

## **Material handling, material properties, production and care of TTE Konklang® quality products.**

### **FAQ - Frequently asked questions:**

#### **1. What tools and how the rubber balls are processed?**

The surface of each rubber ball is sanded with different techniques and different tools. These tools are also developed and not to buy on the open market. The surface finishing techniques have also been developed specifically for it.

#### **2. Where the rubber balls and other materials of the TTE Konklang® products come from?**

99% of all raw materials and blanks of rubber balls are produced and delivered supplies from Germany

#### **3. What happens when you rub a gong with a rubber mallet and wear out the rubber mallet?**

The rubbing of a gong is caused by a braking action of the rubber to the metal surface. This creates an intense friction that wears the Gongrubber over time. The wear out is of course dependent on the frequency of use.

#### **4. Is there an aging Gong rubber mallets and singing bowl mallets?**

TTE ® Konklang Gongrubber are made from natural rubber formulations.

Rubber materials age over time through their use and especially by dry air, dry ambient air and warm temperatures.

If your Gongrubber remain unused for a long time, it is advisable to keep the rubber mallet in an airtight plastic bag or in an airtight plastic box. This prolongs the life of natural rubber formulations significantly.

The life of the rubber mallet is temporary. The recipes are similar to a car tire. A new acquisition is dependent on the amount of miles driven and primarily on the frequency of use of the brakes.

However, Gongrubber are not as stable built like a car tire. By rubbing a gong a violent squeaking would arise if the recipe a car tire would be the same for Gong rubbers.

#### **5. Is there a warranty on Gongrubber?**

There is no warranty for Gongrubber natural rubber formulations possible.

Similar to a car tire we can only guarantee against material defect.

Usually, we only deliver defect-free products.

We strive for continuous material improvement of our products.

#### **6. Is there an aging protection or protection against sunlight for Gongrubber?**

Most Gongrubber of us now have since January 2013 a built-in anti-aging formula.

This gives an additional UV stability for the rubber materials.

The UV stabilizer is a wax-like substance.

This wax-like substance comes over time again and again to the surface of the rubber balls.

Thus, it is possible that the Gongrubber get less friction and even a complete adhesive friction loss.

#### **7. So what is to do if a Gong rubber get less friction and which rubber balls are meant?**

This applies to the rubber balls (singing bowl mallets and gong rubber mallets) of Terra Edition, the Yin-Yang Gongrubber Editions and Blackline Edition.

These three types of models have a built in UV stabilizer.

##### **Cleaning the wax-like surface:**

Please cook hot boiling water in a kettle.

The boiling water on all sides of the rubber ball pour.

Then the rubber ball dab with a lint free cloth.

Now you should Gongrubber work again, unless the rubber mixture is too old and dried out.

Clean all rubber mallet from time to time with a mild liquid soap and a nail brush.

##### **ATTENTION please:**

Please never use a rubber conditioner.

These chemical substances make your Gongrubber unusable.

#### **8. Can reprocess a smooth, abraded surface of a Gong rubber?**

This works only partially. When a rubber mallet has become smooth, but a rubber feeling is felt by hand, you can prepare a rubber mallet again. We have developed a special device, and can prepare a rubber mallet with mounted handle again. Alternatively, you can try a rubber mallet with a coarse sandpaper (grain 40) to roughen. This works only with extreme difficulty.

#### **9. Do I have to clean also my Gong and how can I do this?**

Even your Gong should be cleaned from time to time with a mild detergent. The natural air forms a coating on the surface of a gong. Similarly, a film of grease on a windowpane, which is a longer time uncleaned. You can use a dry cloth toweling polish your gong or use a good microfiber cloth. You can clean your Gong also with warm water and a mild soap. We do not recommend metal cleaner. A metal cleaner can be rubbed into the pores of the surface and possibly causing an unsightly appearance of your instrument.

It is important that residues are removed by abrasion of Gongrubber. This abrasion can be eliminated with a dry terry towel and quick polishing movements generally. The sound, when rubbed a Gongrubber on a gong surface, caused by a braking effect of the rubber on the metal surface. This creates an intense friction that wears the Gongrubber over time. Gongrubber contain an anti-aging agent. This is a wax-like substance and logically leaves naturally skid marks. A gong consists of a hardened bronze. Therefore is an damage impossible, by rubbing with a rubber ball on the surface of a gong. The application of a Gongrubber is in the users own responsibility.

Recommended for removing rubber streaks on highly polished concert gongs and tam-tam (Wuhan, Chaou etc.) gongs with gross surface:

With a dry terry towel (for example, terry guest towel), rub polishing with quick movements on a Gongs surface. The braking strip of Gongrubbers should disappear with it.

It is impossible to get permanent skid marks on a gongs surface. The dry terry towel can also previously be heated, because the polishing is then even easier.

Special cleaning recommends and care your Gong, please contact and ask your Gong retailer.

### **Vario OTG5 and Vario OTG3 overtone tuning handles and the gong rubber:**

#### **10. What to consider when I use a Vario OTG with a rubber mallet?**

There must never be a point pressure load of 2.5 kg be exceeded.

The handles of the Gongrubber are very thin and made of fiberglass.

This ensures the ability to vibrate the rubber mallet.

The Gong rubbing has been invented to soulful music or soulful sound resonance.

The use of the gong hard rubbing is unnecessary and unwanted.

There is no free replacement done when a thin rubber mallet handle is broken.

There is also no free replacement provided when a Vario OTG broken by falling down.

#### **11. Can Gongrubber handles and Vario OTG overtone tuning handles be repaired?**

However, we can offer cost effective repairs of these products.