

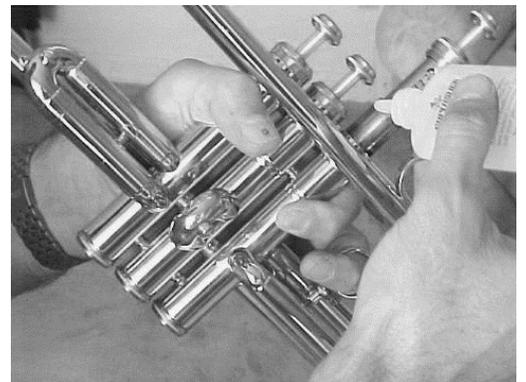
Proper Care and Maintenance-Brass Instruments

General Maintenance tips:

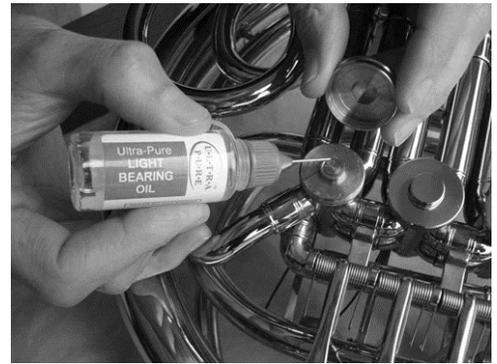
- Do not chew gum, eat food or drink anything (other than water) while playing your instrument
- Do not leave/store your instrument in extremely hot or cold locations (car, near a heater)
- Do not “pop” your mouthpiece with your hand, as this may cause it to become stuck. Always insert your mouthpiece with a gentle, clockwise twist, and remove it with a counter-clockwise twist.
- When not playing, store your instrument in the case and make sure that the latches are closed.
- When your instrument is not in the case, always set it down with the valve side up. Never stand your instrument on its bell.
- Do not sit or stand on your case and never place objects, like books or folders, inside of your instrument case.
- **DO NOT USE TOOLS ON YOUR INSTRUMENT!** If something is wrong with your instrument, take it to your music teacher or a qualified instrument repairperson.

Daily Maintenance:

- All brass players:
 - After playing, open any water keys and blow a steady stream of air through the instrument to blow any water out.
- Trumpet, Baritone, Tuba- Oiling valves
 - Unscrew the valve cap and pull the valve halfway out and apply a few drops of valve oil to the valve (do not put oil into the holes)
 - Rotate the valve while working up and down to spread the oil and push valve back into the valve casing.
 - Turn the valve gently until you hear a click, indicating that the valve is in the valve guide, (generally, if there is a number on your valve it should face toward the mouthpiece) and tighten the valve cap.
 - Oil one valve at a time.



- French horn and rotary valve tuba- Oiling valves
 - Oil valves one at a time
 - Unscrew the caps that cover the tops of the valves
 - Place a drop or two of rotor oil on the center of each valve and replace the valve caps
 - If needed, the valves can also be oiled by putting a few drops of rotor oil in each of the valve slides



- Trombone- if your slide doesn't move freely or sounds scratchy when you move it
 - Remove the outer slide and wipe off the inner slide with a clean soft cloth
 - Add a small amount of slide cream or slide oil to bottom of the inner slide
 - Replace outer slide and move slide to coat the slide with slide cream or oil, be extremely careful while doing this-the smallest bump or dent in the slide can prevent the slide from moving correctly



- If your slide starts to feel slow spray water on the slide and work the slide back and forth to "reactivate" the cream

Weekly Maintenance- All brass instruments:

- Clean the mouthpiece with warm water, liquid dish soap and a mouthpiece brush.
- Check the tuning slides and make sure to move them in and out at least once a week. If they are hard to move, wipe off the slide with a soft cloth and re-apply a small amount of slide grease. Push the slide back in and wipe away any excess grease from the instrument.

