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## **Instrument Repairs**

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## HOW TO CARE FOR YOUR SAXOPHONE





Ph (09) 443 5666 info@abi.co.nz www.abi.co.nz

## HOW TO LOOK AFTER YOUR SAXOPHONE

- When removing your saxophone from its case to assemble it, never pick it up by its keys. Hold it by the parts where there are no keys.
- ♪ <u>NEVER</u> force the parts of your instrument together.
- I Hold on to the bell & neck when attaching the neck to the body. Twist gently to ease the neck on to the body, while being careful not to bend the octave key on the neck.
- Attach the mouthpiece. Put the reed & 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.
- ♪ If the mouthpiece does not slide onto the neck easily, apply a small amount of cork grease to the cork on the neck first.
- ♪ The reed is very delicate, and can split or chip easily. Broken reeds need replacing, as they will not work properly.



- When you have finished playing, and before storing it in the case, the saxophone should be properly cleaned. This removes the condensation that accumulates inside the instrument during playing. It also keeps it shiny & clean. Careful maintenance will ensure that your saxophone will always sound good.
- J Use a pull through swab or a pad saver to dry out the inside of the saxophone.
- ♪ Use a soft cloth to carefully wipe fingerprints off the saxophone.

- Always store your saxophone in its case when not in use; this will help prevent damage & assist in keeping it clean and dustfree. Please, <u>NEVER</u> leave it on a chair, a bed or the floor! Store it away from sunlight & direct heat or cold.
- $\boldsymbol{\varsigma}$  Place the mouthpiece cap over the mouthpiece.
- The end plug is critical—make sure you put it in when you put the saxophone back in its case. It serves to protect the octave pin that usually sticks out past the top of the saxophone.
- There is nothing on the saxophone 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 saxophone 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 saxophone if you have a hire instrument and cover the case in stickers or "Twink", or let your pet sleep in it, you may be charged an extra cleaning fee.

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

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

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

