

Tone Chamber vs. Tone Modulator

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A *tone chamber*, or *Cassotto* accordion has one or two reed sets, usually the L and an M set of reeds, installed vertically to the regular position. The tone chamber makes it possible for the sound produced by the reeds in the chamber to go through a different and longer path than the normally installed reeds, thus produce a deeper and mellow sound. If there are two sets of reeds in the chamber, it is called a *double tone chamber*.



Treble reeds in tone chamber and regular position

The *tone modulator*, on the other hand, forms a large cavity for all the reeds to produce resonant, deeper, sometime softer sound.



Tone modulators made of wood or metal hood that can be switched open (mute-off) or close (mute-on)

Because a tone chamber accordion requires two separate treble reed valves for the regular reeds and for the reeds in the tone chamber respectively, it is structurally more complex, and more difficult to adjust and repair/service. Some special accordion also has a tone chamber on the bass side.

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