

## Cleaning Guide for FLUTE

### I. HEAD JOINT

- a. Materials – Isopropyl rubbing alcohol; cleaning rod; clean, soft cloth; Q tip
- b. Procedure
  - i. Using a Q tip saturated with rubbing alcohol, carefully clean around the embouchure hole and lip plate.
  - ii. Put some alcohol on a paper towel or clean cloth and wipe the outside of the head joint, paying close attention to where the head joint goes inside the middle joint of the flute.
  - iii. Using a thin soft cloth (such as your everyday swab) and your cleaning rod, put a small amount of alcohol on the cloth and swab your head joint like you are supposed to every day after you play.

### II. MIDDLE JOINT AND FOOT JOINT

- a. Materials – clean, soft cloth; child's soft toothbrush or artist's paint brush or woodwind key brush, Q-tips, paper towels, cleaning swab.
- b. Procedure
  - i. Using a thin soft cloth (such as your everyday swab) and your cleaning rod, put a small amount of alcohol on the cloth and swab your middle joint like you are supposed to every day after you play. Pay close attention to not soak your cloth as any moisture can damage the pads if it comes in contact with them.
  - ii. Do the same with the foot joint.
  - iii. Using the paper towels or clean cloth and rubbing alcohol, clean the tenon of the middle joint just as you did on the head joint (where the middle joint receives the head joint and where the middle joint goes into the foot joint). Keep wiping with a clean part of the paper towel or cloth until dirt/tarnish no longer shows up on the paper towel or cloth.
  - iv. Place a small amount of alcohol on another clean cloth or paper towel (paying close attention not to soak the cloth or paper towel) and gently rub down the easily accessible metal parts of the middle and foot joints.
  - 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. Be gentle.
  - vi. Using the clean, soft cloth, wipe the outside areas to remove all fingerprints and smudges.
  - vii. Wash and dry the swab after cleaning the instrument.

### 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 cleaning instrument to it.
- c. Be sure to fold the swab carefully and store it on top of the head joint, not on top of the keys.