

French Horn Maintenance

Presented by KBI Music Shoppe

Guidance for you and your parents!!!

A french horn is a big responsibility and will require a lot of special attention to keep it in working condition! Remember you are in charge of taking good care of this instrument as it is your new responsibility! It is recommended that only people who have musical training to assemble, play, or clean your instrument!

Never EVER EVER EVER

1. Use hot water to clean your french horn!
2. Push or twist your mouthpiece into the lead pipe!
3. Try to "muscle" the valve cap, slide or mouthpiece. The metal bends easily!!
5. Take the valves apart!
6. If your mouthpiece gets stuck don't try and fix it yourself! Bring it to your local music shop or teacher to use a mouthpiece puller!



Daily Care:

1. Rotors need to be lubricated regularly. To do this: (a) pull each slide out. (b) add a few drops of thin rotor oil into one of the slides for each rotor. (c) return the slides to the instrument, careful not to spill the oil out. (d) move rotor back and forth to spread the oil.
2. If your mouthpiece gets stuck, do not try to pull it off; you can cause serious damage to the instrument. A gentle twist is all that is needed to free the mouthpiece. **DO NOT USE PLIERS!**
3. When you are done playing, remove moisture from the inside of the instrument by removing the tuning slides and blowing out extra moisture. Also, turn the French horn in a circle clockwise towards the mouthpipe a few times to empty excess moisture from the tubes.
4. Always store your instrument in your case. Do not put anything else inside your case, this can cause damage.

Monthly Care:

1. Check all of your slides to make sure that they move easily!

Yearly Care:

Regular monthly care can eliminate the need for yearly care, but music shops can give your instrument a chemical cleaning that will give your instrument a more thorough cleaning!