



Instrument and Mouthpiece Cleaning Resources

Now would be a GREAT time to do some instrument cleaning! Here are some resources that you can use to care for your instrument and mouthpiece, as well as where you can purchase some of the supplies online, in case your usual music store is closed for a while.

Note! Parents of younger students should really guide your child through the process, or even do this for him/ her.

Step 1: Wash your hands!

Step 2: Be sure to have supplies

Some of the items on this list were included with the care kits that came with your instrument purchase. If you do have these items, you can order them online at the links shown.

- A towel
- Cleaning cloth
- Polishing cloth
- Swab
- Valve oil, tuning slide grease, trombone slide cream

- 90% Isopropyl Alcohol (in a spray bottle, preferably)
Use this ONLY for metal mouthpieces for Brass Instruments and Flute headjoints.

- Mi-T-Mist Spray OR Sterisol Spray
Used for all mouthpieces (both metal and plastic) and reeds.
Purchased at these links (Amazon):
Mi-T-Mist: <https://amzn.to/2xDTtp8>
Sterisol Spray: <https://amzn.to/2IUBRaY>

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- Mouthpiece brush
Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, French Horn, Trombone, Baritone, Tuba
Search the web at the following links:
www.amazon.com
www.wwbw.com
<https://www.musicarts.com/>

Just search the mouthpiece brush for the instrument you play!

- Snake brush
Brass instruments only
www.amazon.com
www.wwbw.com
<https://www.musicarts.com/>

Just search the one for the instrument you play!

Step 3: Sanitize your mouthpiece

Watch the videos to get a step-by-step guide on how you can sanitize the mouthpiece and reeds. The video on oboe reeds could be applied to any reed.

Note: For deeper cleaning, follow the directions on the video. The sprays are for more everyday use, or used in conjunction with other cleaning processes.

Sanitize your reed:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=clwdK5BB4Mo>

Sanitize your brass mouthpiece: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7haTc8lHSMc>

Sanitize your flute headjoint:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j2OD_ojPEcQ

Snare drum sticks- wipe them down with a disinfecting wipe (if you can find one!)

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Step 4: Sanitize your instrument and case

Woodwind players can clean the inside of the instrument easily-

Note: Wood instruments should use this technique sparingly (not often) to avoid drying out the wood of the instrument.

Alert! Woodwind players should be extra careful not to let any liquid solution come in contact with the pads under the keys.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=byBd5sXryy8>

Step 5: Thorough Cleaning (for Brass players only!)

Give your instrument a bath! Watch the videos to learn how!

Alert! Young players should get adult help with this!

Trumpet: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yPU6XiDyRdo>

Note: Be sure to place the valves in the correct order as you remove them. Most are numbered on the valve, but not all. Also, when you are finished, make sure the valves are twisted into the casing, or locked in, until they no longer twist. There will be a slight “click” sound. If the valves are out of order, or not locked in, the instrument will not play.

Trombone: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8LN7ZuVM3YE>

French Horn: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y2Qw8ZH_D-c

Baritone and Tuba: Follow the trumpet video, but know a sprayer attachment is helpful for rinsing, but not completely necessary.

