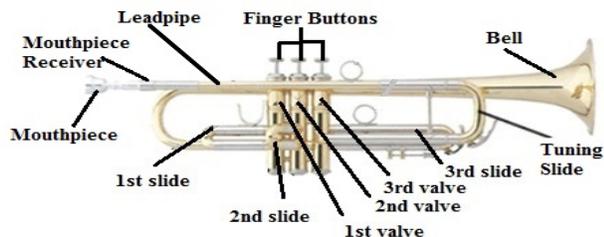


# WINDWORKS

WOODWIND & BRASS REPAIRS, RENTALS, & RETAIL

## Trumpet Care



You've got your trumpet! It's shiny and wonderful! Be careful with it, please. Remember that it is a machine with moving parts, and *could* break without proper care. Here's how to take care of it, so it lasts for a long time.

Assembling a trumpet is as simple as putting the mouthpiece gently into the mouthpiece receiver and twisting it gently to keep it in place. You won't need any grease or oil here. Be careful not to push the mouthpiece too hard into the trumpet, or "pop" it with the palm of your hand or it can get stuck. If it does get stuck, don't twist it or use pliers on it, since brass is a very soft metal and can break easily. Bring it to Wind Works, (or possibly your teacher), who has a special tool for removing stuck mouthpieces.

Every other day or so, oil your valves (as they start to feel dry or sticky). Unscrew the top cap of the valve, pull the valve halfway out, and apply a trickle of valve oil to the lower half of the valve. Twist the valve a few times and then turn it back so that the number on the top half of the valve is facing you. Slide it slowly into the valve casing and twist it gently until it clicks into place. You can then screw the top cap back on. The oil will distribute itself as you play.

After you are done playing for the day, empty your spit valves and slides, and wipe down the exterior of your instrument with a soft cloth or

treated polishing cloth. Avoid using Brasso, Silvo, or other cleaners on your horn, since they can break down the lacquer and cause your trumpet to discolor. A good polish cloth recommended by your music store will accomplish what you're looking for.

Once a month clean your mouthpiece thoroughly. Soak it in a cup of warm (not hot) water for half an hour, and then brush it out with a mouthpiece brush. Wash your instrument every month or so. Use lukewarm water (hot water can strip the lacquer) and a little liquid dish soap. Use a "snake" to clean the lead pipe and other tubing. Use a lint-free cloth (or brush) to clean the valves and valve casings. After cleaning, oil the valves very well. Use slide grease on all slides (if your trumpets first and third valve slide are not moving quickly, apply a drop of valve oil, this should loosen the slide enough to operate with one finger.) You can also buy special 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> slide oil.

Once a year, bring your trumpet in to the repair shop for a bath in the ultrasonic cleaner. This removes any residues and keeps your trumpet in top condition. Vacuum out the inside of the case every few months or when visibly dirty.

Your trumpet case is designed to hold the trumpet and small accessories. If something doesn't fit in the pocket of your case, it should be kept somewhere else. Laying music books or folders or sheet music can put too much pressure on the second slide and leadpipe, and can actually bend the valve casing, so those are better kept in an outside pocket or a backpack.

Always keep your trumpet in the case or on a trumpet stand when you are not playing, so that you prevent it from being sat on or falling off a stand or chair.

Enjoy your new trumpet! Call us at 360-733-5840 if you have any questions about how to take care of it. We are always happy to talk.