



BAGPIPELESSONS.COM

INNOVATION. TRADITION. PASSION.

Bagpipes have undergone a remarkable evolution over the centuries, transforming from a rudimentary instrument into the majestic one we know and play today. As early as 400 BCE, the 'pipers of Thebes' were documented playing bagpipes, showcasing the instrument's ancient Egyptian roots. These early musicians likely crafted chanters from bone and leather bags to create their pipes, which they introduced to the invading Romans. As the Romans embarked on their Scottish expansion, they brought these fascinating instruments with them.

Early chanters were fashioned from materials with natural bores, such as hollow reeds, corn and barley stalks, and bamboo. These organic materials allowed for easier crafting and sound production. However, in modern times, chanters are predominantly constructed from Blackwood or high-quality plastic, ensuring enhanced durability and performance.

Chanters from many decades ago had smaller holes, but their overall sound doesn't hold up to today's high standards. These older chanters are difficult to balance and tune using modern reeds.

Several years ago, bagpipe manufacturers started to make chanters with bigger holes with the idea that bigger holes meant a bigger sound.

This introduced a problem. Bigger holes make it harder to play clean, especially with more technically complex and faster tunes. This is even worse on cold days and for pipers with smaller fingers. To try and help with the huge holes on my chanters, I started putting tape on my chanter holes, but I discovered that can lead to random, massive, loud squeals.

So, I began my quest for the ultimate chanter. I wanted a modern chanter with a bright, clear sound but with smaller holes. I reached out to some bagpipe makers to inquire if they would make me a

custom chanter with smaller holes. "That's impossible," they replied, "You can't just make the holes smaller... It won't work."

I was thrilled when I got to be one of the first pipers to try out R.G. Hardie's new Infinity chanter. The holes were dramatically smaller. It felt instantly comfortable and all of my tricky fingerings were immediately cleaner and easier to execute.

My impossible dream chanter had finally arrived. The Infinity Chanter is bright sounding chanter that stays in tune, works with all makes of reeds, and has smaller, closely spaced holes for greater playing comfort and cleaner fingering.



Happy Piping!

Jori Chisholm

Founder of BagpipeLessons.com