

Trombone Care Sheet

Guidelines for Proper Maintenance

Maintaining the Main Slide

The main slide of your trombone needs to be oiled regularly to ensure it moves freely. A freely moving slide is essential for ease of playing. Without regular oiling, the slide can become "sticky" and stiff, making it difficult to move between positions.

Setting Up the Trombone

When assembling your trombone, ensure the mouthpiece is not pushed in too tightly, as it may become jammed. Should this happen, do NOT attempt to remove it with pliers or similar tools as this may damage the instrument. For assistance, please ask your teacher or return it to Central Coast Instrument Hire, where it can be removed with the proper tools.

Cleaning and Polishing

Use a gentle polishing cloth to clean the exterior of the trombone. This helps keep the instrument looking good by removing fingerprints and other marks.

The Water Key/Spit Valve

The water key, also known as a spit valve, needs to be emptied regularly while playing and before putting the trombone away. It's best to empty this onto a cloth or washer rather than directly onto the floor or carpet. Keeping an old cloth or washer in your case is a good idea so that it can be emptied during lessons and rehearsals.

Cleaning the Mouthpiece

Clean the mouthpiece regularly with warm soapy water to maintain hygiene and performance.

Oiling the Tuning Slide

Oil the tuning slide regularly to prevent it from becoming jammed. This will ensure smooth adjustments and better tuning accuracy.

Storage

Always store your trombone in its case after use to protect it from accidental damage. Do not leave it lying around, as it may become damaged.

Following these guidelines will help ensure your trombone remains in excellent condition, providing you with a reliable and enjoyable playing experience.