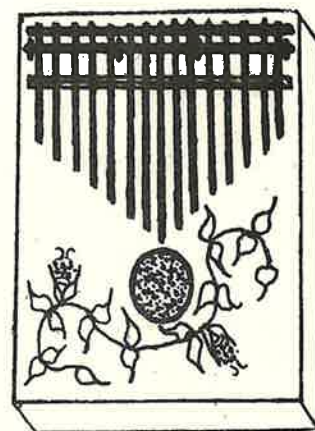


## AFRICAN THUMB PIANO

Handcrafted by  
Bob and Helen Berg

Rt 2 Box 39, Tamaroa Illinois 62888 (618)496-3104

This is the popular, individual folk instrument of South Africa. Rather than having the extroverted, social quality of many African instruments, the Thumb Piano is ideally suited for personal music making. It has no true European equivalent. The tone, soothing and rather hypnotic, is produced by steel tines of various lengths arranged over a resonator. Held between the palms of the hands, the notes are sounded by gently plucking the tines with the thumbs, hence the name "Thumb Piano". It should be noted, however, that there are hundreds of African names (Mbira, Sansa, Kalimba, Jimba, to name a few) and many variations of the instrument.



Our handcrafted, 15 tine, two octave design is well adapted to western scale (do ra mi). It can be tuned to fit any key or mode. Two small holes at the back of the instrument will create a warbling, vibrato effect when opened and closed while playing. Novices find to their delight that they can make recognizable melody almost immediately and that the sound is pleasing, even while practicing. When mastered hundreds of songs can be performed. The Thumb Piano can accompany voice and many acoustic instruments.

The African Thumb Piano is available through mail order. Ordering details are shown below. All are handmade of the finest domestic hardwoods (dimensions:  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " X  $5\frac{1}{2}$ " X  $7\frac{1}{2}$ "). If requested the instrument will be beautifully decorated with an original woodcarving. A booklet is included which teaches playing techniques (melody, harmony, chords and tuning). Every instrument will arrive promptly via insured parcel post in an accurately tuned and playable condition.

Each instrument shall be considered under full warranty and may be sent back at any time for any adjustment other than simple tuning for a \$1.50 fee to cover insured postage.

	<u>QTY.</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
THUMB PIANO.....	\$18.50 ea.	
THUMB PIANO WITH CARVING.....	\$19.50 ea.	
Insured Postage.....	\$ 1.50 per item.....	
PLAYING INSTRUCTIONS INCLUDED W/EACH ITEM.	TOTAL	

Illinois residents add 5% Sales Tax. Send check or money order payable to BOB and HELEN BERG, Rt. 2 Box 39, Tamaroa, Illinois 62888 (618)496-3104