

## Silver Snark Clip-On Tuner Test

**The Silver Snark Clip-On Tuner is a type of tuner that is now part of the standard inventory of most instrumentalists. And that is not surprising, because the little helpers are extremely handy, do not require any cables and can be attached where they can be seen most easily and quickly.**

Snark has been involved in the tuner business for several years and is now bringing an updated version of the clip-on tuner, which has been available since 2010, to the market with the Silver Snark Clip-On Tuner, which I will take a closer look at in today's test.



### Details

25 million units sold underline the popularity of the predecessor, and so it seems logical that the manufacturer pushes an updated version of the small tuner. In 1995 the company entered the tuner business with the Qwik Tune, the first tuner with an LCD display. From 2010, the predecessor model of our current test tuner conquered the headstock of guitar and bass. All sorts of editions followed, differing in shape and color, some even had a pick holder and others came in the form of a pedal. So why a new product? Hopefully this will tell us the latest issue of the Silver Snark Clip-On Tuner.

### Casing:

The housing made of gray plastic weighs just 38 grams and is powered by a CR 2032 button cell, which is inserted on the back of the display and is included in the scope of delivery. Compared to the previous tuners, this should last longer in the Silver Snark, at least the manufacturer says. Because a long-term test would go far beyond the scope of this test, we want to believe this statement as an exception.

A clamping device enables it to be fixed to the head plate, with soft rubber protecting the surface of the instrument. Once attached, the tuner stays in place even with heavy jerking - very good! The display with a diameter of 42 mm and a thickness of 18 mm is attached to a small arm and can be rotated in any direction. This arm is fixed by two ball joints that are in two bearings made of vulcanized rubber, which is also an upgrade to the predecessor and, according to the manufacturer, makes the construct virtually indestructible.



### Display

The display is activated by means of a rubber button on the front, the back houses three additional buttons with which the concert pitch can be set from 415 Hz to 466 Hz in 1 Hz steps. The manufacturer advertises with an improved software called Hyper-Snark, in which the recognition of the played notes take place faster and should offer problem-free use for all kinds of stringed instruments. I will of course shed more light on that in the practical part.

The scaling on the multi-colored display starts at the 9 o'clock position, and as soon as the note played is brought into the right mood, a green stripe appears at the 12 o'clock position. A mood that is too low is shown with red stripes, and one that is too high with yellow stripes. The tuner recognizes the note played and displays it as a letter.

It should also be able to cope with temperature fluctuations, but to be honest, I've never had a problem in this regard. Be that as it may: The tuner made in China makes a robust impression and should not cause any problems if used properly.



## Practice

For the following practical report, I will clip the tuner to various guitars, to a 12-string acoustic guitar as well as to a baritone, to mandolins and basses, including 5-strings. I want to find out whether the manufacturer can keep its full-bodied promise to accurately tune a wide variety of stringed instruments.

First of all, however, it goes out into the sun, because anyone who has ever stood on a stage during the day knows that most tuners fail when the sun is shining because they can no longer be read. The Silver Spark Clip-On Tuner doesn't have that problem. The multi-colored display shines brightly and can be read very well even in bright sunshine.



And as far as tuning itself is concerned: In fact, the most varied of guitars, whether acoustic or electric, whether bass, mandolins or ukuleles, can be brought into the mood without any problems. It is positive that the "needle" proceeds rather slowly and thus enables an accurate, precise and, above all, a stress-free tuning process.

## Conclusion (5/5)

The Silver Snark clip-on tuner is an easy-to-use and robustly manufactured clip-on tuner that is convincing across the board. Tones played are displayed by letter, the tuning process works accurately and the result can be read even in bright sunshine. The price performance ratio is very good.



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<http://www.snarktuners.com>