

Instrument Maintenance Schedule

CLARINETS



Congratulations on the purchase of your new instrument. To ensure continuing trouble-free performance we recommend you maintain it on a regular basis. This will also minimize the possibility of large future repair bills, and maximize your instrument's resale value should you later wish to upgrade it.

Each time you finish playing

- Lightly wipe down instrument with duster or silver cloth on the joints and areas where the fingers make contact (taking care around delicate key-work);
- Clean inside of instrument with pull-through or swab.

Each week

- Clean dust from around key-work using a soft-bristled brush;

Each month

- Check cork joints for a smooth fit; grease as required (use only purpose-made cork grease, not Vaseline, and apply sparingly).

General maintenance

Pads become sticky in the course of normal use, and may be cleaned with powder paper or cleaning papers (cigarette papers). Pay particular to the trill (closed) keys, i.e. C sharp, G sharp, E flat and B flat, as these will deteriorate quickest if not well cared for. To clean a sticky pad, place a cleaning paper between the pad and the tone hole, close the pad, then release and withdraw the paper (never withdraw the paper with pressure applied as this will damage the delicate surface of the pad). Repeat two or three times if necessary; if this does not resolve the problem, the instrument will need to be attended to by a workshop technician.

Ensure water is removed from the sockets of wooden clarinets. If joints become stiff, do not force them, but return the instrument to the workshop for attention from a technician.

Servicing

We recommend your instrument in serviced annually in our fully equipped workshop. A service includes full clean and polish, and renewal of all consumable parts. Please contact the workshop directly on 01494 685137 to arrange an appointment.

Recommended accessories

Cleaning equipment:

- Yellow duster
- Silver cloth
- Chamois pull-through

Lubricants/consumables:

- Cork grease
- Key oil
- Bore oil
- Powder paper

Miscellaneous:

- Instrument stand
- Pad saver