

Cleaning Guide for CLARINET

I. MOUTHPIECE

- a. Materials – small cup, water, a small toothbrush or a mouthpiece brush, hydrogen peroxide
- b. Procedure
 - i. Use a paper towel to wipe the cork grease from the mouthpiece cork. You should also remove any built up cork grease from the tenon.
 - ii. Fill cup $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{2}{3}$ full of hydrogen peroxide.
 - iii. Gently place the mouthpiece tip down in the cup of hydrogen peroxide making sure to keep the cork dry. Let mouthpiece soak for 15 minutes.
 - iv. Use the mouthpiece brush or small toothbrush to gently scrub the inside and outside of the mouthpiece until all residue has been removed.
 - v. Carefully rinse the mouthpiece with cold running water. Be careful to keep the cork dry.
 - vi. Allow mouthpiece to air dry in a safe place.

II. REED

- a. Materials – small cup/bowl, water, hydrogen peroxide
- b. Procedure
 - i. Fill the small cup/bowl most of the way with Hydrogen Peroxide
 - ii. Gently drop the reed into hydrogen peroxide. Let it soak for about 30 seconds or until the fizzing slows.
 - iii. Gently rinse in clean water.
 - iv. Allow reed to air dry in a safe place, on a flat surface.

III. TOP JOINT, BOTTOM JOINT, BARREL, BELL

- a. Materials – clean, soft cloth; child's soft toothbrush; artist's paint brush or woodwind key brush, Q-tips, paper towels, swab.
- b. Procedure
 - i. Swab each joint together with the barrel and bell several times. Look through the bore. If the inside is not clean, repeat the procedure until it is.
 - ii. Using the paper towels, clean the cork grease from the tenons on each joint. Clean the tenon receivers in the same way.
 - iii. Use Q-tips to clean each tone hole (there are three on the bottom joint and four on the top joint-the open holes/keys).
 - iv. 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.
 - v. Using the soft, clean cloth, wipe the outside areas 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 clarinet!
 - vi. Put fresh cork grease on the corks when the cleaning process is complete.

IV. 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) in the spaces provided so that they do not get under the keys. Put nothing between the top of the case and the clarinet.