

Mme. LaBine's Instrument Cleaning and Maintenance

FLUTE

1. Do not put pressure on keys when assembling or disassembling your flute.
2. Clean the inside of your flute with a clean, soft, dry cloth. Make sure that the cork is wrapped around the cleaning rod in such a way that the tip of the cleaning rod is covered and no metal can connect the inside of the flute.
3. Wipe off the outside of the flute (especially the head joint) with a clean, soft cloth. It may be slightly dampened with water, but should not be wet.
4. Make sure that the flute is sitting in its case properly.
5. Nothing should be stored inside the flute case except the flute. This includes cleaning cloths. It is acceptable to store a cleaning cloth wrapped around a cleaning rod inside the flute body itself.
6. Do not move the head cork.

CLARINET/BASS CLARINET/OBOE

1. Do not put pressure on keys when assembling or disassembling your clarinet.
2. Make sure the bridge key is raised when putting the two main joints together.
3. After playing, swab out each section of the clarinet with a clarinet swab.
4. Reeds should be stored in a reed-guard.
5. Periodically check the tone hole for a build-up of dirt. This can be cleaned out with a Q-tip.

SAXOPHONE/BASSOON

1. When finished playing, be sure to dump all water from the bell.
2. Swab out the mouthpiece with a clarinet swab or a clean piece of cloth.
3. Periodically clean the gooseneck (or bocal - for bassoons) with a gooseneck cleaner.
4. Reeds should be stored in a reed guard.
5. Exterior can be wiped with a clean, soft cloth - only.

TRUMPET/TUBA/EUPHONIUM

1. To oil valves, unscrew the valve caps and pull the valve partway out of the casing. Apply oil as necessary. Make sure the valve guides click into place when you put the valves back in.
2. To grease the slides, remove the slides and coat each slide surface with tuning slide grease. This should be done at least once a month so they do not get stuck.
3. Clean the mouthpiece in lukewarm water with liquid soap and a mouthpiece brush.
4. Do not keep anything other than your instrument, valve oil and slide grease in the case.

HORN

1. To oil valves, unscrew the valve caps and put a drop of rotary valve oil on the bearing in the centre of the valve. Work the oil in by moving the valve several times. Add another drop of oil if necessary. Replace valve cap.
2. Clean the mouth piece in lukewarm water with liquid soap and a mouthpiece brush.

TROMBONE

1. To lubricate the main slide, follow these steps:
 - a. handle only slide section - not the whole instrument
 - b. take the outer slide and inner slide apart
 - c. put the outer slide in a safe place
 - d. clean each stem of the inner-slide with a soft cloth - hold on to the top of the same stem you are cleaning
 - e. put a small amount of slide cream on the lower part of each stem
 - f. work the cream onto the entire slide - rub it in until the slide gets warm
 - g. put the two slide parts together (make sure the locks line up)
 - h. the slide will work well when sprayed with water
2. To lubricate the tuning slide follow these steps:
 - a. remove tuning slide by pushing it up with both thumbs
 - b. clean the slide surfaces with a cloth
 - c. grease the slide surfaces with tuning slide grease
 - d. put the slide back on
3. Do not keep anything other than your instrument, slide cream, tuning slide grease, and a spray bottle in the case.