

Ken-Ton Woodwind Maintenance for MS/HS

- Each time you finish playing, use a swab to remove all moisture from the bore, especially at the joints. When you draw the swab through the upper joint of a clarinet, take care that the swab doesn't get caught on the register metal tone hole inserts
- After each playing, make sure the reed is removed and stored in a proper reed case. Wipe the mouthpiece with a soft cloth; place the ligature back on the mouthpiece and cover with the mouthpiece cap. Once a week, wash the mouthpiece gently with a small brush and luke warm water.
- After each use, wipe your instrument and keys with a lint-free cloth. Give special attention to points where you hold the instrument. Simply keeping the keys and body clean in this manner will maintain the lustrous finish without the use of any kind of polish.
- When cleaning the outside of any woodwind instrument, do not get the pads wet as they will lose their crease and fail to seal properly. Take care not to force cleaning materials or finger into places around the keys where the instrument is not normally handled.
- Use cork grease on all cork joints about once a week. This will preserve the cork and prevent it from drying out. This will make it easier to assemble and disassemble the instrument
- Books and music should not be packed inside the instrument case except in special accessory compartments. Over-packing your case may cause scratches or may damage the key mechanism.
- For safekeeping, always place the instrument inside the case after use.
- Never leave the instrument near a radiator, hot air register, or in the car. This can cause damage to pads, corks, bodies, and finishes.
- Do not expose the instrument to sudden changes in temperature. This is especially damaging to wood instruments, which can crack.