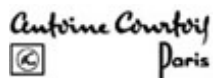


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by Trevor James



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HOW TO CARE FOR YOUR CLARINET



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HOW TO LOOK AFTER YOUR CLARINET

- ♪ When removing your clarinet from its case never pick it up by its keys. Hold it by the ends where there are no keys.
- ♪ Hold the parts gently - don't grip hard, especially over the keys, or they can bend. Hold the upper joint in your left hand and put your fingers on the holes so you press the keys closed. Hold the lower joint in your right hand, but don't press the keys closed. Slide the two joints together gently in a twisting motion, making sure the bridge key on the top joint lines up properly over the key on the lower joint, without bumping or scraping. Next, attach the barrel to the top and the bell to the bottom.
- ♪ If the joints don't slide together easily, use a small amount of la Tromba cork grease on the cork part of the joints.
- ♪ Attach the mouthpiece, and put the reed and ligature on last to prevent damage to the reed. Don't tighten the ligature screws too much, or they will break, and can also damage the ligature or mouthpiece.
- ♪ The reed is very delicate, and can split or chip easily. Broken reeds need replacing, as they will not work properly.



- ♪ After you have finished playing, use the swab supplied to dry inside each section of the clarinet - drop the string through and gently pull the swab through each piece.
- ♪ Always store your clarinet in its case when not in use; this will help prevent damage and aids in keeping it clean and dust-free. Please, NEVER leave it on a chair, music stand or the floor, or standing on its bell! Store it away from sunlight and direct heat or cold.
- ♪ Do not place anything in the case that can press on the clarinet (e.g. large cloths or music) - this can bend the keys when you close the case.

- ♪ There is nothing on the clarinet that you (or your teacher) should need to "tweak" - this is our job, and we're only too happy to help! Please do not move any screws or bend any keys, as this will stop your clarinet from playing correctly, and will mean you need to bring it back to our shop for resetting.
- ♪ Please, treat the case with as much care as the clarinet - if you have a hire instrument and cover it in stickers or "Twink", or let your pet sleep in it, you may be charged an extra cleaning fee.
- ♪ Keys need oiling periodically. Great care must be taken not to get oil on the pads or corks, as it will damage them and shorten their useful life. It may be best left to an expert, and we can do this as part of a routine service.

We use la Tromba cork grease exclusively in our workshop, and recommend it for use on all brands of clarinets and other woodwind instruments

Always ask if you are not sure about something with your clarinet - ring us any time!

We are more than happy to answer any questions, and it's better to check first than to fix later!

MOST IMPORTANTLY -
ENJOY IT!

