

BAGPIPE HARNESS REVIEW

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INTRODUCTION

For years many pipers have had difficulty with slipping bags. This can be caused by a poorly fitted bag, the wrong size bag, a cover with fabric that does not grip or a bag that moves inside the cover. Slippage is not the only problem, but a poorly mounted bagpipe after strike in, or drones that want to roll off the shoulder can be issues.

THE BAGPIPE HARNESS

Colin Roddick of "Bagpipe Harness" sent me one to try out. So, let me start by saying that my bagpipe fits well and I do not have an issue with slippage. I also, as a matter of course use Dycem (non slip) patches on my bag cover, so I thought I had all bases covered. I looked at the harness and was very sceptical expecting cut out and strike in issues; I expected it to feel uncomfortable and thought this would be a very difficult review.

I attached the quick release fitting to my bass drone and then put on the harness. It attaches like a pair of braces with clips that fit on your trousers or kilt. You will need to reset the length when you wear a kilt, but this is not a difficult procedure.

I corked the chanter stock and blew up the drones with the harness attached; I then altered the length of the harness to suit. Striking up with a chanter in the pipes was a breeze. Any concerns I had were unfounded. Not only striking in, but also cutting out was no problem at all. The bag swivels quite freely at the attachment point.



The harness mounted my bag consistently in a comfortable position and helped to get my drones seated exactly where I wanted them every time. This was brilliant! It is comfortable to wear and actually improved how my bagpipe sat and felt to play.

Since writing this review an improved cross back design harness has now been released.

DRONE REEDS

Colin also makes very good cane drone reeds. A set was sent with the harness and these were truly plug and play and are very steady with great tone and volume. Definitely worth a look!

The Harness and Reeds are available from <http://www.bagpipeharness.com/>

Numerous similar articles and reviews are located at www.schoolofpiping.com

An advertisement for the website www.schoolofpiping.com. It features a dark background with a photograph of several bagpipe reeds. To the right of the reeds, the text reads: "articles, reviews, sound files", "photo albums, audio lessons", "news, historic information", "and more", and "for the piper at every level!". At the bottom of the advertisement, the website address "www.schoolofpiping.com" is written in a large, yellow, sans-serif font.

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