

Instrument Care and Cleaning

Low Brass

When the instrument is not being played, keep it stored properly in its case, with leadpipe assemblies, necks, headjoints, and mouthpieces disassembled or removed as applicable, and stored in the appropriate compartment.

It is recommended to consult your trusted brass technician for annual deep cleanings and regular mechanical maintenance.

To remove excess dirt, debris and moisture, please use the following methods.

All Low Brass

Before playing:

- Apply oil to the rotors and/or pistons.
 - Rotors: depress rotors to remove valve slides and add a few drops of rotor oil through the slide tubes down toward the rotor assemblies. Apply a small amount of oil to the spindle of the rotor underneath the valve cap. Apply oil to the spindle under the rotor stop arm. Reassemble the valve slides with rotors depressed and move the rotors several times to distribute oil evenly. Failure to depress rotors and/or pistons to remove valve slides may cause an air pressure change inside the instrument and cause damage or improper rotor function.
 - Pistons: unscrew top valve caps and pull pistons partially out. Apply 5-10 drops of piston oil to each piston and replace in the casing, being sure to align the valve guide with the valve guide channel. Move pistons a few times to distribute oil evenly.
- Apply a small amount of slide grease to tuning and valve slides as needed and preferred.

After Playing:

- Empty all water keys. Depress rotors and/or pistons to remove valve slides to empty any trapped moisture. Excess moisture can cause corrosion; it is important to remove excess moisture between every play session.
- Wipe down instrument with a polishing cloth.

Routinely:

- If tarnish is apparent, you may clean lacquer instrument with a cloth and lacquer polish, and silver instruments with silver cloth and silver polish.
- Remove pistons completely and clean piston casings with cleaning rod (not included) and muslin or cheesecloth (not included). Thread the cloth through the eye of the cleaning rod and wrap it around the rod's shaft ensuring no metal is exposed. Insert the cleaning rod through each casing to remove excess dirt and moisture. Reapply oil to the pistons to reassemble.
- Use muslin or cheesecloth to clean the inner slides of tuning and valve slides of excess dirt and moisture. Use a cleaning rod and cloth to clean the outer receiving tubes. Apply a small amount of grease to the clean inner slides to reassemble.