-herzbergkamins-reed-making-method/>

Reed Processing Machines

Eventually you will want to buy (at least) a shaper and profiler. A shaper is a relatively cheap upfront cost (maybe $250), a profiler is more expensive ($1500). A gouger suite is around $3000 (gouger, pregouger, cane guillotine). However, tube cane is SO much cheaper than processed cane that you will eventually recoup that money:

Barton Cane, Gouged, Shaped, Profiled (GSP) - $6 each (and some will not work)

Gouged Cane (using your shaper and profiler) - $2-3 each

Tube Cane generally costs about $.25 per reed(!)

At the professional level, you should aim to make about 6-7 reeds per week (300-350/year). Even at the college level, the more reeds you make, the faster you will improve your skills, so that is still a good number to aim for.

300 reeds per year – Barton Cane ($6 \* 300) = $1800

300 reeds per year – Gouged Cane ($2.50 \* 300) = $750 ($1050 saved per year using own shaper + profiler)

300 reeds per year – Tube cane ($.25 \* 300) = $75 (this is closer to $200 given the amount of cane you will throw away as you process) - $1600 saved per year using gouger suite, shaper, profiler

You can see how although buying a profiler, shaper, and gouging suite is expensive at around $5000 total, you will recoup that cost in about 3 years, and then be saving money for every year after that. Just a shaper and profiler ($2000) will pay for itself in 2 years over using GSP Barton Cane.