

Woodwind Cleaning Guide

Look for any bent keys or places keys are not sealing; focus on the palm keys and neck.

Brass Cleaning Guide

Cleaning your instrument is extremely important. It will keep your instrument in the best playing condition (making things easier for you) as well as lengthen the instrument's life. Follow the following instructions for cleaning and maintaining your instrument.

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Valve Oil	Rotor Oil (French horn only)	Slide Cream (trombone only)
Slide Grease	Soft Cloth (handkerchief recommended)	Polishing cloth (for instruments only)

Trumpet

Daily:

After every playing session, empty your water keys. Hold open the water key, blow steady stream of air through the instrument to get any water out. Make sure to wiggle valves while doing this to get ALL water out.

Using a soft cloth/handkerchief, wipe the outside of the instrument to remove any fingerprints.

Weekly:

Using lukewarm water and mild dish soap, soak your mouthpiece in the soapy water. Using a mouthpiece specific brush (available at any music/instrument store), scrub the mouthpiece to remove any grime.

Make sure all slides move easily – use slide grease on slides if they are difficult to move.

Oil valves – Remove valves from casing and place 1-2 dots ONLY of valve oil on each valve. Place back into the casing.

Monthly:

BATH TIME! – your brass instrument needs a bath every so often.

- o Bathtubs are the best for this: Grab an old towel and place into bathtub. Take the valves out and place to the side (make sure you know which is 1, 2, and 3!). Take the entire trumpet apart and wipe all excess

Trombone

Daily:

After each playing session, open water key and blow steady stream of air through instrument. NEVER use your foot to hold open the water key. If you need to remove mouthpiece to reach, that is acceptable.

Wipe outside of instrument with soft cloth to remove fingerprints (handkerchief works great!).

Weekly:

Using warm water and mild dish soap, soak your mouthpiece in the soapy water. Using a mouthpiece specific brush (available at any music/instrument store), scrub the mouthpiece to remove any grime.

Make sure all slides move easily – use slide grease on slides if they are difficult to move.

Wipe inner slide to remove build up. Use cloth with NO lint (brown paper towels in band room are great!).

- o After you wipe the excess with brown paper towel, place slide cream on the inner slide and spread around evenly. Place inner slide into outer slide one at a time and rotate around to spread evenly inside the outer slide. Once you've done this, put inner slide back into outer slide. Make sure you have on correct direction (look for slide lock).

Monthly:

Bath time! Your brass instrument needs a bath every so often.

- o Bathtubs are the best for this. Place old towel in bottom of bathtub. Take tuning slide out and take slide apart. Place pieces on towel and fill bathtub with warm water (NEVER use HOT WATER – it can damage your instrument). Allow enough water to cover the instrument. Let instrument soak for 30 minutes. When ready, clean all the tubing using a snake brush (available at music store). Hand slides can be cleaned by filling outer

Place _____ onto valves. Remove slide (hold down valve lever when doing this). Hold French horn so open slide is toward you. Place 2-3 drops of rotor oil into the slide. Work the valve lever to distribute the oil. Replace slide and repeat on next valve.

Oil the rotors. Remove the valve cap and apply