



LANIKAI
Makes Me Happy!

Care Guide

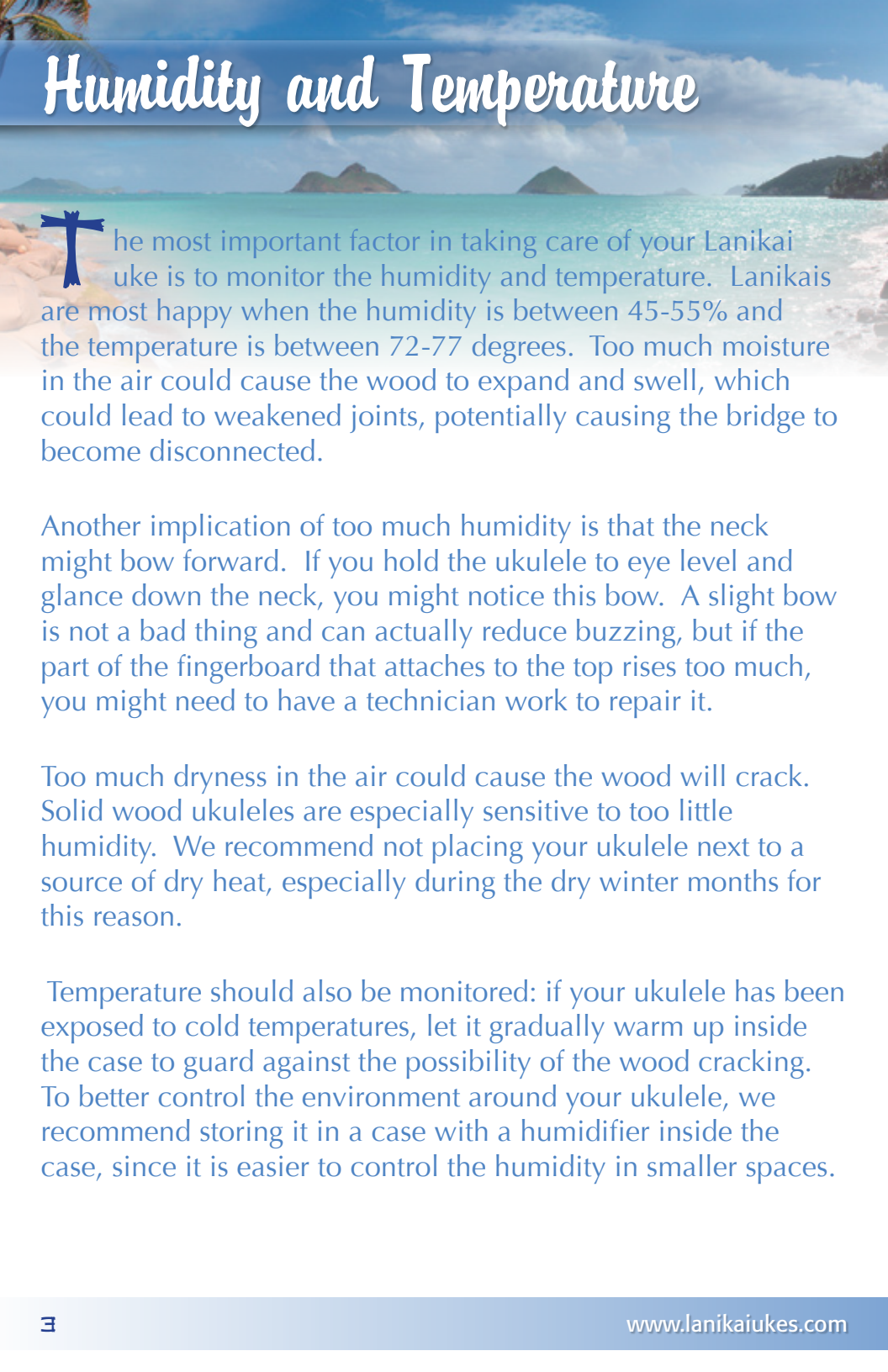


HOW to care for your Lanikai ukulele

*We know Lanikai makes you happy,
but how can you keep your Lanikai happy?*

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Humidity and Temperature



The most important factor in taking care of your Lanikai uke is to monitor the humidity and temperature. Lanikais are most happy when the humidity is between 45-55% and the temperature is between 72-77 degrees. Too much moisture in the air could cause the wood to expand and swell, which could lead to weakened joints, potentially causing the bridge to become disconnected.

Another implication of too much humidity is that the neck might bow forward. If you hold the ukulele to eye level and glance down the neck, you might notice this bow. A slight bow is not a bad thing and can actually reduce buzzing, but if the part of the fingerboard that attaches to the top rises too much, you might need to have a technician work to repair it.

