

How to make the ultimate hose style water trap

PM Brett Tidswell

I have always used some type of water trap in my pipes. Originally I used a small stopper with a brass tube in the bottom of my stock and then progressed to a hose and have always used one since.

They protect your bag and prevent rotting. They keep your chanter reed drier than it would be otherwise and they keep some moisture from affecting your drones. This gives a longer, steadier playing period. If using another system such as a canister etc. the hose can still be of use to protect the bag, extend the life of the canister, and even allow you to free up the chanter by disconnecting it from the canister system.

All you need is a length of medical respirator hose (Available from a surgical supplier). Any hose will do, but this is corrugated and has a huge surface area and therefore collects more moisture from your breath.



I glue a length of 19mm clear hose onto each end. This allows a good connection with a 19mm irrigation angle joint. You want one with a hose fitting on one side and a threaded end on the other. These fit into the bottom of most stocks. You might need a little Teflon tape or a bit of sanding for a good fit.



The other end has a stopper inserted in the end and two holes 10mm in diameter drilled into the hose. All the fitting are available from a hardware store.



This will not be restrictive as the exit point is greater in diameter than your blow stick bore.



Ensure that the tube is long enough to sit upright in the back of the bag, and you should have the ultimate hose water trap. I am always amazed by how much moisture empties from it at the end of playing.

The most comprehensive guide available today for the set up, maintenance and refinement of the Bagpipe is "The Complete Pipers Handbook". Sales of this publication help fund the freely available school of piping website. Copies can be purchased here:

<http://www.schoolofpiping.com/handbook.htm>

www.schoolofpiping.com