

Instrument Cleaning Instructions

We will do instrument inspections twice each year. Cleaning your instrument is **REQUIRED**. This will be a part of your grade. Students who do not clean school owned instruments will be charged to have them cleaned at the music store. The cost for this is usually around \$75.

Flutes

Rinse head joint in warm, soapy water. Clean the inside and outside with your cleaning rod and rag. Clean inside the lip plate and hole with a Q-tip. Allow head joint to dry completely before putting it back in your case. **DO NOT** soak the rest of your instrument.

Clean between all keys and rods with your small brush. Wipe all fingerprints off of your flute with a clean, soft rag. Clean the inside of your flute with your cleaning rod and a slightly damp cloth. Dry out the inside of your flute with your cleaning rod and a dry cloth.

Vacuum the dust out of your instrument case before you put away your clean instrument.

Clarinets/Saxophones

Soak mouthpiece in warm, soapy water. Clean the inside of the mouthpiece with your mouthpiece brush. Allow mouthpiece to dry completely. **DO NOT** soak the rest of your instrument.

Clean all cork grease residue off of your corks and inside of joints. Use a Q-tip to clean out the tone holes (clarinets only). Do not put on fresh cork grease until Ms. Giblon checks your instrument.

Swab out your instrument thoroughly. You can use a slightly damp swab if there is any residue inside the instrument. Follow the damp swabbing with a dry swab.

Use your small brush to clean between keys and rods.

Vacuum any dust out of your instrument case before you put away your clean instrument.

Trumpets/French Horns/Tuba

Soak your mouthpiece in warm, soapy water. Clean it out with your mouthpiece brush.

Take your valves out and lay them **IN ORDER** on a soft cloth. Take off all of your slides. Soak the instrument and slides in warm soapy water. Use your cleaning snake to clean out the instrument and all of the slides. Take off all of the valve caps and clean them with the brush on your snake and/or use Q-tips.

Swish your valves in the soapy water. Clean all of the holes in the valves and use a rag to clean all of the old valve oil residue off your valves. Lay the valves back down **IN ORDER**.

Let all of the parts dry completely before putting your instrument back together. Do not put on fresh slide grease or valve oil until Ms. Giblon has checked your instrument.

Vacuum out your case before you put your clean instrument back into it.

Trombone

Soak mouthpiece in warm, soapy water. Clean it out with your mouthpiece brush. Take all of the slides off of your instrument. Soak all of the parts in warm, soapy water. Use your cleaning snake to clean out all of the parts of your instrument. Use a rag to clean all of the old slide cream residue off of your slide. Allow all of the parts to dry completely before you put your instrument back together. Do not put on fresh slide grease or slide cream until Ms. Giblon has checked your instrument. Vacuum out your case before putting your clean instrument back into it.