Too much dryness in the air could cause the wood will crack. Solid wood ukuleles are especially sensitive to too little humidity. We recommend not placing your ukulele next to a source of dry heat, especially during the dry winter months for this reason.

Temperature should also be monitored: if your ukulele has been exposed to cold temperatures, let it gradually warm up inside the case to guard against the possibility of the wood cracking. To better control the environment around your ukulele, we recommend storing it in a case with a humidifier inside the case, since it is easier to control the humidity in smaller spaces.

Cases and Traveling

When storing away your ukulele, don't worry about loosening the strings, unless you plan on not taking it out for a few months at a time. Also, make sure that there is nothing underneath the head of the ukulele, as cases are made to correctly balance the instrument. Placing anything underneath the head will throw off the support and could damage the neck or even the body.

Take extra care to protect your ukulele while traveling. In the car, be sure to keep the ukulele in the back seat, rather than the trunk, as the trunk usually is not temperature controlled.

If traveling by plane, your ukulele should be small enough to take as a carry on and should fit in the overhead compartment. Do not "check" your ukulele if you can avoid it, as most airlines will not take special care to make sure your ukulele is protected. In any circumstance, a hard case is usually safer.



UC-S Case

Cleaning and Polishing

A number of chemicals in everyday products such as insect repellent, alcohol, aftershave lotion, etc. will over time cause the finish on your ukulele to wear. We recommend protecting satin and gloss finish of the body by wiping it down with a warm, damp cloth. Be careful to not use products containing silicone.

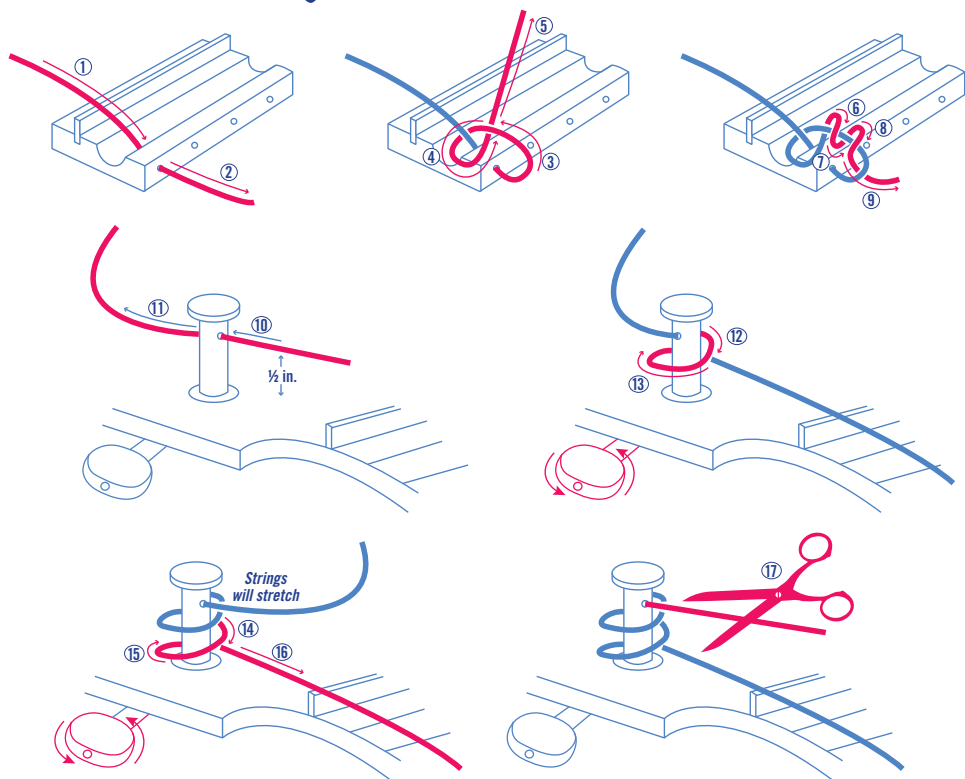
To polish, we recommend picking up polish from your local music store. These polishes are made especially for instruments and work well with Lanikais.

Before storing your Lanikai, we recommend wiping it down to remove harmful skin oils.

Strings

The strings that came with your ukulele are Aquila Nylgut, but of course string choice is a personal preference. You'll notice that after playing for awhile, your ukulele won't sound as brilliant and the sound will become increasingly muffled. When this happens, it is a sign that your strings have started to wear out and you will want to change out all four of the strings.

How to String a Uke



Action

The “action” on a ukulele refers to the height of the strings from the fingerboard. A higher action can result in decreased playability, while lower action can result in buzzing from the strings touching the frets.

If you notice a problem with the action, we recommend taking your ukulele to an experienced repair person who will adjust the bridge and saddle to your liking.

