

Cleaning Guide for SAXOPHONE

I. MOUTHPIECE

- a. Materials – small bowl, warm water, some dishwashing liquid, a small toothbrush or a mouthpiece brush.
- b. Procedure
 - i. Put some warm water and a few drops of liquid soap in the bowl. Mix thoroughly.
 - ii. Dip the brush in the water. Clean the inside of the mouthpiece with the brush, dipping the brush back in the soapy water as needed.
 - iii. Clean the outside of the mouthpiece in the same way. You can also use a clean cloth dipped in the soapy water to clean the outside.
 - iv. Rinse the inside, then the outside of the mouthpiece with cold running water from the faucet.
 - v. Dry the mouthpiece with a clean, soft cloth. Be sure to put more cork grease on the cork before you assemble your instrument.

II. NECK AND BODY

- a. Materials – towel; clean, soft cloth; child's soft toothbrush; artist's paint brush or woodwind key brush or Q-tips; paper towels.
- b. Procedure
 - i. Run warm water from the faucet through the neck (from the tenon end). Try not to get too much water on the cork. Dry the outside of the neck with a towel.
 - ii. Using the paper towel, rub the neck tenon in a circular motion to remove tarnish and build-up. Move to a clean part of the paper towel and repeat. Repeat the procedure until the paper towel comes away clean.
 - iii. Using a clean paper towel, clean the inside of the neck receiver on the body of the saxophone. Again, keep moving to a clean part of the paper towel, and continue cleaning until the paper towel comes away clean.
 - iv. If you have a swab, swab the inside of the body several times.
 - v. Use a brush or the Q-tips to clean dust from the areas around and under the keys and rods. Take care not to move any springs.
 - vi. Using a clean, soft cloth, gently rub the inside of the bell as far down as your hand will reach. Do this to remove any smudges or water spots.
 - vii. Using the soft, clean cloth, wipe the outside of the body and bell to remove all fingerprints and smudges. Wipe the keys with this cloth also. Do not put anything (oil, Vaseline, rubbing alcohol, etc.) on the outside of the saxophone!

III. THE CASE

- a. You should clean the case each time you clean your instrument. Remove any unnecessary items and find them another home.
- b. Thoroughly vacuum the inside of the case before you return the instrument to it.
- c. Be sure to store all items (reeds, swab, cork grease, pencil, mouthpiece, neck) in the spaces provided so that they do not get under the keys or inside the saxophone. Put nothing between the top of the case and the saxophone.